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For Immediate Release

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**Oregon Contemporary Theatre Presents Tony Award & Pulitzer Prize-Nominated
WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME by Heidi Schreck
September 15 – October 1, 2023**

EUGENE, OREGON – Oregon Contemporary Theatre opens its 2023-2024 season with **Heidi Schreck's** 2019 Pulitzer Prize Finalist ***WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME***, running **September 15 through October 1** at Oregon Contemporary Theatre, 194 West Broadway in downtown Eugene. More information is available online at www.octheatre.org or by calling 541-465-1506.

Fifteen-year-old Heidi earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions across the United States. In this hilarious, hopeful, and achingly human new play, Schreck resurrects her teenage self in order to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their lives. Schreck's timely and galvanizing play became a sensation off-Broadway before transferring to Broadway where it received countless accolades including two Tony Award nominations *The New York Times* hailed ***WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME*** as "not just the best play to open on Broadway so far this season, but also the most important."

"Schreck's passion for the Constitution, her use of movingly personal self-revelation, along with her natural wit as a storyteller makes ***WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME*** compelling," says Willis. "We hope that opening Oregon Contemporary Theatre's 2023-2024 season with this powerful work will spark conversation and inspire thoughtful consideration of the document that is the bedrock of our democracy."

WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME stars Inga R. Wilson (*THE REVOLUTIONISTS, THE 39 STEPS*) as Heidi, along with Alexander Holmes (*NW10: Buckle Up*), and Noah Oristano (*Fun Home, NW10: Walla Walla*). The production team includes lighting designer Chris Lewis, and costume designer Laura Tuffli, with Crag Willis providing scenic design. Riley Allen is the production stage manager

Heidi Schreck (*Playwright*) is a writer and performer living in Brooklyn. Her most recent play ***What the Constitution Means to Me*** was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist and won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best American Play. Schreck also received two Tony Award nominations for ***What the Constitution Means to Me*** for Best Play and Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Play, the 2019 Smithsonian Magazine American Ingenuity Award, the Horton Foote Playwriting Award, the Hull-Warriner Award, and an OBIE. Heidi's other plays include *Grand Concourse, Creature, Mr. Universe,* and *There Are No More Big Secrets*. Her screenwriting credits include *I Love Dick, Billions,* and *Nurse Jackie*. Schreck has taught playwriting and screenwriting at NYU, Columbia, Kenyon College, and Primary Stages.

Name Your own Price preview performances of **WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME** are on September 13 & 14 at 7:30pm. For more information or to order tickets when available, visit www.octheatre.org or call the OCT Box Office: 541-465-1506. All performances are at Oregon Contemporary Theatre, 194 West Broadway in downtown Eugene.

Critical praise for **WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME**:

"A highly entertaining, deeply informative and ultimately hopeful examination of the document that impacts every single one of us, every single day of our lives."

—*Chicago Sun-Times*

"**WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME** is one of the things we always say we want theater to be: an act of civic engagement. It restarts an argument many of us forgot we even needed to have."

—*New York Times*

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WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME Performance Calendar

Wednesday, September 13	7:30pm	Preview (\$20 suggested or Name Your Own Price)
Thursday, September 14	7:30pm	Preview (\$20 suggested or Name Your Own Price)
Friday, September 15	7:30pm	Opening Night (\$45 includes post-performance reception)
Saturday, September 16	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Thursday, September 21	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Friday, September 22	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Saturday, September 23	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Sunday, September 24	2:00pm	Matinee, Tickets start at \$25
Thursday, September 28	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Friday, September 29	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Saturday, September 30	7:30pm	Performance, Tickets start at \$25
Sunday, October 1	2:00pm	Matinee, Tickets start at \$25

Discounts are available for current students with student ID. For more information, visit www.octheatre.org or call the OCT Box Office: (541)465-1506.