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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**New York Cabaret Sensation Molly Pope
To Star In World Premiere Musical
“*SECOND TO NUN*”
At Zeiders American Dream Theater Summer 2017**

Virginia Beach – Zeiders American Dream Theater (ZADT) in Town Center, under the leadership of Artistic Director Bart Kuebler and Executive Director Terry Flint, will present the world premiere new musical, ***Second To Nun***, written by Broadway songwriter **Michael Cooper** and award-winning librettist **Anton Dudley**, who also directs the production.

Celebrated New York City cabaret artist **Molly Pope** will portray Canadian saint Marguerite Bourgeoys at Zeiders American Dream Theater, reliving her death-defying journey (The Black Plague! Iroquois scalpers! Randy French soldiers!) to bring women to New France. A one woman musical about the power of faith, the persistence of invention, and the importance of staying true to your calling, even when you’re the only one who hears it, ***Second To Nun*** begins **June 29** through **August 5, 2017** with performances **Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7pm. Opening night is set for Saturday, July 1, 2017.**

Molly Pope is a critically acclaimed singer, actor, and entertainer whose shows have played Joe’s Pub, Feinstein’s/54 Below, Ars Nova, and The Eugene O’Neill Theater Center. With her thrilling powerhouse vocals, razor-sharp timing, and hilarious and heartbreaking stage presence, Molly was named one of Time Out New York’s “Top Ten Cabaret Acts.”

Anton Dudley (Book & Lyrics) is a Helen Hayes Award winning director, playwright and lyricist. Growing up in Montreal, surrounded by the legacy of Marguerite Bourgeoys, he was inspired to adapt her life for the stage. “Marguerite braved the ocean and wilds of nature at a time when men dominated exploration of our planet. Fierce, forgiving, trailblazing, and tender, Marguerite Bourgeoys is an iconic, historical figure, as unique now as she was in the 17th century.” Dudley’s plays and musicals have premiered off-Broadway at Playwrights Realm, Second Stage, and Cherry Lane Theater, and across the country at theaters including La Jolla Playhouse, Williamstown Theater Festival, and Signature Theater.

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Michael Cooper (Music) describes ***Second To Nun*** as “a story of inclusion and love. I was galvanized by the voyage of this incredible woman who overcame such unbelievable odds to forge a new path in the New World. She’s a survivor – living life without walls – that really resonates for me as an artist.” Cooper is the Jonathan Larson Award winning composer who wrote music and lyrics for Zeiders’ Summer 2016 world premiere, *Love, Always*, and contributed additional lyrics to the hit Broadway musical, *It Shoulda Been You*.

Based on a true story, ***Second to Nun*** explores – and explodes through soaring song and monologue – the heroic, adventurous account of a fearless pioneer woman, not well known outside of Canada – *until now*. This summer, her incredible journey comes to life onstage in an immersive musical theatre event that Virginia Beach audiences will not want to miss.

Second To Nun runs **June 29 - August 5 at 7:00pm on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays**. Tickets are \$23 at the door or online at AmericanDreamTheater.org

Zeiders American Dream Theater is located at 4573 Bank Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Zeiders American Dream Theater is funded in part by the citizens of Virginia Beach through a grant from the City of Virginia Beach Arts and Humanities Commission.

ABOUT ZEIDERS AMERICAN DREAM THEATER

Zeiders American Dream Theater fosters local and emerging talent, providing them with an opportunity, a stage, a voice; nurturing their passion and inspiring others to do the same. Currently, Zeiders American Dream Theater is a nonprofit theater with an 80-seat space in the Block 6 area of Town Center in Virginia Beach. In 2018, the company will move to Block 9 of Town Center, with brand new, world-class facilities, including a 300-seat thrust stage, 100-seat cabaret space, recording studio, and spacious lobby facing the town plaza. To learn more, visit: AmericanDreamTheater.org

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