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For Immediate Release

The Importance of Being Earnest

A Trivial Comedy for Serious People

February 12, 13, 19, 20 at 7:00 p.m. • February 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Coronado School of the Arts • 650 D Avenue, Coronado

Tickets: www.cosafoundation.org

Coronado, February 2009 – What’s in a name? Apparently everything according to the characters in Oscar Wilde’s *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Coronado School of the Arts’ (CoSA) thespians bring *Earnest* to the stage in the state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center on the campus of Coronado High School, 650 D Avenue on February 12, 13, 19, and 20 at 7:00 p.m. and on February 14 at 2:00 p.m.

The plot revolves around Jack Worthing and Algernon (Algy) Moncrieff, two society bachelors in the 1890s. Both have invented fictional characters to help explain absences from social situations. Both meet women (Gwendolen and Cecily) with whom they fall in love by both pretending to be the fictitious “Earnest.” The truth threatens to spoil all when Gwendolen and Cecily reveal to their suitors that they can only truly love someone really named Earnest. Clever Jack and Algy arrange to be rechristened by the local clergyman. Mistruths and truths lead to a final revelation.

This comedy of manners skewers the conventions of love and marriage in the Victorian Age. Wilde’s wit holds up today with offerings of easily recognizable and often quoted paradoxes, puns, and observations. For Director Kris McClung and the talented cast of CoSA actors, *The Importance of Being Earnest* is a refreshing vehicle for stretching comedic chops and timing. An equally talented technical crew comprised of CoSA students focusing on Technical Theatre supports the cast.

“We decided to do *Earnest* because the CoSA students wanted to do it, probably because they study it in sophomore honors English. It is one of our favorite plays, so it was an easy sell. It is a great play to do with students because the young actors really understand the characters and love the witty language,” says McClung.

Tickets range from \$7 to \$15 with discounts for seniors, military, and students. To purchase tickets for *The Importance of Being Earnest* and other CoSA productions visit www.cosafoundation.org. Tickets are also available at the box office beginning 45 minutes before each production. For more information about the CoSA program call 619.522.4050.

About Coronado School of the Arts (CoSA)

CoSA is a public arts conservatory for high school students that embraces and encourages artistic creativity and academic excellence. This pre-professional arts program reaches out to talented students from all over San Diego County and offers a nurturing environment focused on individual growth, opportunity, and diversity. CoSA is made possible by Coronado School of the Arts Foundation, a non-profit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation whose stakeholders are passionate about supporting Coronado School of the Arts (CoSA), improving community awareness of CoSA, and securing funds to perpetuate, improve and expand the school's programs. For more information on CoSA or the Foundation, call 619.522.4050 or visit www.cosafoundation.org.

***The Importance of Being Earnest* Cast List (in order of Appearance)**

Lane, Algy's Butler	Julian Montijo
Servants	Alex Martin, Emily Arnold
Algernon Moncrieff	Gabe Lazard
John (Jack) Worthington, J.P.	Alec Oval
Lady Bracknell	Olivia O'Connor
Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax	Maddy Bersin
Understudy	Alex Martin
Cecily Cardew	Julia Karis
Understudy	Emily Arnold
Miss Prism, Cecily's Governess	Elise Napier
Merriman, Jack's Butler	Jake Gomrick
Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D.	Aidan Ling

***The Importance of Being Earnest* Technical Crew**

Stage Manager	Austin Taylor
Assistant Stage Managers	Danielle Warmuth, Colleen Keith
Student House Manager	Dillon Evans
Light Board Operator	David Vissers
Sound Board Operator	Neil Hara
Props	Synthia Hynes, Sarah Perkins, Alina Fuentes
Costumes	Erin Fitzgerald, Alina Fuentes, Gabi Guerrero
Deck	David Gibbs, Brian Keith, Nathan Hernandez
Program	Sarah Henderson