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The Portland Players Presents Little Shop of Horrors Sep. 21 - Oct. 7, 2018

(SOUTH PORTLAND, Maine)- The Portland Players open their 88th Season with Howard Ashman and Alan Menken's, *Little Shop of Horrors*, September 21 – October 7, 2018.

Little Shop of Horrors, is a horror-comedy musical about a hapless flower shop clerk and a flesh-eating plant from outer space, with book and lyrics by Howard Ashman and music by Alan Menken. The original Off-Broadway production, a breakout hit for Ashman and Menken, set the box office record for highest grossing Off-Broadway show of all time.

Christopher Gray, a Portland Players regular both onstage and off, makes his Players directorial debut with *Little Shop of Horrors*. Gray also provided choreography for the production. Musical direction is provided by Evan Cuddy, another Portland Players regular, who worked most recently on this spring's *Titanic: The Musical*.

Narrated by a fabulous girl group composed of three street urchins (Suzie Assam, Alison Bogannan, and Kelly Mosher), the plot is simple. Seymour Krelborn (Seth Crockett), a nerdy orphan who works in a flower shop on Skid Row, is constantly berated by his boss, Mr. Mushnik (Vincent Knue). Seymour's luck changes one fateful day when he discovers a mysterious plant that he names Audrey II, after his co-worker crush, Audrey (Tess McLaughlin). This strange and exciting plant could make all of Seymour's dreams come true, but Audrey II (voiced by TJ Scannell, puppeted by Jessica Libby) has a thirst for blood. Throw in Audrey's abusive dentist boyfriend (Kyle Aarons) and a few more interesting Skid Row inhabitants (Taylor Gervais, Justin Roux, and Nick Sutton) and maybe the plot isn't so simple after all.

Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available <u>online</u>, or by calling 207-799-7337.

Sunday, September 23, 2018 is Student Sunday. All student/child tickets to the 2:30pm matinee performance are just \$6.

An American Sign Language (ASL) interpreted performance will be presented on Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 2:30pm.

Ticket prices: \$20 adults, \$18 senior citizens, \$15 students and children.

For more information, visit portlandplayers.org.

The Portland Players, Maine's oldest community theater, is located at 420 Cottage Road in South Portland.