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*For immediate release*

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Hi-resolution photos are available on request.

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## **Pillsbury House Theatre announces 24<sup>th</sup> Mainstage Season**

Minneapolis, MN—Pillsbury House Theatre announces its 2015 season, including a world premiere by *Buzzer* playwright, **Tracey Scott Wilson**, and an area premiere by *the road weeps, the well runs dry* playwright, **Marcus Gardley**, which will be directed by **Marion McClinton**. The 24<sup>th</sup> season of plays confronts a number of contemporary issues ranging from elderly care and familial responsibilities to violence and racial tension.

### **Death Tax**

by Lucas Hnath, directed by Hayley Finn

March 6 – April 5, 2015

Weeks before the New Year (and the new estate tax taking effect), the ailing Maxine is convinced that her estranged daughter is bribing Nurse Tina to expedite her demise. But, when Maxine offers an enticing deal of her own, Nurse Tina finds herself at a moral crossroads. A suspenseful and captivating dark comedy, *Death Tax* raises timely questions about the tensions between family and money, life and death. “Provocative...whip-smart...You really can’t ask for anything more.” –*Chicago Sun-Times*

Lucas Hnath’s *Death Tax* premiered at the Humana Festival of New Plays in 2012, and was awarded a 2013 Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citation. The Pillsbury House Theatre production is the play’s area premiere.

### **The Gospel of Lovingkindness**

by Marcus Gardley, directed by Marion McClinton

May 29 – June 28, 2015

From the playwright of *the road weeps, the well runs dry*, comes an equally powerful and poetic contemporary drama inspired by true events. Two young men growing up on the South Side of Chicago, Manny’s life is on track, and Noel’s life is derailing. Manny just sang at the White House; Noel just got kicked off the basketball team. When their paths cross, they risk everything for their dreams, leaving behind two grieving mothers and a city on the verge. “*The Gospel of Lovingkindness* is an ambitious

prayer; one that pleads for a deeper appreciation for the value of life, as well as an end to violence and the circumstances that create it.” –Newcity Stage

*The Gospel of Lovingkindness* by Marcus Gardley makes its area premiere at Pillsbury House Theatre. It originally premiered in early 2014 at Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago.

## **Prep**

by Tracey Scott Wilson, directed by Noël Raymond  
September 18 – October 18, 2015

A group of teachers change their students’ test scores so they will receive their annual bonuses, but racial and sexual tensions arise as they try to cover up their transgressions.

Commissioned by Pillsbury House Theatre through a 2014 Joyce Award, *Prep* is inspired by a number of recent local events with racial overtones that have stirred up emotions and conflict. Playwright Tracey Scott Wilson spent a month in the Twin Cities earlier in 2014, immersing herself in conversation with community members that have been part of these experiences. As in her 2012/13 production of *Buzzer*, Scott Wilson’s goal with this play is to cut through political correctness and broach off-limits topics in order to inspire genuine conversations about race.

## **TICKET INFORMATION**

Pillsbury House Theatre continues to offer free, low cost, or pick-your-own-price tickets for all of its productions. Free child care, provided by the staff of Pillsbury Early Education Center, is also available for select performances.

Pick-your-price season passes (regular price: \$100; minimum price: \$65) are on sale now: [pillsburyhousetheatre.org](http://pillsburyhousetheatre.org) or 612-825-0459. Single tickets go on sale in January 2015. For information about group sales, call 612-787-3622.

## **ALSO IN THE 2015 SEASON**

### **Chicago Avenue Project**

April 20, 21

November 2, 3

### **The Late Nite Series**

November 7, 14, 21

### **Naked Stages**

December 10–19

Visit [pillsburyhousetheatre.org](http://pillsburyhousetheatre.org) for more information.

## **ABOUT PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE**

From the Mainstage series to Chicago Avenue Project and Naked Stages to the Power of Our Voices teen ensemble, **PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE** brings audiences closer—to the edge, to the actors, to affordable, adventurous theatre, to fellow audience members, and to a strong community. Now in its 24<sup>th</sup> season, Pillsbury House Theatre is proud to be a professional theatre unlike any other. In partnership with Pillsbury United Communities, one of the largest human services organizations in the state, Pillsbury House Theatre demonstrates that the highest quality art is an integral part of all healthy communities, winning awards for theatre across the metro while also inspiring choice, change, and connection through raw, intimate drama. [pillsburyhousetheatre.org](http://pillsburyhousetheatre.org).

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