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6PM:**

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**Junior Players Announces 2017 Production Season**  
2017 Season of Identity Includes 4 Productions

DALLAS, TX, August 27, 2016 – Junior Players is excited to announce its 2017 Production Season of Identity, which will include a musical, a teen playwriting festival, a summer Shakespeare production, and one dance production.

The new season will kick off with *RENT*, January 5-8, 2017 at the Dallas City Performance Hall. *RENT* explores many sensitive themes that are relevant to today's community. This musical is a great vehicle to bring these subjects into context for our North Texas teens. This production will be directed by Valerie Hauss-Smith.

PUP Fest 2017, in collaboration with Kitchen Dog Theater, will return as part of the 2017 production season. Now in its sixteenth year, PUP Fest has exposed hundreds of North Texas teens to the joy of playwriting. Public performances for PUP Fest 2017 will be held on June 10, 2017.

Continuing the tradition of Shakespeare in the Park, Junior Players will present *Othello* July 25-30, 2017 in collaboration with Shakespeare Dallas. Returning for its twenty-seventh year, Junior Players' summer Shakespeare production has become a mainstay in the Dallas theatre cultural scene.

The culminating production of the 2017 season will be *Junior Players Presents: Metamorphosis*, the third installment of *The Transformation Project* dance series. This production will explore the ideas presented in *The Transformation Project* and *Evolution* through dance, movement, and stage combat. Performances for *Junior Players Presents: Metamorphosis* will take place August 18-19, 2017 at the Dallas City Performance Hall.

**2016 JUNIOR PLAYERS PRODUCTION SEASON**

***RENT***

January 5-8, 2017 | Dallas City Performance Hall

***PUP Fest 2017***

June 10, 2017 | Kitchen Dog Theater

***Othello***

July 26-31, 2017 | Samuell-Grand Park Amphitheatre

***Junior Players Presents: Metamorphosis***

August 18-19, 2017 | Dallas City Performance Hall

Junior Players was founded in 1955, and is the oldest non-profit children's theater organization in Dallas. Over its sixty-one year existence, Junior Players has striven to meet the changing needs of the community. From 1955 to 1989, Junior Players presented traditional children's theater productions performed entirely by children and teenagers. In 1989, the Board of Directors changed the focus of Junior Players activities, deciding that, Junior Players can best serve the youth of Dallas by providing free programming accessible to all the children of North Texas. Junior Players, therefore, exclusively provides free arts education programs in local recreation and cultural centers, housing projects, elementary and middle schools, and through social service agencies serving youth at risk.

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