

**Contact:** Carolyn McBurney  
**Phone:** 602-253-8188 x 301  
**Email:** [Carolyn@VYT.com](mailto:Carolyn@VYT.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Monday, April 21, 2008**

**Valley Youth Theatre Season Finale *Cinderella***  
*Performs June 6th thru 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Herberger Theater Center*

Valley Youth Theatre wraps up the season with Rodgers and Hammerstein's timeless musical *Cinderella*, June 6th through 22nd at the Herberger Theater Center. The classic fairytale of the girl in the cinders who, with a little help from her fairy godmother and a slipper made of glass, has one magical night. Valley Youth Theatre's lavish production features 47 young people ranging in age from 9 to 19 from across the Valley.

Working alongside the youth in the role of the Fairy Godmother will be Broadway veteran Kelli James, whose credits include- 4 years opposite Donny Osmond as the Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She was the first American actress to play the role of Eponine in the Broadway production of *Les Miserables*. Other credits include *Evita*; *The Rocky Horror Show*; *Chess* and *Aspects of Love*. Ms. James was seen in the 2005 Valley Youth Theatre/Phoenix Theatre production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. "Valley Youth Theatre strives to provide our young people with professional quality experiences that will help them to be the best they can be." says Producing Artistic Director Bobb Cooper. "Working with a professional actress of Kelli James' caliber will help them to experience first-hand what hard work and dedication can mean in pursuing their goals. We are honored that Ms. James is returning to work with VYT once again."

*Cinderella* opens June 6<sup>th</sup> and runs through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Performances are Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30pm; Saturdays at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. There is no public performance June 14. Tickets range from \$17.00 to \$33.00 per person, adults and children two and up, and can be ordered through the Herberger Theater box office at 602-252-8497 or on-line at [www.herbergertheater.org](http://www.herbergertheater.org). The Herberger Theater Center is located at 222 E. Monroe in downtown Phoenix. Discounts are available for groups of 20+. For more information about Valley Youth Theatre visit [www.VYT.com](http://www.VYT.com).

***About Valley Youth Theatre***

Named by the Arizona Republic as The Best Place to Become a Future Star, Valley Youth Theatre is a world-class, nationally recognized non-profit organization that targets young people age 7 – 19 for participation in and attendance at quality live theatre productions. VYT's mission is to inspire young people to be the best that they can be by providing them with lifelong lessons through a wide range of performing arts opportunities. VYT is an award-winning theatre company whose Alum include American Idol, Jordin Sparks and Broadway Star, Max Crumm. Valley Youth Theatre is supported in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts with funding from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts. Partial funding also is provided by the Phoenix Arts Commission through appropriations from the Phoenix City Council. Valley Youth Theatre is a member of Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the American Theatre. For more information, visit [www.VYT.com](http://www.VYT.com). ###