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ATTN: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITORS AND REPORTERS

**AURORA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS
BAY AREA PREMIERE OF *DRY POWDER* BY SARAH BURGESS
June 22- July 22 (Opens: June 28)**

BERKELEY, Calif. (May 3, 2018) -- Aurora Theatre Company presents the Bay Area premiere of **DRY POWDER**, the razor-sharp and whip-smart comedy by Sarah Burgess that skewers the world of high finance. **Jennifer King** directs the recent New York hit that features **Aldo Billingslea** (*Collapse*), **Emily Jeanne Brown**, **Jeremy Kahn** (*Wittenberg*) and **Kevin Kemp** (*Luna Gale*).

After throwing himself a lavish engagement party in the same week that his private equity firm forced job cuts at a national retailer, Rick is facing a PR disaster complete with angry protesters and scathing editorials. Luckily one of his managing directors, Seth, has the ideal fix: A cheap buyout of an American manufacturer that will grow jobs and save face. But Jenny, another of the firm's partners, favors a cutthroat strategy that will maximize profit at any cost. (Dry powder, a slang term, refers to marketable securities that are highly liquid and considered cash-like.)

Time Out New York called the 2016 production at New York's Public Theatre with Claire Danes "...lacerating...nuanced...extraordinarily timely."

Director **Jennifer King** makes her Aurora directing debut with **DRY POWDER**. Other directing credits include the Prague Shakespeare Company, Capital Stage, Shakespeare Napa Valley, SF PlayGround, Berkeley Playhouse, Sonoma County Repertory Theater, Cinnabar Theater, and the Sebastopol Shakespeare Festival. She is a professor of theater arts, and artistic director at Napa Valley College, where she founded Shakespeare Napa Valley.

Aldo Billingslea returns to the Aurora (*Collapse*). His stage credits include American Conservatory Theatre, California Shakespeare Theatre, Cutting Ball Theatre, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Magic Theatre, Marin Shakespeare Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, TheatreWorks, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz. He has also worked at Portland Center Stage, Portland Repertory Theatre, Tacoma Actor's Guild, Sacramento Theatre Company, Plano Repertory Theatre, Theatre Three in Dallas, San Antonio's Majestic Theatre, InterAct Theatre, Old Globe Theater, and Shakespearean Festivals of California, Dallas, Marin, Oregon, and Utah.

Emily Jeanne Brown makes her Aurora debut in *Dry Powder*. New York City-based, Brown's stage credits include the Bay Area Playwrights Festival, Symmetry Theatre, FaultLine Theater, The Guthrie Experience, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Forestburgh Playhouse, American Shakespeare Center and Texas Shakespeare Festival.

Jeremy Kahn returns to Aurora (*Wittenberg*) Other stage credits include Berkeley Rep, Marin Theatre Company, Capital Stage, Theatreworks, San Francisco Playhouse, San Diego Rep, Center REP, Magic Theatre and Shotgun Players. His TV and film work includes *Looking*, *Unleashed*, *The Etruscan Smile*, and *Dirt*.

Kevin Kemp also returns to Aurora (*Luna Gale*). His stage credits include Shotgun Players, Young Vic, Splitmoon Theatre, and recent films *Surrender Heaven*, *Spring*, and *Roommates*.

CALENDAR EDITORS

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DRY POWDER runs June 22- July 22 (**Opens: June 28**).

Previews:

Friday 6/22 and Saturday 6/23 at 8 pm; Sunday, 6/24, at 2 pm only.

Tuesday, 6/26 and Wednesday, 6/27, at 7 pm.

Opens: **Thursday, June 28**

Performances: Tuesday and Wednesday at 7pm; Thursday through Saturday at 8pm; Sunday at 2pm, 7pm

Where: Aurora Theatre Company, 2081 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA

Tickets: For single tickets (\$33-\$65) or subscriptions (\$99-\$360), the public can call **(510) 843-4822** or visit **auroratheatre.org**

Associate season sponsors Ed & Liliane Schneider; sponsors Candy & George Hisert, Trudy & Gary H. Moore, and In Memory of Gladys Perez-Mendez; associate sponsors Kitt Shute & Jeff Rowlings.

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and government agencies for their support: Actors' Equity Foundation, Alameda County Arts Commission ARTSFUND, Berkeley Civic Arts Program & Civic Arts Commission, The Bernard Osher Foundation, Fleishhacker Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, MUFG Union Bank Foundation, Sam Mazza Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Theatre Bay Area, The Tournesol Project Union Pacific Foundation, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and Zellerbach Family Foundation.