



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WORLD PREMIERE OF *FAMILY TIES* TAKES THE STAGE WITH DAYTON'S THE HUMAN RACE THEATRE COMPANY

**The Keatons are back in Daniel Goldstein's new comedy featuring Broadway's Jim Stanek and television's Eve Plumb, June 1 – 25, 2017 at Loft Theatre.**

(Dayton, OH) — One of the most beloved television families of the 1980s is set to make a long awaited return in the world premiere of *Family Ties*, written by **Daniel Goldstein** (*The Song of Songs*, *Unknown Soldier* and *Row*), based on the classic television series, directed by The Human Race's President & Artistic Director **Kevin Moore** and produced by special arrangement by **Araca Media & Entertainment**. Twenty years have passed and Alex P. Keaton, now running for Congress, returns to his parents' Columbus home with his sisters, Mallory and Jennifer, who are parents of their own. Gathered together once again, they relive some of the most important moments from their childhood – the growing pains, heartbreaks and reconciliations – with fondness and appreciation for simpler times that defined a generation. The preview performance of *Family Ties* is Thursday, June 1. Opening night is Friday, June 2, and the production runs through June 25 at The Human Race's home at downtown Dayton's Loft Theatre.

Responsible for shepherding **Goldstein's** play through development, New York City-based **Araca Media & Entertainment** believed the stage version of *Family Ties*—a series about a family living in central Ohio—should make its debut in the Buckeye State when it brought the property to The Human Race's **Kevin Moore** in 2016. “To be hand selected as the theatre to bring this show to life is a huge honor, and speaks to our national reputation,” beams **Moore**, who has directed and produced dozens of new plays and musicals over the past thirty years. “Developing new works has become a vital part of our mission,” explains **Moore**, “and working with playwright **Danny Goldstein** has been a joy and privilege. Theatre is never more exciting than when you are creating something for the first time.”

Unlike most new works, *Family Ties* has the added benefit of nostalgia for **Moore**, and likely much of the country. “Being a TV show that I watched faithfully, I am thrilled to be able to continue the Keatons' story,” he says, “and to find out how life played out for these characters who I, and America, loved for seven seasons.” While preparing for rehearsals on the play, which revisits many poignant moments in the characters' lives twenty years earlier, **Moore** spent time watching and reviewing episodes from the television series. “The research—if I may call binge watching ‘research’—was refreshing.” He explains, “I was reminded how many tough and timeless issues are tackled in *Family Ties*, and how smart the writing of the TV show is. Yes, it

is a comedy, but good comedy comes from good drama. And that's what we're really all about at The Human Race."

### **CAST AND DESIGN TEAM**

The six-member cast features **Jim Stanek** (*Fun Home, Lestat, The Rivals* on Broadway) as "Alex," **Eve Plumb** (TV's *The Brady Bunch, Dawn: Portrait of a Teenage Runaway* and *Fudge, Unbroken Circle* Off-Broadway) as "Elyse" and **Lawrence Redmond** (*Intelligence* at Arena Stage, *A Prayer for Owen Meany* at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, *Elmer Gantry* at Signature Theatre) as "Steven." **Thea Brooks** (*Dirty Dancing* 1st national tour, *I Love Lucy, Live on Stage* national tour) plays "Mallory," **Sara Mackie** (*Hands on a Hardbody* and *Other Desert Cities* at Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, *Green Gables* for HRTC) is the youngest daughter, "Jennifer." **Maggie Lou Rader** (*Heavier Than...* at Know Theatre Cincinnati, *Emma* and *Little Women* at Cincinnati Shakespeare Company) rounds out the ensemble as Alex's love interest, "Ellen."

The creative team includes **Tamara L. Honesty** (*Other Desert Cities, Becky's New Car* and *Lombardi* at HRTC), scenic design; **Janet G. Powell** (*Sweeney Todd, The Full Monty* and the world premiere of *Family Shots* at HRTC), costume design; Human Race Resident Artist **John Rensel** (*The Glass Menagerie, Crowns* and *Next to Normal* for HRTC), lighting design; Human Race Resident Artist **Jay Brunner** (the world premiere of *26 Pebbles, The Glass Menagerie* and *Hail Mary!* at HRTC) sound design; and **Lexi Muller**, production stage manager.

*Family Ties* reunites audiences with one of the most beloved television families of the 1980s. Twenty years have passed and Alex P. Keaton, now running for Congress, returns to his parents' Columbus home with his sisters, Mallory and Jennifer, who are parents of their own. Gathered together once again, they relive some of the most important moments from their childhood—the growing pains, heartbreaks and reconciliations—with fondness and appreciation for simpler times that defined a generation.

Biographies on the cast and creative team can be found on The Human Race Theatre Company's website.

The Human Race Theatre Company's production of *Family Ties* is under license by CBS Consumer Products and sponsored by the Miriam Rosenthal Foundation for the Arts, Marion's Piazza, Beth and Alan Schaeffer and The George B. Quatman Foundation – Fifth Third Bank, Trustee.

