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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# OUT OF POCKET PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

## *Stop Kiss*

*Proceeds to Benefit P.R.I.D.E. Rochester*

**Rochester, N.Y., February 22, 2011** - Geva Theatre Center is delighted to welcome Out of Pocket Productions for their third visit to the Nextstage this season with *Stop Kiss*, Diana Son's play about love, sacrifice, and taking risks.

**Callie Pax is not looking for love. She has forged a stable, if conservative, life for herself as a Manhattan traffic reporter and amateur restaurant connoisseur. Her relationship with George is non-committal and supportive. The last thing she wants or needs is complication. Enter Sara. Idealistic, outspoken, and fresh out of St. Louis, Sara comes to The City to begin her life anew as a teacher in the Bronx. The two women's lives intersect in the most unremarkable of ways, yet soon they form a surprising bond that goes beyond friendship. As the relationship intensifies, both women must deal with their unexpected feelings for each other and what acknowledging it will mean to their lives.**

Playwright Diana Son is an award-winning playwright, a writer and producer for television, and a screenwriter. *Stop Kiss* won the GLAAD Media Award for Best New York Production and was on the Top 10 Plays lists of the *New York Times*, *New York Newsday*, the *New York Daily News*, and other major publications. Son also won the Berilla Kerr Award for playwriting. *Stop Kiss* has been produced at hundreds of theatres nationally and abroad. Among the many theatres that have produced Son's plays are the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Delaware Theatre Company, Brava Theater Center, Geva Theatre Center, and People's Light and Theatre Company. Son has been the recipient of an NEA/TCG Residency grant at the Mark Taper Forum and a Brooks Atkinson Fellowship at the Royal National Theatre in London. She has taught playwriting at Yale University and New York University and organized a playwriting workshop for caregivers of the disabled in Los Angeles, California. Son was co-executive producer of the TV series *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and has also written a number of TV pilots for CBS, a television movie for Showtime, and feature films for Fine Line and Robert Greenwald Productions. She is a member of the Writers Guild of America, East; the Dramatists Guild of America; and Women in Theatre; and is an alumna of New Dramatists. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her husband.

*Stop Kiss* was first produced Off-Broadway in 1998 at The Public Theater in New York City.

Out of Pocket Productions was founded by Irondequoit resident and theatre professional, Stephanie Roosa. Out of Pocket Productions is a not-for-profit theatre group dedicated to raising money for charitable organizations by drawing on the considerable talents of the Rochester theatre community through performances, productions and workshops. Proceeds from this production of *Stop Kiss* will benefit P.R.I.D.E.

The Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley (GAGV) is dedicated to cultivating a healthy, inclusive environment where individuals of all sexual orientations and gender expressions are safe, thriving and enjoy full civil rights. GAGV is proud to be hosting the Pride Parade and Festival for the third year this year and the Pride Picnic for its 26th year with all funds raised going for the important and valuable programs they conduct daily to make our community a better place to live, work, play and build families!

*Stop Kiss* features local actors **Marcy Savastano** (Callie Pax), **Stephanie Roosa** (Sara), **Jonathan Ntheketha** (George), **James Heath** (Peter), **Patrick White** (Detective) and **Kerry Young** (Nurse/Mrs. Winsley). **Mario Savastano** directs.

**TICKET PRICES:**                   **\$20 for Adults, \$15 for Students and Seniors**

**RESERVATIONS:**               **232-Geva or via the website: [www.gevatheatre.org](http://www.gevatheatre.org)**

**LOCATION:**                         **Geva Theatre Center, 75 Woodbury Blvd, Rochester, NY 14607**

**PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:**   Friday, March 11 @ 7:00pm  
  Saturday, March 12 @ 1:30pm  
  Saturday, March 12 @ 7:00pm  
  Sunday, March 13 @ 1:30pm  
  Thursday, March 17 @ 7:00pm  
  Friday, March 18 @ 7:00pm  
  Saturday, March 19 @ 1:30pm  
  Saturday, March 19 @ 7:00pm

**For further information, photographs or to arrange interviews, please contact:  
Dawn Kellogg, Communications Manager, (585) 232 1366 x 3059**

#### **GEVA THEATRE CENTER**

Geva Theatre Center is Rochester's leading professional theatre and the most attended regional theatre in New York State. Founded in 1972, Geva attracts over 170,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students. The 552-seat Elaine P. Wilson Mainstage offers a wide variety of shows, from musicals to American and world classics.

The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Nextstage is home to Geva's own series of cutting-edge drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva Comedy Improv; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornet's Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. The Nextstage also hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995 the organization has been led by Artistic Director Mark Cuddy.

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