

# NORRIS CENTER

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**'13, THE MUSICAL' TO ROCK THE HOUSE AUGUST 13 – 22  
AT THE NORRIS THEATRE  
Negri Learning Center Production Takes Audiences on a Humorous  
Journey Through Adolescence**

*Rolling Hills Estates, CA* (June 30, 2010) - Fresh from the Broadway stage, the pop musical, "13" debuts at the Norris Theatre in Rolling Hills Estates on August 13. Celebrated for its explosive rock score by Tony Award-winning composer Jason Robert Brown, this hilarious grown up musical comedy about growing up features an all teen cast and live on-stage band.

With a blast of high voltage energy, "13" navigates the ups and downs of turning 13-years-old. The plot revolves around Evan Goldman, who has been uprooted from New York to a small town in Indiana following his parents' divorce. As the new kid in town, he is desperate to fit in, survive middle school and get all the "cool kids" to attend his impending bar mitzvah. Every day he faces a new teen trauma: cell phones and rumors, first dates and first kisses, cliques, clashes and crushes. Evan eventually discovers that cool is where you find it – and sometimes where you least expect it.

"13" is a fresh, funny, and touching coming of age story for all ages with music and lyrics by Jason Robert Brown, who won the Tony Award for Best Original Score for "Parade," composed for the Tony Award nominated "Urban Cowboy," and wrote the off-Broadway hit "The Last Five Years." Young adult novelist and songwriter, Dan Elish, and film and television and stage writing veteran Robert Horn wrote the book. The show had its world premier at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles in 2007, where it earned the LA Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Production and Best Musical Score, before opening on Broadway in 2008.

Teeming with teen spirit, the infectious songs include such favorites as "Being a Geek", "Brand New You", and "What it Means to be a Friend." The show at the Norris

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Theatre will reunite the original band members from the Taper, most of whom also appeared in the Broadway show. This is the first production of “13” in the greater Los Angeles area since the premier, and it is directed by Ashley Martinez, choreographed by Michael Jenkinson and musically directed by Tom Griffin.

The professionally-staged show is produced through the Norris Center for the Performing Arts’ highly acclaimed youth theatre program, the Negri Learning Center, and features accomplished teen actors from throughout California.

“The musical, ‘13’ is a funny, exciting love letter to adolescence, and to the elusive moment when the child in all of us embarks on the path to adulthood,” notes producer Debbie Martinez. “Although the cast is comprised entirely of teenagers - just like the Broadway production - the stories that come to life are ageless, the emotions they explore timeless, and the laughter and the memories they provide priceless.”

The cast features Cameron Boyer as Evan; Sterling Beaumon as Brett; Gillian Bozajian as Lucy; Brandon Halverson as Eddie; Nicolas Podany as Richie, Eileen Cho as Molly; Megan Calfas as Charlotte; Max Havas as Archie; Justin Denninger as Malcolm; Amanda Long as Kendra; Kaylee Kaneshiro as Patrice; Caroline Mixon as Cassie; and Mitchell Turner as Simon/Rabbi.

Performances of “13” are August 13-15 and 19-22 at 7:30 p.m. with 2 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. The show is rated PG. Tickets are \$18 for youth and students and \$25 adult. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 310-544-0403 or visit [www.norriscenter.com](http://www.norriscenter.com). Discounted group sale tickets are available, and there is free, covered parking behind the theater. The Norris Theatre is located at 27570 Crossfield Drive in Rolling Hills Estates, and the facility is wheelchair accessible. The production is generously sponsored by Clix Portrait Studios and Trio Mediterranean Grill.

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### **About Norris Center for the Performing Arts**

The Norris Center for the Performing Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Center is comprised of two facilities, the 450-seat Norris Theatre and the Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, a performing and special event venue, and the home for the Norris education department, the Negri Learning Center. These facilities have become cornerstones for the performing arts on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and the entire South Bay area of Los Angeles. Website: <http://www.norriscenter.com>

