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Lifeline Theatre Presents *Emma*, Opens June 4

Performances with Open Captioning on June 15 and July 12
Performance with Touch Tour and Audio Description on June 16

CHICAGO – Lifeline Theatre presents *Emma*, adapted by Lifeline Theatre ensemble member **Phil Timberlake** and directed by Lifeline Theatre ensemble member **Elise Kauzlaric**. Making his Lifeline playwriting debut, ensemble member Phil Timberlake joins ensemble member Elise Kauzlaric, director of 2012's *Pride and Prejudice* and 2016's *Northanger Abbey* (Non-Equity Jeff nomination: Best Production–Musical), for a fresh, intimate look at this beloved Austen romp. After a successful experiment in matchmaking, Emma Woodhouse is convinced she can do no wrong. So the high-spirited socialite inserts herself in the love lives of everyone around her, meddling despite their wishes, and leaves a tangle of heartbreak in her wake. To restore happiness to her fractured world, Emma must swallow her pride and learn to value the needs of others over her own desires. Navigate the blunders of the heart in this world premiere adaptation of the 1815 romantic comedy by Jane Austen. The production runs approximately 2 hours with an intermission. The novel will be on sale in the lobby.

Emma runs May 24 – July 14 at Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave. (free parking and shuttle; see below). Press opening is Sunday, June 2 at 4 p.m. Opening night is Tuesday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. (Previews are Fridays, May 24 and 31 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, May 25 and June 1 at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, May 26 at 4 p.m.)

Regular performance times (June 6 – July 14) are Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 4 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 4 p.m. Ticket prices are \$40 for regular single tickets, \$30 for active and retired military personnel (with ID), \$30 for seniors, \$20 for students (with ID), \$20 for rush tickets (available half hour before show time, subject to availability), and \$20 for previews. Group rate for 12 or more is available upon request. Tickets may be purchased at the Lifeline Theatre Box Office, 773.761.4477, or by visiting www.lifelinetheatre.com.

Accessible Performances: The Saturday, June 15, 4 p.m. performance and the Friday, July 12, 7:30 p.m. performances will feature open captioning for patrons who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. The Sunday, June 16, 4 p.m. performance will feature a pre-show touch tour of the set at 2:30 p.m. and live audio description for patrons who are blind or have low vision. For more information about Lifeline's accessibility services, please contact our Accessibility Coordinator Erica Foster at 773.761.4477 x703 or at access@lifelinetheatre.com.

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The complete cast and production team for *Emma* includes:

CAST: Guest artists **Peter Gertas** (Frank/Elton), **Jeri Marshall** (Jane), **Maddie Pell** (Harriet), **Emma Sipora Tyler** (Emma), and **Cory Williamson** (Knightley). With understudies **Aissa Guerra**, **Royan Kent**, **Jamie Sandomire**, **Sana Selemon**, and **Zach Twardowski**.

PRODUCTION TEAM: Lifeline Theatre ensemble members **Aly Renee Amidei** (Costume Designer), **Diane Fairchild** (Lighting Designer), **Elise Kauzlaric** (Director/Dialect Coach), **Maren Robinson** (Dramaturg), and **Phil Timberlake** (Adaptor); with guest artists **Andrew Hansen** (Sound Designer), **Persephone Lawrence** (Properties Designer), **Sarah Lewis** (Scenic Designer), **Jennifer McClendon** (Production Manager), **Kate Reed** (Stage Manager), **Joe Schermoly** (Technical Director), and **Jonah White** (Master Electrician)

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Lifeline Theatre is accessible by CTA (Red Line Morse stop/busses) and free parking is available at Sullivan High School (6631 N Bosworth Ave — the lot is located on the corner of Bosworth Ave and Albion Ave, with the entrance on Albion) with free shuttle service before and after the show. Street parking is also available. Lifeline is accessible to wheelchair users and visitors who need to avoid stairs.

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Now in its 36th season, Lifeline Theatre is driven by a passion for story. Our ensemble process supports writers in the development of literary adaptations and new work, and our theatrical and educational programs foster a lifelong engagement with literature and the arts. A cultural anchor of Rogers Park, we are committed to deepening our connection to an ever-growing family of artists and audiences, both near and far. Lifeline Theatre – Big Stories, Up Close.

Lifeline Theatre's programs are partially supported by Alphawood Foundation; A.R.T. League Inc.; Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Illinois; Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation; Chicago CityArts, a grant from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; CIG Management; CNA Foundation; Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; FGMK LLC; FlexPrint Inc.; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Michael and Mona Heath Fund at The Chicago Community Trust Foundation; **Illinois Arts Council Agency**; Illinois Humanities Council; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; The National Endowment for the Arts; The PAV Grant Fund; The Polk Bros. Foundation; Rogers Park Social; The Saints; S&C Electric Company Fund; The Shubert Foundation; The Steele Foundation; The Manufacturing; and the annual support of businesses and individuals.