

**Cornerstone Theater Company Premieres**  
**Local Community Production of**  
**GOLDEN FLEECE: Jason in Eureka**

**LOS ANGELES, July 13, 2009** – Cornerstone Theater Company proudly presents *GOLDEN FLEECE: Jason in Eureka*, a modern Eureka-specific retelling of the mythic adventures of Jason and his epic quest for the Golden Fleece. Written by Peter Howard and directed by Laurie Woolery, *GOLDEN FLEECE* will run from August 6-8, 2009 at the Blue Ox Millworks and Historic Park in Eureka. Tickets are Pay-What-You-Can (suggested donation of \$20). **For more information, call 1-800-385-7791.**

Meet Jason, a young warrior with physical and emotional wounds, who has taken to sleeping on the lawn of a west side Eureka Victorian house. Here, two stories unfold: the epic adventures of Jason's quest to capture the fabled Golden Fleece, and the local reactions to this mysterious stranger's presence in an eclectic Eureka neighborhood. Playwright Peter Howard mixes elements of the classic tale of Jason & the Argonauts with realities of present-day Eureka, blurring the lines between mythic heroes and the local heroes that exist every day around us.

Cornerstone artists Andrés Munar and M.C. Earl will join a cast of local community residents and student participants with a design team comprised of Nephelie Andonyadis, Scenic Design; Meghan E. Healey, Costume Design; Geoff Korf, Lighting Design; and Marisa Fritzemeier, Stage Manager.

Los Angeles-based, nationally renowned Cornerstone Theater Company was drawn to do a project in Eureka at the suggestion of Sanctuary Stage's Artistic Director Tinamarie Ivey. Upon visiting, Cornerstone found the area all the elements needed for a successful community collaboration: rich history, present-day vitality and passionate,

involved citizens. Playwright Peter Howard has met with numerous individuals and organizations seeking out the perspectives of area residents. Visiting Eureka over the past eight months, Howard has engaged in conversations with retirees at the Humboldt Senior Resource Center, Eureka High School students, Wiyot representatives, veterans and experts in Victorian home restoration, among others. Community partner organizations for **GOLDEN FLEECE: JASON IN EUREKA** are The Ink People Center for the Arts, Sanctuary Stage and The Blue Ox Millworks and Historical Park.

**Cornerstone invites all residents of the town of Eureka to come out and audition for *GOLDEN FLEECE: Jason in Eureka*.** All ages welcome, no experience necessary.

Auditions will be held on: July 12 & 13, 6:30 – 9:30pm, at the Ink People Center for the Arts, 411 12<sup>th</sup> St.; July 14, 1:30 – 4:30pm or by appointment, at St. Bernard's Elementary School, 115 Henderson St. Callback Auditions will be held on: July 14, 6 – 9pm, at St. Bernard's Elementary School, 115 Henderson St. Rehearsals are from July 16 through August 6.

***GOLDEN FLEECE: Jason in Eureka* will run Thursday, August 6; Friday, August 7; and Saturday, August 8, 2009 at the Blue Ox Millworks & Historic Park, One X Street, Eureka, CA 95501. All performances begin at 8:30 PM. Tickets are Pay-What-You-Can (suggested donation of \$20). For more information, call 1-800-385-7791.**

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**CALENDAR LISTING**

Cornerstone Theater Company presents  
**GOLDEN FLEECE: Jason in Eureka**  
Written by Peter Howard

Directed by Laurie Woolery

A Eureka-specific modern retelling of the mythic adventures of Jason and his quest for the Golden Fleece. When Jason, a young warrior, is found sleeping on the lawn of a west side Eureka couple's Victorian house, the local community wonder who this mysterious stranger is as they learn of the epic adventures he has undergone to capture the fabled Golden Fleece.

August 6, 7 & 8 (Thursday, Friday & Saturday) at 8:30 PM

Blue Ox Millworks & Historic Park  
One X Street, Holtville, CA 95501

Price: Pay-What-You-Can (suggested donation \$20)

**Information: 1-800-385-7791 or [www.CornerstoneTheater.org](http://www.CornerstoneTheater.org)**

**Cornerstone Theater Company** is a multi-ethnic, ensemble-based theater company. We commission and produce new plays, both original works and contemporary adaptations of classics, which combine the artistry of professional and community collaborators. By making theater with and for people of many ages, cultures and levels of theatrical experience, Cornerstone builds bridges between and within diverse communities in our home city of Los Angeles and nationwide.

Co-founded by Alison Carey and Bill Rauch in 1986, Cornerstone at first lived and worked primarily in rural communities, creating 12 epic musical productions in 10 states. In 1992, Cornerstone settled in Los Angeles to focus on urban collaborations and began exploring many definitions of community, including age, neighborhood, language, workplace, and faith. Currently, the company is engaged in a 3-year Justice Cycle of plays exploring how laws shape and disrupt communities.

**The Cornerstone Institute**, established in 2004, offers multidisciplinary professional training in community-based theater using Cornerstone Theater Company's unique collaborative methodology. Institute participants are artists, educators, and activists interested in the intersection of theater and community. Participants learn through intensive training and the hands-on creation of community-specific productions, which combine their own artistry with that of experienced professionals and community collaborators. For more information about the Institute, visit [www.CornerstoneTheater.org](http://www.CornerstoneTheater.org).

**Peter Howard** (Playwright) is a founding member of Cornerstone Theater Company and has performed in, written or otherwise collaborated on scores of productions for the company in Los Angeles and around the country. As a playwright, his credits include *Zones*, an American Muslim adaptation of *You Can't Take It with You* (the first adaptation ever approved by the Kaufman and Hart estate) and *Boda de Luna Nueva: New Moon Wedding*, a bilingual adaptation of Lorca's *Blood Wedding* created for the second Institute Summer Residency in collaboration with small California agricultural communities of Western Stanislaus County. His regional theater work includes productions at the Mark Taper Forum, Williamstown Theatre Festival, American Repertory Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, Long Wharf, and Alabama Shakespeare Festival. Peter has served on staff of the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) and is also the author of three plays collectively known as the Compassion Plays series.

**Laurie Woolery** (Director) is Cornerstone's Associate Artistic Director, as well as an actor, director and playwright. For Cornerstone, she recently directed the third play in its Justice Cycle, *For All Time*, dealing with issues of criminal justice in L.A. Other Cornerstone projects she's directed include *A Holtville Night's Dream*, part of the fourth Institute Summer Residency in Holtville, CA and the first Youth Community Collaboration, *3/7/11: A Lincoln Heights Tale*. She has worked at South Coast Repertory (most recently as Director of the Theatre Conservatory), Mark Taper Forum, Los Angeles Theatre Center, Ricardo Montalban Theatre, Deaf-West Theatre, fofo Theatre, Highways Performance Space, A Noise Within, Sundance Playwrights Lab as well as the Sundance Children's Theatre. Cornerstone commissioned her solo play, *Salvadorian Moon/African Sky*, for the company's citywide Festival of Faith.

**For more information, visit [www.CornerstoneTheater.org](http://www.CornerstoneTheater.org)**