



St. Richard Theatre Company

26855 Lorain Road · North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cherie Sabol (440) xxx-xxxx

St. Richard Theatre Company Brings Ancient Egypt to Life in Rock Musical, *Aida*

Egypt's ancient pyramids provide the backdrop to an age-old love triangle set to contemporary music in *Elton John & Tim Rice's Aida*, presented by St. Richard Theatre Company Summer Workshop, July 24-26 at Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts in Rocky River.

Elton John & Tim Rice's Aida is a musical adaptation of Giuseppe Verdi's opera, *Aida*, an epic tale of forbidden love between an Egyptian soldier and an enslaved Nubian princess – love that condemns them to death, but ultimately gives birth to a reign of peace in Ancient Egypt. This contemporary production features music and lyrics by the Tony and Grammy winning pop-rock duo, Elton John and Tim Rice. *Aida* is an exhilarating and rousing musical event that captures the tale of loyalty, betrayal and forbidden love through vibrant song and dance.

The Broadway production debuted March 23, 2000 and ran for 1,852 performances through September 4, 2004. Elton John and Tim Rice won the Tony Award for Best Score in 2000. A national tour and several international productions have been produced from 2005 and as recent as 2008. With its colorful story and memorable score, *Aida* has become a popular production for school and community theaters.

Artistic Director Nathan A. Lilly celebrates his 11th season and 16th production with St. Richard Theatre Company. "*Aida* is an ancient story with a modern feel and beautifully showcases the music and dance talents of our students. The song and dance numbers are inspired by historical times but presented with contemporary style," said Lilly. Lilly also serves as Co-Choreographer along with Co-Choreographer XXXX, and musical direction provided by Brad Wyner. The cast of more than 20 students range in ages 14-19.

Performances are July 24-25 at 7:30 p.m. and July 26 at 4:00 p.m. at the Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts, located at 20770 Hilliard Blvd, Rocky River. For tickets call (440) xxx-xxxx or visit www.srtcdrama.org.

Founded in 1980, St. Richard Theatre Company is a non-profit organization committed to educating students in the dramatic arts and giving them the opportunity to gain self-confidence, self-awareness and a sense of accomplishment by expressing themselves through theatre in a Christian environment.

###