For Immediate Release

BERKELEY REP AUDIENCES RAISE OVER $40,000 FOR CRISIS AT SOUTHERN BORDER
Two organizations working on the front lines will benefit from donations

July 16, 2019 — Berkeley Repertory Theatre today announced that over $40,000 was raised via donations from audience members during the past two weeks of its latest show, Kiss My Aztec! The two nonprofit organizations that will benefit from the donations are RAICES, which promotes justice by providing free legal services to immigrants on the Texas-Mexico border, and Border Angels, which provides similar services on the California-Mexico border.

“Many of the people you see in Kiss My Aztec! and the creatives whose vision brought the story to life are in America because their parents, grandparents, and great grandparents came to this country in search of a better life and better opportunities,” said actor Joél Pérez. “In a show that celebrates the beautiful value and diversity of the Latinx community, all of us in the cast felt it necessary to help our family at the border.”

All of the funds collected were passed directly to the organizations and will support their ongoing services.

ABOUT RAICES
Founded in 1986 as the Refugee Aid Project by community activists in South Texas, RAICES has grown to be the largest immigration legal services provider in Texas. With offices in Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio, RAICES is a nonprofit frontline organization in the roiling debate about immigration and immigrants in the world. As an organization that combines expertise developed from the daily practice of immigration law with a deep commitment to advocacy, RAICES is unique among immigration organizations. A diverse staff of 130 attorneys, legal assistants, and support staff provide consultations, direct legal services, representation, assistance and advocacy to communities in Texas and to clients after they leave the state. In 2017, RAICES staff closed 51,000 cases at no cost to the client. Our advocacy and commitment to change are driven by the clients and families we serve every day as our attorneys and legal assistants provide legal advocacy and representation in an immigration system that breaks apart families and leaves millions without pathways to legal status.

ABOUT BORDER ANGELS
Border Angels is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that advocates for human rights, humane immigration reform, and social justice with a special focus on issues related to the US-Mexican border.

ABOUT BERKELEY REP
Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 5.5 million people have enjoyed nearly 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, which have gone on to win six Tony Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, one Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep’s Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. The Berkeley Rep School of Theatre engages and educates some 20,000 people a year and helps build the audiences of tomorrow with its nationally recognized teen programs. Berkeley Rep’s bustling facilities—which also include the 400-seat Peet's Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley—are helping revitalize a renowned city. Be a Rep.