

For Immediate Release
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The Whiting Proudly Presents



**“IF LIFE WERE EVERYTHING IT SHOULD BE, IT WOULD BE MORE LIKE
‘HAIRSPRAY.’”**

—*The New York Times*

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FLINT - It's time to let your hair down and dance the night away! **HAIRSPRAY**, Broadway's musical comedy phenomenon that inspired a major motion picture is coming to The Whiting on March 4 at 7:30pm! This fantastically fun musical, winner of eight 2003 Tony Awards including Best Musical, celebrated over 6 record-breaking years during its Broadway run. The 2007 West End production of **HAIRSPRAY** was nominated for a record-breaking 11 Olivier Awards and nabbed four, including the top category Best New Musical, and also won Best New Musical in all of Britain's other top awards programs, including the Evening Standard, Critic's Circle, and Whatsonstage Awards.

And now, back by popular demand, the people of Flint will once again be swept away to 1960s Baltimore in this international smash-hit musical, piled bouffant-high with laughter and romance – and enough deliriously tuneful songs to fill a nonstop platter party. It's **HAIRSPRAY**, live on stage, in living color!

Everyone is raving about this delightful musical, including the critics. “A great big fat gorgeous hit,” claims Clive Barnes of the *New York Post*. “A must-see for every teenage dreamer who believes anything is possible,” say Georgina Brown of London's *The Mail on Sunday*. “So many numbers bring down the house, it's a wonder the theater is still standing,” says Jeremy Gerard of *New York Magazine*.

In **HAIRSPRAY** it's 1962—the '50s are out and change is in the air. Baltimore's Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, has only one passion—to dance. She wins a spot on the local TV dance program, “The Corny Collins Show” and, overnight, is transformed from outsider to irrepresible teen celebrity. But can a plus-size trendsetter in dance and fashion

vanquish the program's reigning princess, win the heart of heartthrob Link Larkin, *and* integrate a television show without denting her 'do? Only in **HAIRSPRAY!** Welcome to the '60s!

HAIRSPRAY is based on the New Line Cinema film written and directed by John Waters, who served as a creative consultant on the musical comedy. It features a book by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan. **HAIRSPRAY** features an original score by Academy Award-nominated Marc Shaiman (who co-wrote the music and lyrics for the acclaimed animated musical, *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*) and lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman. This production of **HAIRSPRAY** is based on Jack O'Brien's original direction and Jerry Mitchell's original choreography, recreated by Matt Lenz and Danny James Austin, respectively. Scenic design is by David Rockwell; the set coordinator is Michael Allen; costume design is by William Ivey Long; lighting design is by Kenneth Posner and Paul Miller; the sound is by Shannon Slaton; wig and hair design is by Paul Huntley; and the musical supervisor is Lon Hoyt. **HAIRSPRAY** is produced by NETworks Presentations.

HAIRSPRAY will play Thursday, March 4 at The Whiting. Tickets are \$31 - \$69 and can be purchased on-line at **TheWhiting.com** or by calling our **Ticket Center at (810) 237-7333**. The **HAIRSPRAY** web site can be found at www.hairsprayontour.com.

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****Reviewer Tickets AVAILABLE. High Resolution Images available upon request.**

To secure tickets or request images, please contact Wendi Fournier at

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