Media Contacts:

Casey Blake, 480-644-6620, casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com Lerria Schuh, 509-777-6312, lerria.schuh@wcebroadway.com

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Broadway on Center Series at Mesa Arts Center presents Elf the Musical Tuesday, Dec. 2 – Wednesday, Dec. 3



Mesa, AZ – The 2014-15 Broadway on Center Series, presented at Mesa Arts Center in partnership with WestCoast Entertainment, brings National Touring Broadway production Elf the Musical, a hilarious Christmas favorite based on the 2003 New Line Cinema movie hit, to Mesa arts Center for performances on Tuesday, Dec. 2 and Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the Mesa Arts Center Box Office, mesaartscenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

Elf is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan child who mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is actually human, Buddy's enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father, discover his true identity, and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas. This modern day Christmas classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner *Elf*.

Based on the beloved 2003 New Line Cinema hit, *Elf* features songs by Tony Award nominees Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin (*The Wedding Singer*), with a book by Tony Award winners Thomas Meehan (*Annie, The Producers, Hairspray*) and Bob Martin (*The Drowsy Chaperone*). The production will feature direction by Sam Scalamoni and choreography by Connor Gallagher.

The New York Times says that **Elf** is "A splashy, peppy, sugar-sprinkled holiday entertainment!" USA Today calls **Elf** "Endearingly goofy!" Variety proclaims, "**Elf** is happy enough for families, savvy enough for city kids and plenty smart for adults!"

Editor's Note: Images are available for download via Mesa Arts Center's online Press Room at http://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/misc/about/press-room/login. Password is macmedia.

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About Mesa Arts Center

The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. Owned and operated by the City of Mesa, Arizona's largest arts center is recognized as an international award-winning venue. The unique and architecturally stunning facility is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios and an artist cooperative gallery. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.

About WestCoast Entertainment:

WestCoast Entertainment and TicketsWest are part of the entertainment division of Red Lion Hotels Corporation (NYSE: RLH). WestCoast Entertainment promotes and arranges presentations of a variety of entertainment productions. TicketsWest engages in event ticket distribution throughout the United States and offers ticketing inventory management systems, call center services, and outlet and electronic channel distribution.

Production Biographies:

NETworks Presentations, LLC (*Producer*) Since 1995, NETworks has produced and managed over 45 touring productions in the US., U.K. and internationally. Current productions include Disney's *Beauty and the Beast, Billy Elliot The Musical*, Blue Man Group National Tour, *Elf The Musical, Flashdance the Musical, La Cage Aux Folles*, The New 25th Anniversary Production of *Les Misérables*, Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins, Shrek The Musical* and National Theatre of Great Britain's production of *War Horse* touring the U.S.

Warner Bros. Theatre Ventutres (*Producer*) is the live stage play division of Warner Bros. Entertainment responsible for developing and producing world-class musicals and other stage productions for the Studio. It has numerous productions in various stages of development, including co-productions with award-winning Broadway and film producers. WBTV's *ELF The Musical* is back on Broadway this year after a record-breaking run at the Al Hirschfeld Theatre during the 2010-2011 holiday season. In June 2013, the division will premiere the highly anticipated musical adaptation of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, with Sam Mendes directing, in London. WBTV also licenses third-party stage rights to the various properties held within the Studio's vast media library, including such recent stage productions as *Light in the Piazza*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Color Purple* and *42nd Street* as well as the upcoming *Diner* and *Bridges of Madison County*. WBTV's parent company, WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT, a Time Warner Company, is a fully integrated, broad-based entertainment company and a global leader in the creation, production, distribution, licensing and marketing of all forms of creative content and their related businesses, across all current and emerging media and platforms. The company stands at the forefront of every aspect of the entertainment

industry from feature film, TV and home entertainment production and worldwide distribution to DVD and Blu-ray, digital distribution, animation, comic books, licensing and broadcasting.

Unique Features (*Producer*) is an independent company that was launched in 2008 by Robert Shaye and Michael Lynne, who together built New Line Cinema into an industry powerhouse. The company is currently developing and producing several film and television projects, including "The Mortal Instruments" with Constantin Film, starting production this month with director Harald Zwart; an animated adaptation of Paul McCartney's illustrated book "High in the Clouds" to be directed by Rob Minkoff, written by Josh Klausner with original music by McCartney; "Sailing to Byzantium," based on the award-winning novella by Robert Silverberg; "French Lessons," based on the successful novel written by Ellen Sussman. In television, the company is developing an original television series with Bennett Miller and Kristen Gore, and developing the reality series "Dude, That's My Sister" for MTV with Bunim-Murray.