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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP EXTENDS PREMIERE OF *YELLOWJACKETS* BY ITAMAR MOSES
Five performances added due to popular demand for tickets!

SEPTEMBER 24, 2008 – At Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the buzz on *Yellowjackets* just won't stop. Audiences love this world premiere set right here in our community, and word of mouth has created incredible demand for tickets. As a result, the Theatre announced an extension for the show today: ***Yellowjackets* will now play through October 19** on the intimate Thrust Stage. This is only the first sting in a potent theatre season at Berkeley Rep, which continues this fall with an alluring adaptation of *The Arabian Nights* from Tony Award-winner Mary Zimmerman and Delroy Lindo's powerful staging of *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*.

"I'm proud to announce this extension," said Artistic Director **Tony Taccone**, who staged *Yellowjackets*. "It's always gratifying when a show finds its audience, and this one has certainly struck a nerve with local residents. I'm glad that Itamar's script is generating meaningful dialogue about life here in the Bay Area. I'm also confident that the content is universal and speaks to larger issues of race, class, and economics that affect students and adults nationwide. It's critical that we as a society discuss these issues, especially in an election year."

Renowned playwright **Itamar Moses** returns to his hometown with *Yellowjackets*, a script set just around the corner in the halls of his *alma mater*, Berkeley High. When the school newspaper publishes an insensitive story, students suddenly find themselves embroiled in a volatile controversy – and even their teachers seem unprepared to deal with the repercussions. With *Yellowjackets*, Taccone generates the same mix of intense emotion and timely politics that electrified shows like *Continental Divide*, *Culture Clash's Zorro in Hell*, and *Taking Over*. An ensemble of 11 young actors creates a compelling collision of race and class which forces us to examine familiar surroundings with fresh eyes.

With five added performances, the **new schedule** for *Yellowjackets* is as follows:

- Wednesday 9/24 @ 7 PM
- Thursday 9/25 @ 2PM & 8 PM
- Friday 9/26 @ 8 PM – *sold out!*
- Saturday 9/27 @ 8 PM – *sold out!*
- Sunday 9/28 @ 2 PM – *sold out!*
- Sunday 9/28 @ 7 PM – *sold out!*
- Tuesday 9/30 @ 8 PM – *sold out!*
- Wednesday 10/1 @ 7 PM – *sold out!*
- Thursday 10/2 @ 8 PM – *sold out!*
- Friday 10/3 @ 8 PM – *sold out!*
- Saturday 10/4 @ 2 PM – *sold out!*
- Saturday 10/4 @ 8 PM
- Sunday 10/5 @ 2 PM – *sold out!*
- Sunday 10/5 @ 7 PM
- Tuesday 10/7 @ 8 PM
- Wednesday 10/8 @ 7 PM
- Thursday 10/9 @ 2 PM & 8 PM
- Saturday 10/11 @ 2 PM & 8 PM
- Sunday 10/12 @ 2PM & 7 PM
- Thursday 10/16 @ 8 PM – *just added!*
- Friday 10/17 @ 8 PM – *just added!*
- Saturday 10/18 @ 8 PM – *just added!*
- Sunday 10/19 @ 3 PM – *just added!*
- Sunday 10/19 @ 7:30 PM – *just added!*

Tickets to *Yellowjackets* start at \$33 – or only \$16.50 for anyone under 30 years of age. Berkeley Rep is located at 2025 Addison Street, near bus lines, bike routes, and parking lots, and only half a block from BART. To purchase seats, call 510.647.2949 or 888-4-BRT-Tix (toll-free) – or just click berkeleyrep.org.

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berkeley rep

YELLOWJACKETS
FACT SHEET

WHO: Written by Itamar Moses
Directed by Tony Taccone
Designed by Annie Smart (sets), Meg Neville (costumes), Alexander V. Nichols (lights), Obadiah Eaves (sound), and Steve Rankin (fight choreography)
Starring Shores Alaudini, Jahmela Biggs, Alex Curtis, Ben Freeman, Lance Gardner, Amaya Alonso Halifax, Kevin Hsieh, Adrienne Papp, Craig Piaget, Brian Rivera, and Erika Salazar

WHAT: Yellowjackets – the world premiere of a provocative new play written by a Berkeley native and set at Berkeley High School

WHERE: Berkeley Repertory Theatre's Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Downtown Berkeley

WHEN: Now playing through Sunday, October 19!
Tuesdays & Fridays @ 8:00 PM
Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM
Thursdays & Saturdays @ 2:00 PM & 8:00 PM
Sundays @ 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
No matinees on 9/27, 10/2, or 10/18
No performances on 10/10, 10/14, or 10/15
Special curtain times on Sunday 10/19 – 3:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Calendar grid showing dates from August 29 to October 19 with performance times and special event markers.

- PREVIEW
TARGET® TEEN NIGHT
OPENING NIGHT
LGBT NIGHT/OUT
30 BELOW
POST-SHOW DISCUSSION
TASTING
DOCENT PRESENTATIONS EVERY TUE & THU 7PM
ADDED DATES

Special Events –

Docent talks: Tuesdays 9/30 & 10/7 and Thursdays 9/25, 10/2 & 10/9 @ 7:00 PM

Post-play discussions: Tuesday 9/30 & Friday 10/3 @ 8:00 PM

Free tastings: Friday 9/26 (Winterhawk Winery) @ 7:00 PM, Saturday 9/27 (Blue Danube Wine Company) @ 7:00 PM, Sunday 9/28 (Balletto Vineyards) @ 6:00 PM, Saturday 10/4 (Winterhawk Winery) @ 7:00 PM, and Saturday 10/11 (St. Helena Road Winery) @ 7:00 PM

HOW MUCH: \$16.50 - \$71

Table with 4 columns: Performance Time, Section B, Section A, Premium. Rows include Tue 8 PM / Wed 7 PM / Thu 2 PM / Sat 2 PM, Thu 8 PM / Sun 2 PM / Sun 7 PM, Friday @ 8 PM, and Saturday @ 8 PM.

- Discounts:
• Half-price tickets available for anyone under 30 years of age
• \$10 discount for students and seniors one hour before curtain
• Groups of 10 or more, contact 510.647.2918 or groups@berkeleyrep.org

TIX & INFO: 510.647.2949 – toll-free 888-4-BRT-Tix – berkeleyrep.org

PHOTOS: http://www.berkeleyrep.org/press/photos-08vj.asp