

**WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
WINS TOP PRIZES AT 2015 LA STAGE ALLIANCE OVATION AWARDS
--BEST SEASON AND BEST PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL--**

(Beverly Hills, CA Nov 10) In only its second theatre season, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts came out the top winner at last night's 2015 LA STAGE Alliance Ovation Awards presented at the Ahmanson Theatre at the Music Center. Of the thirty-five awards given, the Wallis picked up six including one for Best Musical Production for *Spring Awakening*, presented with its partners Deaf West Theatre and Cody Lassen, and the top honor for Best Season. *Spring Awakening* recently transferred to Broadway where it continues its run through January at the Brook Atkinson Theatre.

"It is such a great honor to receive this acknowledgement from our theatrical peers in Los Angeles," said The Wallis' new Artistic Director Paul Crewes. "The Wallis team lead by Tania Camargo, Patti Wolff and Jim D'Asaro put together an excellent, diverse theatre season that ended on a high note with Deaf West Theatre's production of *Spring Awakening*. I salute them all for these well-earned awards."

Spring Awakening earned two separate Best Production of a Musical awards, given for shows at different size theatres, for its run at the intimate Rosenthal Theater in downtown Los Angeles, and for its subsequent transfer to the larger Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. *Spring Awakening* also took home the prize for Best Acting Ensemble for a Musical, Best Director for Michael Arden, Best Choreography for Spencer Liff and Best Lighting Design for Ben Stanton.

About the LA STAGE Alliance Ovation Awards

The 2015 LA STAGE Alliance Ovation Awards celebrate theatrical excellence and achievement during the past 12 months. Founded in 1989, the Ovation Awards are the only peer-judged theater awards in Los Angeles. Voters are LA theatre professionals who are chosen each year, through an application process, by the Ovation Rules Committee. This year's Ovation Award eligibility period ran from Sep 1 through Aug 31, 2015.

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

The mission of The Wallis is to be a vital cultural hub that uses unique arts events and education programming to entertain, enlighten and inspire children and adults in our community and across the nation. Since opening its doors in October 2013, The Wallis has produced or presented over 100 dance, theatre, opera, classical music and children's programs to an ever expanding audience. The 2014-15 season saw audiences at The Wallis grow to over 44,000 attendees with another 50,000 anticipated for the 2015-16 Season which officially began in September with a sold-out and live-streamed conversation



with two-time Academy Award winning actor Denzel Washington followed by four sold-out performances of the Twyla Tharp 50th Anniversary Tour.

Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, California, The Wallis brings audiences world-class theater, dance and music, performed by many of the world's most talented and sought-after artists. With eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles, and its notability as the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis offers original and revered works from across the U.S. and around the globe.

Nominated for 26 Ovation Awards, four L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards and the recipient of five architectural awards since opening in 2013, The Wallis is a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot venue that celebrates the classic and the modern and was designed by Zoltan E. Pali, FAIA of Studio Pali Fekete architects. The building features the restored, original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places) that serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and houses the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, GRoW at The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education (a gift of Gregory Annenberg Weingarten and Family and the Annenberg Foundation) and the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater. Together, these structures embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. For more information, visit www.thewallis.org.

Tickets for upcoming performances at The Wallis are available at www.thewallis.org, by calling 310-746-4000, or in person at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

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Photo Credit: Patricia Wolff (Director of Programming) and James D'Asaro (Director of Production) accept the 2015 LA STAGE Alliance Award for Best Season. Photo by Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging.