



## St. Richard Theatre Company

26855 Lorain Road · North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Diane Walsh (440) 570-8514

### St. Richard Theatre Company Serves Up the Hits in *Smokey Joe's Cafe*

“Hound Dog”, “Jailhouse Rock” and “Love Potion #9” are just a few of the hits on the menu at St. Richard Theatre Company’s production of *Smokey Joe’s Café*, March 20-22 and March 27-29 at St. Richard School Auditorium in North Olmsted.

*Smokey Joe’s Café* is a hand-clapping, toe-tapping ‘50’s style rock’ n roll, rhythm and blues, “jukebox” musical review highlighting the best hits from the legendary song-writing duo Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. These songs from the golden age of American culture became solid gold hits for artists such as Elvis, The Coasters, Ben E. King and many more. This electrifying production showcases pop favorites that are guaranteed to bring back memories and bring down the house!

*Smokey Joe’s Café* made its theatrical debut in 1994 in Los Angeles. The Broadway production opened in 1995 and ran for 2,036 productions and maintains the title as longest running musical review in Broadway history. The original Broadway cast soundtrack, *Smokey Joe’s Café: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller*, won a Grammy Award in 1995, and the Broadway production received five Tony® Award nominations in the same year.

Artistic Director Nathan A. Lilly celebrates his 11<sup>th</sup> season and 15<sup>th</sup> production with St. Richard Theatre Company by directing *Smokey Joe’s Café*. “We chose an upbeat, uplifting show that will evoke nostalgia and reflect simpler times. The music and dance numbers are performed on a custom-designed stage trimmed with neon lights and a mirror ball to transport the audience back to the early days of rock ‘n roll,” said Lilly. Lilly also serves as Co-Choreographer along with Co-Choreographer Nicci Cassara, and musical direction provided by Brad Wyner. The cast and crew of more than 50 students range in ages from nine to 14.

Performances are March 20, 21, 27 and 28 at 7:30 p.m. and March 22 and 29 at 2:00 p.m. in the St. Richard School Auditorium, located at 26855 Lorain Road, North Olmsted. For tickets call (440) 235-3414 or visit [www.srtcdrama.org](http://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.

###