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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release | June 21, 2016

### NC Theatre Conservatory Presents JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR® DREAMCOAT July 8-10

**RALEIGH, NC** - North Carolina Theatre Conservatory (NCTC) is thrilled to bring to the stage the Master Summer Theatre Arts School (MSTAS) production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat*, July 8-10, 2016, at the AJ Fletcher Opera Theater in downtown Raleigh. MSTAS is NCT Conservatory's audition-based summer camp, with emphasis on pre-professional training of the highest caliber culminating in a full-scale musical production. Students in the production range in age from middle school to rising college students. This special production of *Joseph...* will also feature a children's chorus, comprised of elementary school-aged children in NCTC's Jr. Summer Theatre Arts School.

The title-role of "Joseph" will be played by **Matthew Sheaffer**. Matthew is a rising junior at Ravenscroft School in Raleigh. **Becky Layko** and **Emily Foley** will split the role of "Narrator", guiding the audience through the action of the play. Becky is a student at Longleaf School of the Arts, and Emily is a recent graduate of Leesville Road High School. All three leads have appeared in previous NCTC productions including last summer's *Crazy for You*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. William Peace University student, **Patrick Harvey**, will star as both "Jacob" and "Potiphar", and East Carolina University student, **Collin Yates**, will appear as "Pharoah".

*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat* will be directed and choreographed by NCTC Dance Department Head, **Tito Hernandez**. Tito Hernandez has more than 20 years of experience as a professional choreographer, actor, dancer, and educator. Mr. Hernandez has a long history with NCT, including choreographing productions of *Evita* and *The King and I*.

NCTC Artistic Director, **Ray Walker**, will produce *Joseph...* Walker was previously Donny Osmond's understudy on the National Tour of *Joseph*, and has starred in two productions of the show at NCT. Walker's passion for the show, combined with Mr. Hernandez's artistic eye, forms the ideal platform for showcasing the Conservatory's talented actors. "We're creating the art around the students, but they're really the energy and the fuel for the whole program," Walker said. "I hope people come out not only because I want them to see the show, but because I want them to see the talent that is nurtured at the Conservatory."

#### ABOUT JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR® DREAMCOAT

*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat* brings the Biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colors to life in a vibrant musical parable. Joseph, his father's favorite son, is blessed with prophetic dreams as a young boy, which spurs his jealous brothers to sell him into slavery. Joseph is then taken to Egypt, where he endures a series of adventures during which his spirit and humanity are continually put to the test. Universal themes, combined with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice, have turned *Joseph* into one of the most popular musicals in the world, performed by schools and professional theatre groups alike.

#### PERFORMANCES

Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30PM

Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>  
2:00PM & 7:30PM

Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>  
2:00PM

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## ABOUT NC THEATRE CONSERVATORY

NCTC is celebrating their 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the flagship training program of North Carolina Theatre, which has been producing professional Broadway-caliber musicals in Raleigh for thirty-two years. The Conservatory is a supportive, challenging and innovative environment where students receive instruction in dance, acting and singing. The teachers are professional working actors that have performed on Broadway and other stages across the country. The Conservatory runs year-round programming in addition to the summer programs. Registration for fall classes is now open. For more information and to register, visit [NCTheatreConservatory.com](http://NCTheatreConservatory.com).

## TICKETS

Tickets for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat* are \$25, and VIP tickets are available for \$50 which includes reserved parking, priority seating, donor listing, and access into the Conservatory Backers Club for complimentary food, beer, wine, and beverages. **To purchase, visit [NCTheatreConservatory.com](http://NCTheatreConservatory.com) or call 919-855-0015.**

## PRINCIPAL CAST BIOGRAPHIES

**Matthew Sheaffer** (Joseph) lives in Raleigh and is entering his junior year at Ravenscroft School. Recent MSTAS performances include: *Crazy for You* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Matt's other recent musical and drama productions include: *Once...Mattress*, *Addams Family*, *Oliver!*, *Our Town*, and *Arsenic & Old Lace*. Matt was nominated for Triangle Rising Stars and has won regional and national awards in vocal performance and drama including "Excellence in Drama" from the 2014 NC Theatre Conference.

**Emily Foley** (Narrator) lives in Raleigh and is a recent graduate of and Leesville Road High School. Emily's favorite credits include the Master STAS productions of *Crazy for You* (Tess), *Tommy*, *In the Heights*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, the NCTC Senior Acting Company's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander), and Leesville Road High School's *Legally Blonde* (Vivienne) and *Grease* (Frenchy).

**Becky Layko** (Narrator) lives in Apex and attends Longleaf School of the Arts. Beck returns to the stage for another MSTAS production after being seen in *Crazy for You*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *In the Heights* in past years. Other previous credits include *The Wolf*, *Carousel: In Concert*, and *Oliver!*