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AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER'S YOUNG CONSERVATORY
TO PRESENT SIMON STEPHENS'S *PUNK ROCK*

FEBRUARY 2–7, 2016
THE RUEFF AT A.C.T.'S STRAND THEATER

SAN FRANCISCO (January 11, 2016) — **American Conservatory Theater's Young Conservatory** will present *Punk Rock*—Simon Stephens's (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*) edgy and acclaimed play about the anxieties and fears that drive seven high-achieving students to emotional extremes. Performances of *Punk Rock* will take place **February 2–7, 2016** in **The Rueff at A.C.T.'s Strand Theater** (1127 Market St., San Francisco). The performance schedule is as follows: **Tuesday, February 2–Friday, February 5 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, February 6 at 1:30 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, February 7 at 1:30 p.m.** Following the 1:30 p.m. performance on February 6, audience members are invited to talk to the actors and learn more about the show during a free Audience Exchange event. **Tickets are \$20** and are available online at <http://www.act-sf.org/yshows> or by calling the A.C.T. Box Office at **415.749.2228**.

In a private high school in England, a group of young people prepare for their A-Level exams in the school library. Individually, they struggle with the pressure of the impending tests, as well as the caustic environment. Unsupervised by adults, the closeness and privacy of the library offers a space for candor but also competition. What truth hides behind the stories they tell about themselves and each other? As the teens' individual tales unravel, their relationships collide in an unexpected and horrible event.

Punk Rock was initially produced by the Royal Exchange (Manchester, 2009), followed by productions at the Lyric Hammersmith (London, 2009) and MCC/Lucille Lortel Theatre (New York, 2014). Ben Brantley of the *New York Times* called the New York production "tender, ferocious, and frightening."

Directed by **Craig Slight**, *Punk Rock* will feature performances by **Walker Brinskele, Nathan Correll, Ross Graham, Madelyn Levine, Felicia Payomo, Toby Richkind, Sierra Stephens, and guest artist Colin McArthur**.

This production is made possible by generous grants from The Bernard Osher Foundation. Additional support provided by the Crescent Porter Hale Foundation and donors to A.C.T.'s season gala and YC Homecoming Celebration.

This production includes mature themes and language. Suggested for ages 14 and up.

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