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M&I Bank Broadway Across America – Arizona

TWELVE ANGRY MEN

February 19-24, 2007

Tickets at Ticketmaster, 480.784.4444

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## **RICHARD THOMAS TO STAR IN NATIONAL TOUR OF 'TWELVE ANGRY MEN' COMING TO TEMPE IN FEBRUARY**

**Tempe, Arizona** –Roundabout Theatre Company has announced casting for the second season of its critically acclaimed national touring production of their Broadway smash hit, TWELVE ANGRY MEN coming to Tempe's ASU Gammage, February 19 to 24.

The show will once again star Richard Thomas as Juror 8. Richard Thomas was seven years old when he made his first Broadway appearance in "Sunrise at Campobello". In 1971, Thomas was cast as John-Boy Walton in "The Waltons" and earned an Emmy for the role in 1973. During the "Waltons" years, Thomas starred in several TV movies, including the 1979 remake of *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *Living Proof: The Hank Williams, Jr. Story* and *Glory! Glory!*. In 1980, Thomas made his first Broadway appearance in over two decades as the paralyzed protagonist of "Whose Life is It Anyway".

Also returning from last season are Mike Boland, Charles Borland, Todd Cerveris, Jeffrey Hayenga, David Lively, Alan Mandell, Mark Morettini and Julian Gamble. Rounding out the cast are Kevin Dobson, Thomas Gebbia, Tony Ward and Mike DiSalvo.

In TWELVE ANGRY MEN, a young delinquent awaits sentencing for the manslaughter of his aggressive father. Twelve jurors are corralled in a room for their deliberations in a murder trial. One juror feels that there is a "reasonable doubt" - to the frustration of his eleven colleagues - thereby preventing a quick verdict. During the heated debate, the hidden preconceptions and assumptions of the jurors are revealed. When faced with playing the hangman, each juror is forced to face himself.

"Twelve Angry Men," originally written as a teleplay that appeared in 1954 on CBS' drama series "Studio One," was one of the brightest jewels of television's Golden Age. The story was subsequently made into a major motion picture in 1957. Reginald Rose, who would go on to create and write scripts for the television series, "The Defenders," wrote a stage version in 1964. In 1997, Showtime, in response to questions about "reasonable doubt" raised during the OJ Simpson trial, produced a new movie version with a racially diverse cast.

Roundabout Theatre Company's Broadway production of TWELVE ANGRY MEN was the longest - running production at their home, the American Airlines Theatre, extending an unprecedented seven times to run for 32 weeks. This production marked the first time the show was ever seen on a Broadway stage. Its record-breaking run earned three Tony Award nominations and unanimous praise from the critics

Tickets are available at ASU Gammage and Ticketmaster. 480.784.4444 or [asugammage.com](http://asugammage.com). TWELVE ANGRY MEN is a subscription offering of *M&I Bank Broadway Across America – Arizona* series and is presented by ASU Gammage and Live Nation, Inc.

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