### **PERFORMANCE AND SPECIAL EVENT INFORMATION**

Tickets for the preview performance of *Family Ties* on June 1 start at \$35 for adults, \$32 for seniors and \$17.50 for students. For all performances June 2 – 25, single ticket prices start at \$40 for adults, \$37 for seniors and \$20 for students. Prices vary depending on the day of the week and seating location. Group discounts are available for parties of 10 or more. The Human Race is offering a pair of discount ticket opportunities during the run of the show. A limited number of \$12 and \$25 side-area seats are available in advance for all performances. The Sunday, June 4 7:00 p.m. performance is "Sawbuck Sunday," when any available seat can be purchased in person for

just \$10 at the Loft Theatre box office two hours prior to the show. Discounts are subject to availability and some restrictions apply.

All performances are at The Human Race's home in the Metropolitan Art Center's Loft Theatre, located at 126 North Main Street in downtown Dayton, Ohio. Show times for *Family Ties* are 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Performances on Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings begin at 7:00 p.m., and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday matinees.

**Tickets and performance information for *Family Ties* are available at [www.humanracetheatre.org](http://www.humanracetheatre.org) or by calling Ticket Center Stage at (937) 228-3630, and at the Schuster Center box office.**

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*Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, The Human Race Theatre Company was founded in 1986 and moved into the Metropolitan Arts Center in 1991, taking up residence at the 212-seat Loft Theatre. In addition to the Eichelberger Loft Season, The Human Race produces new works development and special event programming. Under the direction of President and Artistic Director Kevin Moore, the company also maintains education and outreach programs for children, teens and adults, as well as artist residencies in area schools, an In-School Tour, and a summer youth program. Human Race organizational support is provided by Culture Works, the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District, the Shubert Foundation, the Erma R. Catterton Trust Fund, the Jesse & Caryl Philips Foundation, the Virginia W. Kettering Foundation and the Ohio Arts Council, which helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The 2016-2017 Sustainability Sponsors are the ELM Foundation, Anne F. Johnson, Steve and Lou Mason, and Morris Home. The 2016-2017 Loft season sponsor is the Jack W. and Sally D. Eichelberger Foundation of the Dayton Foundation, with additional support from Premier Health.*

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

The Human Race Theatre Company presents

***Family Ties***

by Daniel Goldstein

based on the CBS television series

produced by special arrangement by Araca Media & Entertainment

directed by Kevin Moore

June 1 – 25, 2017

Performed at the Loft Theatre

Metropolitan Arts Center

126 North Main Street (between First and Second streets)

Dayton, Ohio 45402

One of the most beloved television families of the 1980s takes to the stage. Twenty years have passed and Alex P. Keaton, now running for Congress, returns to his parents' Columbus home with his sisters, Mallory and Jennifer, who are parents of their own. Gathered together once again, they relive some of the most important moments from their childhood – the growing pains, heartbreaks and reconciliations – with fondness and appreciation for simpler times that defined a generation.

**For tickets:**

Ticket Center Stage box office phone: (937) 228-3630

Box office hours: Mondays – Fridays, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; and two hours prior to each performance

Online: [www.humanracetheatre.org](http://www.humanracetheatre.org) or [www.ticketcenterstage.com](http://www.ticketcenterstage.com)

**Ticket prices start at:** \$35 – \$50 for adults, \$32 – \$46 for seniors and \$17.50 – \$25.00 for students. Prices vary depending on performance date.

**Discounts:** Select side-area seats available in advance for \$12 and \$25 at all performances; “Sawbuck Sunday” June 4 at 7:00 p.m. – \$10 seats available for walk up sales only

**Group sales:** contact Betty Gould at (937) 461-8295 or [Betty.Gould@victoriatheatre.com](mailto:Betty.Gould@victoriatheatre.com)

***Family Ties* performance dates:**

Wednesday, May 31 8:00 p.m. Pay-What-You-CAN open rehearsal

Thursday, June 1 8:00 p.m. “Inside Track” pre-show discussion/Preview performance

Friday, June 2 8:00 p.m. Opening night with post-show lobby party

Saturday, June 3 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 4 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 4 7:00 p.m. “Sawbuck Sunday” – \$10 tickets at the door

Tuesday, June 6 7:00 p.m. Lite Fare at the Loft pre-show lobby dining

Wednesday, June 7 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 8 8:00 p.m.

Friday, June 9 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 10 8:00 p.m. Audio Described/Sign Interpreted performance (reserve by May 27)  
Sunday, June 11 2:00 p.m. “While We’re on the Subject” post-show talk-back  
Tuesday, June 13 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, June 14 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, June 15 8:00 p.m.  
Friday, June 16 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 17 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, June 18 2:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, June 20 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, June 21 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, June 22 8:00 p.m.  
Friday, June 23 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 24 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, June 25 2:00 p.m. Closing performance