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For immediate release, please: Thursday, February 21

**Berkshire Theatre Group Announces
Audition Call for Actors in
Shrek The Musical**

Pittsfield, MA– Berkshire Theatre Group seeks child and adult actors, musicians, backstage crew, technical support, usher staff and parent volunteers to participate in its upcoming non-equity production, *Shrek The Musical*. This production will be directed by Travis Daly, with music direction by Mark Gionfriddo and choreography by Avital Asuleen and will run August 1–August 17 at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield, MA.

Auditions will take place **Wednesday, March 6 from 6pm–9pm** and **Tuesday, March 12 from 6pm–9pm** at The Colonial Theatre (111 South St. Pittsfield, MA).

Auditions are by appointment only. To schedule an audition time slot, please call 413-448-8084 ext. 23.

The roles are open to actors of all ethnicities 2nd grade through adults. Student auditions will be held during the first two hours of each session, and the last hour will be held for adults. Students should come prepared to learn songs from *Shrek The Musical* and bring a prepared written statement of 50 words or less on why they would like to be

in the show. Adults should be prepared to sing 16 bars of a song, and bring the accompanying sheet music that is in the key in which they prefer to sing.

Callbacks will take place as needed. Rehearsals will start June 17 and occur approximately six days a week, including evenings, weekends (including Sunday) and some weekdays. All rehearsals will take place in Pittsfield, MA. Attending all rehearsals is required.

The performance schedule is as follows:

Thursday, August 1 at 7pm

Friday, August 2 at 7pm

Saturday, August 3 at 2pm

Saturday, August 3 at 7pm

Sunday, August 4 at 2pm

Tuesday, August 6 at 7pm

Wednesday, August 7 at 2pm

Wednesday, August 7 at 7pm

Thursday, August 8 at 7pm

Friday, August 9 at 7pm

Saturday, August 10 at 2pm

Saturday, August 10 at 7pm

Sunday, August 11 at 2pm

Tuesday, August 13 at 7pm

Wednesday, August 14 at 2pm

Wednesday, August 14 at 7pm

Thursday, August 15 at 7pm

Friday, August 16 at 7pm

Saturday, August 17 at 2pm (Closing)

All performances will take place at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield, MA.

Shrek The Musical

based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig

music by Jeanine Tesori

book and lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire

originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions

original production directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford

directed by Travis Daly
music direction by Mark Gionfriddo
choreography by Avital Asuleen

Running August 1 through August 17
at The Colonial Theatre
BTG's Pittsfield Campus, 111 South Street

Tickets: Adult A: \$45; Adult B: \$35 • Child A: \$30; Child B: \$25

Based on the Oscar-Winning DreamWorks Animation film, *Shrek The Musical* is a Tony Award-Winning fairy tale adventure, featuring all new songs from Jeanine Tesori (*Thoroughly Modern Millie; Caroline, or Change*) and a side-splitting book by David Lindsay-Abaire. *Shrek* brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage and proves there's more to the story than meets the ears.

“Once upon a time, there was a little ogre named Shrek...” And so begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. Throw in a short-tempered bad guy, a cookie with an attitude and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand, and his name is Shrek.

Directed by Travis Daly (*Tarzan, The Music Man, Beauty and the Beast*), with music direction by Mark Gionfriddo and choreography by Avital Asuleen, this charming musical features over 100 talented Berkshire youth. Irreverently fun for the whole family, *Shrek* proves that beauty is truly in the eye of the ogre.

For more information, visit BerkshireTheatreGroup.org.

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About Berkshire Theatre Group

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG). Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Every year, BTG produces and presents

performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through our Educational Program, serves over 13,000 Berkshire County school children annually. BTG's celebrated stages reflect the history of the American theatre; they represent a priceless cultural resource for the community.