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**For Immediate Release**

**World Premiere Of the Original Musical  
“BREAST IN SHOW”  
October 14 and 15 at JCC Theater in Rockville**

**1 In 8 Women In The USA Will Develop Invasive Breast Cancer In  
Their Life Time**

ROCKVILLE, MD (July 26, 2011) The world premiere of **BREAST IN SHOW**, an original musical about breast cancer, will take place October 14 and 15 at 8 p.m. at the JCC Theatre in Rockville.

Producer Eileen Mitchard\* brings together a talented trio of theater professionals for an evening of great music and powerful storytelling that’s both entertaining and inspiring.

Playwright **Lisa Hayes\*\*** (*Nurse, Jane Eyre*) tells the stories of four characters and their jarring, sometimes tragic and always surreal experience of living with breast cancer. Based on multitudes of interviews with real people – patients, loved ones and medical professionals – the characters are brought to life under the direction of theater veteran **Kathryn Chase Bryer\*\*\*** (Associate Artistic Director of Imagination Stage). Weaving it all together, political satirist and musician **Joan Cushing\*\*\*\*** (*Mrs. Foggybottom and Friends, Lady Sings the News*) lends her unique brand of edgy, poignant humor with music and lyrics that you’ll be singing until long after the curtain falls.

“BREAST IN SHOW resonates with the awful absurdity of breast cancer,” said Mitchard. “It profiles real people using humor to cope with the realities of the disease.”

In the Broadway tradition of *Rent*, *Angels in America* and *Wit*, **BREAST IN SHOW** shines a spotlight on breast cancer, a disease that is diagnosed annually in more than 240,000 women in the United States alone.

One hundred percent of the net proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to three Maryland-based non-profit organizations: Critters for the Cure<sup>1</sup>, METAvivor<sup>2</sup> and The Red Devils<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Helps fund non-traditional treatments not covered by insurance.(wigs, anti-nausea meds, etc.)

<sup>2</sup> Devoted to the 30% of patients whose breast cancer metastasizes to other parts of the body

<sup>3</sup> Provides domestic services (housecleaning, meal prep, etc.) for Maryland breast cancer patients

Tickets, priced at \$50 for general admission and \$99 for supporter may be purchased only through [www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com). For more information, visit [www.breastinshow.org](http://www.breastinshow.org) or Eileen Mitchard at 240-393-0695

Executive Producer **Eileen Mitchard** has been working to fight breast cancer for the past 20 years: “Because of my background and interest in theater, I felt creating this musical would be a way to reach people on a more personal level. We all know someone who has taken this emotional journey through diagnosis, treatment, and what comes next. The theatrical experience allows strangers to share that journey together.”

The creative team for **BREAST IN SHOW** includes:

\* **Lisa Hayes** (Script) An accomplished playwright and actress, Lisa has toured her one-woman show “Jane Eyre” nationally and internationally. After debuting her play "Nurse!" (based on interviews she did with nurses in New York) off-Broadway in 2003, she has performed the play throughout the U.S., as well as in Rome and Krakow. Lisa's other plays include *Bedside Manners*, *From the Mountains of Mourne to the Mines of Montana*, *The Sad Sacks are Back*, and *The Trailer Park Diaries*. Lisa's day job is Director of Education and Public Programs at the Accokeek Foundation, where she has the opportunity to write and produce museum theater plays on colonial history for the National Colonial Farm. Lisa is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Actors Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild, the International Museum Theatre Alliance, the International Oral History Association, and The Players.

\* **Joan Cushing** (Music and Lyrics) is best known for her political satirical revue *Mrs. Foggybottom & Friends*, which ran for 10 years at the Omni-Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. In New York, she performed her solo nightclub act *Lady Sings the News!* at the Ballroom. She also appeared in Gary Trudeau's *Tanner for President* series on HBO, directed by Robert Altman. Recent works include a brand new script for Tussaud, based on the deliciously gruesome and dark tale of Madame Tussaud; *The Christmas Doll*, 2007 National Youth Theatre Award for Outstanding Play/Musical, adapted from the book by Elvira Woodruff, world premiere, *Children's Theatre of Charlotte*; *Lizzie Bright & the Buckminster Boy*, adapted from the book by Gary D. Schmidt, New Play Series, First Stage Milwaukee; and *Ramana's Garden*, based on true stories of children in an orphanage in N. India (with Kathy Carroll).

\* **Kathryn Chase Bryer** (Director) is Imagination Stage's Associate Artistic Director. She has directed over 30 shows in the last 18 years, including *Ferdinand the Bull*, *Lyle the Crocodile*, *Miss Nelson is Missing* (2009 production with new script), *Jungle Book*, *Junebug and the Reverend*; *Huck Finn's Story*, *Seussical*, *James and the Giant Peach*, and *Charlotte's Web*. She has helped develop new scripts such as *Junie B. Jones & A Little Monkey Business* and *Petite Rouge* by Joan Cushing; *Looking for Roberto Clemente* (voted “Favorite Family Production 2008” by DC Theatre Scene) by Karen Zacarias, with music by Deborah Wicks La Puma; and, most recently, *The Dancing Princesses* (voted co-winner for “Favorite Family Production 2010” by DC Theatre Scene) by Allison Currin and Chris Youstra.

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