



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Kevin Kearney

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
Matthew Nicola

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 8, 2019

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*Highwood's Musical Theatre Conservatory Presents A Chilling Production*  
*of*  
**A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND  
MURDER**

*The Drop-Dead Funny, Tony Award Winning Musical*

Consider yourself warned! Highwood's 16th Season of productions moves into 2019 with Robert Freedman and Steven Lutvak's Broadway hit *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, running from January 18 - 27th, 2019 in the heart of downtown Silver Spring. This whimsically dark musical is presented as part of The Highwood Theatre's Fall Conservatory Program, an audition-only program designed to offer an intensive training experience for performers in grades 7-12.

The outrageously funny 2014 Tony Award Winner of Best Musical follows Lord Montague ("Monty") Navarro, who learns that he is Ninth Earl of Highhurst and heir to the aristocratic D'Ysquith fortune. Monty sets out on an ambitious quest to take the throne - and take out the eight other successors along the way. Featuring a slew of riotous characters, witty humor, and one show-stopping number after another, this bold musical comedy is not for the faint of heart.

*A Gentleman's Guide* is one of the more complicated musicals to emerge from New York in recent memory, making it the ideal choice for Highwood's Conservatory Program: from its notoriously difficult score and complex narrative to endless creativity in design elements. To make the show even trickier, one actor plays nine different members of the D'YSquith family - the comical group at the helm of the story. As is traditional for Highwood programs, this advanced production also features the talent of an all-student design team, tech crew, pit orchestra and production staff.

Director Matthew Nicola elaborates on the challenges of producing this new musical: "We've had our eyes on *A Gentleman's Guide* for quite some time: its big personality and sheer wit lend itself well to an advanced student company looking for that extra acting challenge." Highwood's Executive Director Kevin Kearney adds, "In addition to a fantastic ensemble cast, in the spirit of Highwood's mission, Highwood's ensemble of tech students - grades 4 - 12 - has worked hard to pull off dozens of elaborate tricks and

THE HIGHWOOD THEATRE  
914 Silver Spring Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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# THE Highwood THEATRE

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different settings in the show. We hope the audience will leave amazed and inspired by the level of skill involved.

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*A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* will run for a limited engagement at Highwood's home in downtown Silver Spring: Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 18 - 20, and again on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 25 - 27.

### **About The Highwood Theatre**

The Highwood Theatre is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the community together through theatre. Now in its 16<sup>th</sup> season, Highwood's guiding principle is "anyone can do theatre." Highwood was founded in 2004 and began executing its mission through seasons of professional quality theatre featuring all-student casts, design teams, and production staff. In 2013, in conjunction with its relocation to the heart of downtown Silver Spring, The Highwood Theatre expanded to more fully carry out its mission and develop innovative, engaging programming for artists of all ages through professional and student productions, classes, and programs in schools and for home schooled students.

### **Contact Information**

Tickets: <http://www.thehighwoodtheatre.org/tickets>

The Highwood Theatre Office: 301-587-0697

### **A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER**

Book and Lyrics by Robert L. Freedman, Music and Lyrics by Steven Lutvak

Directed by Matthew Nicola; Music Direction by Kevin Kearney; Lighting Design by Eliana Beals-Simon;  
Prop & Set Design by Fiona Lipczenko, Zane Peterson, Finn Beals-Simon, Dante Stasio, Jonah Witte;  
Sound Design by Simon Ellerbe; Costume Design by Tip Letsche

### **A STUDENTS' THEATRE PRODUCTION**

*January 18 - 27, 2019*

Fridays at 8 PM, Saturdays at 2 & 8 PM; Sundays at 2 PM

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