

Bank of America 

**BROADWAY** IN  
FORT LAUDERDALE



**BROWARD CENTER**  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EXCLUSIVE FLORIDA ENGAGEMENT PRIOR TO LOS ANGELES PREMIERE  
ONE WEEK ONLY JULY 21-26  
THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

**TICKETS GO ON SALE FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015**

**Fort Lauderdale, FL. April 7, 2015---**Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal will star in the upcoming national tour of **LOVE LETTERS**, celebrated playwright A.R. Gurney's enduring romance about first loves and second chances. Following a critically acclaimed Broadway run, Gregory Mosher's production will play an exclusive Florida engagement Tuesday July 21 through Sunday, July 26, at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Following the exclusive South Florida run, the production will move on to a score of cities including Los Angeles, Detroit, Boston, Dallas, Baltimore and others to be announced.

**LOVE LETTERS** is the story of Andrew Makepeace Ladd III (O'Neal) and Melissa Gardner (MacGraw), two young people from similar backgrounds who take very different paths in life. Despite leading lives which should not intersect, they can't let go of each other throughout their 50 year friendship, marriages and families with other people.

**LOVE LETTERS** was originally produced on Broadway by Nelle Nugent, Barbara Broccoli, Frederick Zollo, Olympus Theatrical, Michael G. Wilson, Lou Spisto, Colleen Camp, Postmark Entertainment Group, Judith Ann Abrams/Pat Flicker Addis, Kenneth Teaton in association with Jon Bierman, Tim Degraye, Daniel Frishwasser, Elliott Masie, Mai Nguyen, Scott Lane/Joseph Sirola.

Tickets will be available at the **Box Office** at **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**, 201 SW Fifth Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33312, visit [www.browardcenter.org](http://www.browardcenter.org) or call **954-462-0222**. **LOVE LETTERS** will play at The Broward Center for the Performing Arts July 21 – 26, 2015. Orders for groups of ten (10) or more may be placed by calling **954-660-6307**.

More information at [www.LoveLettersOnTour.com](http://www.LoveLettersOnTour.com).

## BIOS



**Ali MacGraw** (*Melissa Gardner*) was born in Westchester County, New York and attended Wellesley College where she studied art history, languages and literature. She began her professional career as Diana Vreeland's assistant at Harper's Bazaar. After leaving Harper's Bazaar, she went to work as a stylist for photographer Melvin Sokolsky in New York for six years. Ali's acting career began when producer Stanley R. Jaffe and director Larry Peerce offered her the leading role of Brenda Patamkin in the screen version of Philip Roth's short novel, *Goodbye Columbus*. The movie was an international success, opening to tremendous popular and critical acclaim. Wanting her next film to be something special, Ali looked for a script that touched her on a personal level. That picture was *Love Story* and it proved to be her major break. An original screenplay (and later a best-selling novel) by Erich Segal, the film earned Ali international fame, an Academy Award nomination, a Golden Globe award, and many additional honors worldwide. Ali's third picture, *The Getaway*, co-starring Steve McQueen, completed her trio of blockbuster films. Nevertheless, after *The Getaway*, Ali took a five-year hiatus from Hollywood to raise her son Joshua. She returned to the screen to co-star in Sam Peckinpah's *Convoy* with Kris Kristofferson. Other film credits include *Players* co-starring Dean Paul Martin, and *Just Tell Me What You Want*, directed by Sidney Lumet and co-starred Alan King and Myrna Loy. Ali has appeared in a number of television projects, starring in Herman Wouk's epic mini-series, "The Winds of War," with Robert Mitchum. In addition, she guest-starred for a season on the popular ABC-TV series, "Dynasty." Ali published her autobiography, *Moving Pictures*, (Bantam Books) and watched it climb the New York Times Bestseller List. The book went on to become an international bestseller in England, France and South America. She also teamed up with Warner Home Video to distribute an instructional yoga video called "Yoga Mind & Body." The video features respected yoga instructor Erich Schiffman. It was filmed in beautiful Whites Sands, New Mexico and remains popular in the U.S. and in Europe selling over 500,000 copies. Ali currently lives in New Mexico. She travels extensively, appearing in documentaries and working on behalf of numerous social, animal and environmental causes including the Humane Society of the United States, Animal Protection of New Mexico and a number of specific animal sanctuaries. She is actively involved with the Santa Fe Rape Crisis and Trauma Treatment Centre, the Lensic Theatre for the performing Arts, Santa Fe Pro Musica, the Tibetan Centre of Santa Fe, and many other New Mexico non-profits. She received the Luminaria Award in 2008 from the Santa Fe Community Foundation, and the Governor's Award for contribution to the Arts in the same year.



