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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New Stage Unframed Series presents**  
***The Trail to Oregon!***  
**by Jeff Blim, Nick Lang, Matt Lang**

Jackson, Mississippi – The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre presents *The Trail to Oregon!* by Jeff Blim, Nick Lang, Matt Lang on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm and May 4<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Tickets may be purchased online at [newstagetheatre.com](http://newstagetheatre.com) for \$15 until May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$20 one hour before each show. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre, which is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. *The Trail to Oregon!* contains adult content and language, and is recommended for mature audiences only.

*The Trail to Oregon!*, directed by Jacob Tate Heuer and music directed by Bryan Ledford, is a wacky musical about the iconic 19<sup>th</sup> century journey taken by countless American families in search of a new life out west. Inspired by and set in the world of the iconic "The Oregon Trail" video game created in the 1970s by Don Rawitsch, Bill Heinemann, and Paul Dillenberger, the musical's catchy score combines high energy group numbers with moving, self-revelatory solos, wit, nostalgia, and tomfoolery for around two hours of interactive theatre. The story starts with our "All-American Family" preparing to make the cross-country trek and ends in Oregon with a lot of life lessons learned.

The musical was written by members of Team StarKid and produced by StarKid Productions for the first time in the summer of 2014 in Chicago. Other works by the team include *Firebringer*, *A Very Potter Musical*, and *The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals*. Their work often begins and incorporates elements of improvisational and sketch comedy techniques.

Francine Reynolds, New Stage Artistic Director, says, "With its irreverent humor, *The Trail to Oregon!* is a musical parody that is loads of fun for the audience. Its interactive style is perfect for our Unframed Series."

The cast of *The Trail to Oregon!* includes Wyatt Wilson (Father), Abigail Young (Mother), Tatiana Grace (Son), Ainsley Marler (Daughter), Paul Kuhne (McDoon), and Michael Montgomery (Grandpa/Cletus).

Jacob Tate Heuer, the director, expressed, "*Trail to Oregon* is a show that feels like a direct extension of what I find funny and why I wanted to start my journey into acting in plays and musicals. To entertain, make people forget what's going on in the world and spend an hour or two with friends to see something funny and enjoy themselves. Sure, it's a silly show with silly songs, but isn't that something we all need right now?"

Created in 2006, The Unframed at New Stage Theatre series provides a distinctive theatre experience to the community. The focus is on producing new works and contemporary drama as an alternative to the traditional New Stage subscription series. Unframed at New Stage provides artistic opportunities to emerging artists allowing them to get more experience working with a professional theatre company and on fresh, exciting material that's not typically produced on the main stage. In the past the series has produced works such as *Is God Is*, *Race*, *The Pillowman*, *Stop Kiss*, *Steal Away!*, and *The Laramie Project*. New Stage is excited to start Season 16 with a program full of intriguing new drama that is equal parts entertaining, thought provoking, and hilarious.

*The Trail to Oregon!* opens Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm. Following performances are Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm and Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online in advance at [newstagetheatre.com](http://newstagetheatre.com) for \$15 until May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$20 up until one hour before each show. *The Trail to Oregon!* contains adult content and language and is recommended for mature audiences only. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre. The theatre is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. Unframed at New Stage Theatre is sponsored by Jackson Free Press. For more information on The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre, find us on Facebook or Instagram at Unframed at New Stage Theatre or call 601.948.3533 (ex. 223.)

To find out more about the Unframed at New Stage Theatre series, please visit <https://newstagetheatre.com/events/unframed-series/>.