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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro Theater Company Announces New Managing Director

ST. LOUIS – September 22, 2009 – Metro Theater Company is pleased to announce that **Matthew Neufeld** will succeed Katy Kaufman as the Company's next Managing Director, effective November 30, 2009. Neufeld comes to Metro Theater Company from Hartford Stage in Connecticut, where he has been the Assistant to the Managing Director for three years. He is also a graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Neufeld is originally from Kirkwood and is glad for this opportunity to return home.

Neufeld brings an array of experiences in professional arts management, including fund raising, marketing, board development, and operations. "We are very excited to have Matt join Carol North on the leadership team at Metro Theater Company. His experience as an arts administrator, as well as a performer and teaching artist, will be a perfect complement to the mission of our organization," stated the Company's Board President, Kevin Farrell, also a Senior Director at the Partnership for Downtown St. Louis.

"Matt brings to his new post a clear sense of purpose and passion for the mission of Metro Theater Company," said Artistic Director, Carol North. "I'm looking forward to a lively partnership with him as we guide this terrific organization toward to its fortieth anniversary in 2013."

Kaufman is leaving the Company to relocate to Wisconsin. “Matt has the energy and vision to do very well in the role, and I look forward to working with him in a smooth transition. I’m delighted that my decision to move closer to my family has yielded this opportunity for him to be closer, as well, to his,” said Kaufman.

"Metro Theater Company carries significant meaning for me both personally and professionally," said Neufeld. "Metro Theater Company was one of my first experiences with professional theater as a child. Later, as I worked with theaters from around the country, I learned of the respect that the Company has earned among the national community. I'm honored to serve this organization in the continuation of Metro Theater Company's vital mission in the community."

Metro Theater Company is St. Louis’ premiere theater for young people and families, and is respected for its commitment to original, inspiring and innovative theater for youth and its high-quality, award-winning theater education programs.

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