**Ryan O'Neal** (*Andrew Makepeace Ladd III*) Born Patrick Ryan O'Neal on April 20, 1941 in Los Angeles, California, Ryan O'Neal was born into show business as the son of writer Charles "Blackie" O'Neal and actress Patricia O'Callaghan. Determined to make his own way, O'Neal trained to become a professional boxer, competing in two Golden Gloves championships in Los Angeles in 1956 and 1957. He had an impressive amateur fighting record – 18 wins to 4 losses, with 13 knockouts. In the late 1950s, O'Neal and his family moved to Germany for his father's job writing broadcasts for Radio Free Europe. O'Neal landed his first job in the entertainment industry as a stuntman on the American television series *Tales of the Vikings*. In 1964, O'Neal's first major television role on *Peyton Place* led him to starring in films such as *The Big Bounce* (1969), and *The Games* (1970). His big break soon followed when he was chosen from more than 300 hopefuls for the role of Oliver Barrett opposite Ali MacGraw in Arthur Hiller's adaptation of Erich Segal's best-seller *Love Story* in 1970. The film was a huge success and landed O'Neal both Oscar and Golden Globe nominations for Best Actor. After *Love Story*, O'Neal turned to comedy and starred opposite Barbara Streisand in smash hit *What's Up Doc* (1971). He then starred with Warren Oates and Jacqueline Bisset in *The Thief Who Came To Dinner* (1973). O'Neal next played a drifter working con games with his daughter (played by real life daughter, Tatum) in the critically acclaimed hit *Paper Moon* (1973) for which he was nominated for a Golden Globe as Best Actor. Tatum won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role. O'Neal then went on to star in Stanley Kubrick's 1975 historical drama *Barry Lyndon*; *Oliver Story*, a sequel to *Love Story* in 1978; and the noir hit *The Driver*, also in 1978. In 1979, O'Neal scored another box office win with *The Main Event*, starring again with Barbara Streisand. In 1979, O'Neal met and fell in love with actress Farrah Fawcett. Together they had one child, a son Redmond. O'Neal and Fawcett co-starred in the made-for-TV miniseries *Small Sacrifices* (1989), based on the true story of Diane Downs. O'Neal returned to episodic television, again co-starring with real-life love, Farrah Fawcett in 1991 with the sitcom *Good Sports*. O'Neal's other roles included starring alongside Robert Downey in *Chances Are* (1989), *Faithful* co-starring Cher (1996), and the comedic *Malibu's Most Wanted* (2003). O'Neal can currently be seen on FOX's hit crime drama *Bones* and will soon make an appearance in Terrence Malick's *Knight of Cups* (2015).

### 3 – LOVE LETTERS/ BCPA



**A.R. Gurney** (*Playwright*) has been writing plays for quite a while. Besides *Love Letters*, his more familiar ones are *The Dining Room*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Sylvia* and *Ancestral Voices*. He taught literature at MIT for many years before turning to writing full time. Besides plays, Gurney has written three novels, two opera librettos, and several efforts for TV. Most of his plays have been produced Off-Broadway by such theatre organizations as Playwrights Horizons, Lincoln Center, Primary Stages and the Flea Theater in Tribeca. He has received a number of professional awards, along with honorary degrees from Williams College and Buffalo State University. A member of the Theater Hall of Fame and the American Academy of Arts and Letters, he is the father of four children, eight grandchildren and has been married to his wife Molly for 57 years.



