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***Prime Stage Theatre Celebrates the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*  
By Bringing the Literature to Life***

**PITTSBURGH** – As *Animal Farm* celebrates the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its first being published, Prime Stage Theatre is bringing George Orwell's legendary novella *Animal Farm* to the stage this March. The show previews on **March 6**, opens on **March 7** and runs through **March 15** at the New Hazlett Theater located at 6 Allegheny Square East on Pittsburgh's North Side.

Adapted by **Andrew Periale** and directed by **Melissa Hill Grande**, the literary chant "2 legs bad—4 legs good" will ring out in this theatrical experience with Appalachian musical selections that transform the Hazlett Theater into Orwell's story of animals who revolutionize a farm and the moral and ethical struggles that follow.

"Viewers can expect to be entertained, but they're going to walk out of the theater with a lot to think about," says Grande.

Orwell wrote *Animal Farm* to showcase his belief that absolute power corrupts absolutely and that violent revolution has the potential to only lead to a change in oppressors if people don't stay alert. In this case, the animals revolt against Farmer Brown, only to end up under new rulers who are equally as severe—the pigs.

"Just as the animals who don't get involved in the politics of their society [the farm] are beaten down by the end result, we as humans can find a lesson in this story," says Grande.

This stage adaptation is refitted for a live audience while staying true to the original message of Orwell's novella and stars **Chelsea Bartel** as Clover, **Ryan Borgo** as Cat, **Josh Brelsford** as Benjamin, **Stefan Lingenfelter** as Napoleon, **John Michnya** as Boxer, **Joseph David Rittenhouse** as Moses, **Bill Smolter** as Snowball and **Natalie Spanner** as Mollie.

- Ticket information and show times can be found at [www.primestage.com](http://www.primestage.com).

Opening night on **March 7** will also feature a "Bacon Night" Reception immediately following the production. The audience will have the opportunity to meet the cast members, Prime Stage staff and enjoy a full array of bacon-based snacks. On March 8 enjoy adoptable dogs in the lobby prior to curtain, in partnership with The Humane Society of Western PA.

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*Prime Stage's mission is to entertain, educate and enrich families, students, and educators in the discovery of live theatre and literature.*