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MEMPHIS, TONY WINNER FOR BEST MUSICAL, MAKES ITS BLOOMINGTON DEBUT AT IU AUDITORIUM APRIL 15 AND 16.

WHAT: Memphis

WHEN: Wednesday-Thursday, April 15-16, 8 p.m.

WHERE: IU Auditorium

TICKETS: \$21-\$42 for IU Bloomington students with a valid ID and \$39-\$63 for general public, on sale now. Individual tickets may be purchased online at IUauditorium.com, in person at the IU Auditorium Box Office, as well as through Ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets, or charge by phone at 800-745-3000. The IU Auditorium Box Office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – IU Auditorium is proud to host *Memphis, the Musical*, winner of four Tony Awards, for its Bloomington debut on Wednesday and Thursday, April 15 and 16, at 8 p.m.

Where rock and roll was born, in the underground dance clubs of 1950s Memphis, Tennessee, comes a new Broadway musical that bursts off the stage with explosive dancing, irresistible songs, and a thrilling tale of fame and forbidden love. Inspired by actual events, *Memphis* brings its audience to the seedy nightclubs, radio stations, and recording studios of the musically-rich city of Memphis.

Memphis tells the fictional story of the dangerous affair between DJ Huey Calhoun, a local boy with a passion for R&B music, and Felicia Farrell, an up-and-coming black singer. As their careers rise, their relationship is challenged by personal ambition and the pressures of an outside world that objects to their controversial love with the times of social unacceptance. Filled with soaring emotion, laughter, and roof-raising rock 'n' roll, *Memphis* has inspired audiences across the globe.

Winner of four 2010 Tony Awards including Best Musical, *Memphis* features a Tony-winning book by Joe DiPietro (*I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*), a Tony-winning original score with music by Bon Jovi founding member David Bryan, direction by Tony nominee Christopher Ashley (*Xanadu*), and choreography by Sergio Trujillo (*Jersey Boys*).

The New York Times calls *Memphis* “a sincere new musical with plenty of energetic choreography and a talented, appealing, hard-charging cast that holds the attention. It evokes the powerhouse funk of James Brown, the hot guitar riffs of Chuck Berry, the smooth harmonies of The Temptations, and the silken, bouncy pop of the great girl groups of the period.”

“*Memphis* is full of soulful music, an incredible love story, and outstanding performances,” said IU Auditorium Director Doug Booher. “Be prepared to dance in your seat. This infectious show, based on true events in rock ‘n’ roll history, will transport audiences right back to 1950s Memphis, Tennessee.”

For more information on *Memphis* and the rest of the 2014–2015 season, visit IUauditorium.com. The website features video clips and a selection of songs from this season's performances, in addition to a direct link to the IU Auditorium Facebook and Twitter pages, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year.

Memphis at IU Auditorium is sponsored by Bunger & Robertson, Attorneys at Law, Hilliard Lyons, IU Division of Residential Programs and Services, IU Office of First Year Experience Programs, and Lamar Outdoor Advertising. IU Auditorium's 2014–2015 season is presented by Curry Auto Center, B97 Radio, *The Herald-Times*, and French Lick Resort.

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