**Gregory Mosher** (*Director*) is the former director of Lincoln Center Theater and artistic director of the Goodman Theatre, and the producer or director of nearly 200 plays at those theatres, on Broadway and in London's West End.

The performance schedule for **LOVE LETTERS** at **The Broward Center for the Performing Arts** is:

Tuesday, July 21 at 8pm  
Wednesday, July 22 at 8pm  
Thursday, July 23 at 8pm  
Friday, July 24 at 8pm  
Saturday, July 25 at 2pm  
Saturday, July 25 at 8pm  
Sunday, July 26 at 1pm  
Sunday, July 26 at 6:30pm

#### **Calendar Listing**

#### **LOVE LETTERS**

**Starring Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal**

*"Every pause, however brief, lands like a skipped heartbeat."* - *The Wall Street Journal*

*"An emotional ride through the lives of lifelong friends and sometime lovers who share their most intimate thoughts."* - *Daily News*

*"SMART, DELIGHTFUL and MOVING."* - *The Huffington Post*

Andrew Makepeace Ladd III wrote his first letter to Melissa Gardner to tell her she looked like a lost princess. They were both seven years old. For the next fifty years, through personal triumphs and despair, through wars and marriages and children and careers, they poured out the secrets of their hearts to each other. They defied a fate that schemed to keep them apart, and lived – through letters – for the one most meaningful thing, their undying love for each other. Starring Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal, directed by Gregory Mosher and written by celebrated playwright A.R. Gurney. Don't miss this enduring romance about first loves and second chances.

**Tickets start at \$35.00**

**Broward Center for the Performing Arts**

**201 SW Fifth Avenue, Ft Lauderdale, FL, 33312**

For tickets visit [www.browardcenter.org](http://www.browardcenter.org); by phone 1-800-745-3000

Love Letters is made possible with the generous support of Bank of America and is presented by Florida Theatrical Association, Broadway Across America and The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

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### **About Broadway Across America:**

**BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA** is part of the Key Brand Entertainment family of companies, which includes [Broadway.com](http://Broadway.com) and is operated by John Gore (Owner & CEO). BAA is the foremost presenter of first-class touring musicals and plays in North America, operating in 40 markets. As a leading Broadway producer, BAA is dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse theatre. Current/upcoming productions include *Beautiful*, *Million Dollar Quartet* and *Pippin*. Past productions include *Bullets Over Broadway*, *Hairspray*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Memphis*, *Promises, Promises* and *The Producers*. [Broadway.com](http://Broadway.com) is the premier theater website for news, exclusive content and ticket sales. For more information please visit [BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com](http://BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com) and [Broadway.com](http://Broadway.com).

**Florida Theatrical Association** – the non-profit presenter of Broadway in Orlando, Fort Lauderdale and Miami – was founded with the charge of educating and developing new theater audiences and encouraging and preserving the presentation of touring Broadway theater. Since 1989 Florida Theatrical Association has presented over 1,000 Broadway performances and distributed over \$1.5 million in scholarships and grants to arts organizations across the state of Florida.

### **THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues, consistently ranked among the top ten in the country. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. In 2007, the Broward Center was named the Cultural Embassy of Broward County in recognition of its success in linking cultural activity with the region's economic development.

The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop, and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit [www.BrowardCenter.org](http://www.BrowardCenter.org).

### **BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY**

Building on a long-standing tradition of investing in the communities it serves, Bank of America is delivering on a 10-year goal to donate \$2 billion to nonprofit organizations engaged in improving the health and vitality of their neighborhoods. Funded by Bank of America, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation gave more than \$200 million in 2010, making the bank one of the largest corporate cash donors in the United States. As a global company serving clients through operations in more than 40 countries, Bank of America approaches investing through a national strategy under which it works with local leaders to identify and meet the most pressing needs of individual communities. Reaffirming a commitment to develop and sustain a culture of service, bank associate volunteers contributed more than one million hours in 2010 to enhance the quality of life in their communities worldwide. For more information about Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy, please visit [www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation).