MEDIA ALERT
May 8, 2015

BERKELEY REP TO PRESENT ANNA DEAVERE SMITH’S
NOTES FROM THE FIELD: DOING TIME IN EDUCATION
THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

A one-woman show featuring stories about California’s school-to-prison pipeline with special musical guest Marcus Shelby

WHAT: This July Berkeley Repertory Theatre is proud to present Notes from the Field: Doing Time in Education, The California Chapter, a special presentation created, written by, and starring playwright, actor, and educator Anna Deavere Smith. Smith garnered a National Humanities Medal from President Obama in 2012 and a MacArthur Award for her incisive and astounding theatrical investigations – from racial tension with law enforcement (Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992) to the deficiencies in our health care system in Let Me Down Easy.

Now she turns her attention to the school-to-prison pipeline, which, by pushing children out of the classroom into the criminal justice system, has created a lost generation of youth from poor communities. In act one, Smith performs striking portraits culled from interviews she conducted with nearly 100 individuals in Northern California and elsewhere in the nation, affected by the pipeline’s devastating policies – capturing the dynamics of a rapidly shifting social issue through her trademark performance technique. She will be joined by Bay Area favorite, jazz musician Marcus Shelby. In act two Smith invites the audience to engage in dynamic conversations and be active agents of change.

With the compelling and inspiring Notes from the Field: Doing Time in Education, The California Chapter, Smith believes that we all have the imagination, the wit, and the heart to make a difference. Directed by Obie Award-winning Leah C. Gardiner, this limited engagement runs for three weeks only in the Roda Theatre.

WHO: MacArthur Award winner Anna Deavere Smith writes and stars in Notes from the Field: Doing Time in Education, The California Chapter, a one-woman show featuring stories about California’s school-to-prison pipeline directed by Leah C. Gardiner with music composed and performed by jazz musician Marcus Shelby.

WHEN: Tuesday, July 14 - August 1, 2015—Three Weeks Only!

WHERE: The Roda Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2015 Addison St, Berkeley, CA 94704

HOW MUCH: Tickets start at $50 and are on sale now to 2015-16 season subscribers and can be purchased by phone at (510) 647-2949 or online at berkeleyrep.org.

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2025 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 · Administration: 510 647-2900
Fax: 510 647-2976 · Box Office: 510 647-2949 · berkeleyrep.org