



COLORADO SPRINGS

# Fine Arts Center

at COLORADO COLLEGE

[COLORADOCOLLEGE.EDU/FAC](http://coloradocollege.edu/fac)

**Contact:** Amanda Weston, Media Relations  
and Outreach Specialist  
(719) 389-6770; [aweston@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:aweston@coloradocollege.edu)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***Ten contestants. Four days. One truck. Find out who wins in the regional premiere of *Hands on a Hardbody* at the FAC***

*Colorado Springs (March 7, 2019)* — The Fine Arts Center Theatre Company is excited to present the regional premiere of the ‘new musical made in America’ *Hands on a Hardbody*, March 28-April 14, 2019, directed and choreographed by Nathan Halvorson. Inspired by the true events of the acclaimed 1997 documentary of the same name, this musical features a book by Doug Wright, lyrics by Amanda Green, who also co-wrote the music with Trey Anastasio, lead vocalist and guitarist for the rock band Phish.

Inspired by true events, and infused with a “fresh roots-rock vibe,” this is the hilarious, hard-fought contest where only one winner can drive away with the American dream. For 10 hard-luck Texans, a new lease on life is so close they can touch it. Under a scorching sun for days on end, armed with nothing but hope, humor, and ambition, they will fight to keep at least one hand on a brand-new truck in order to win it.

*“Hands down it’s musical theatre heaven!” –New York Magazine*

The cast includes returning FAC actors Mark Rubald, Parker Fowler, Carmen Shedd, Judeth Shay Comstock, Kyle Dean Steffen, Elizabeth Snyder, Jen Lennon, and Kody Maynard. The following performers, making their FAC debut, join them: Brittany Ambler, Jeffrey Roark, Dylan Hartwell, Shabazz Green, Cedric Leiba Jr., Eleonore Thomas, and Bob Morsch. Music Director Stephanie McGuffin leads the orchestra, with Scenic and Costume design by Lex Liang, Lighting Design by Jonathan Spencer, and the production is stage managed by Kate L. Ferdinandi.

Dine at Taste before the show! Enjoy delectable pre-theatre dining options themed specifically to the production. View menus online; reservations: (719) 634-5583.

### ***Hands on a Hardbody***

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**When:** March 28-April 14; times vary, check website for details

**Where:** Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, 30 W. Dale St.

**Tickets:** Starting at \$20; Students can purchase rush tickets 1 hour before the performance at the FAC front desk for \$15 (Colorado College students receive FREE rush tickets). Tickets subject to availability; must purchase in person; CC students must present a CC Gold Card.

**More:** Ticketholders for any performance can come to a FREE guided backstage tour following the April 11 performance and a FREE talkback session following the April 14 performance.

**Special offer:** Theatre patrons receive FREE admission to the FAC museum on the day of their ticketed performance.

**Plus:** FREE public film screening of the documentary by the same name on April 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Colorado College’s Cornerstone Screening Room. Q&A to follow with Scott RC Levy and faculty from the CC Film and Media Studies program.

*Hand on a Hardbody* is opening in conjunction with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Broadmoor Art Academy (BAA), a national magnet for arts and culture in the early 1900s. At its' inception, the BAA, which evolved into the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center in 1936, energized the region

and created a modern movement to elevate artistic expression for residents and visitors to the Pikes Peak Region. A century after the founding, the FAC celebrates the ingenuity of the artists and patrons who helped to shape the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College into the museum, performing arts theatre, and community art school it is today, and how the BAA's visionary roots are setting the stage for the next generation of arts and cultural enthusiasts. For more information on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, exhibits, and events, visit [www.csfineartscenter.org/100-years](http://www.csfineartscenter.org/100-years).

### **Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College**

The story of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College (FAC) begins with the founding of the Broadmoor Art Academy by Julie and Spencer Penrose in 1919. For 100 years, 30 West Dale Street has been the hub of rich cultural history throughout the region. The Broadmoor Art Academy served as a pillar in the cultural community of the Rocky Mountain West. During the Great Depression, three dedicated philanthropists – Julie Penrose, Alice Bemis Taylor, and Elizabeth Sage Hare – envisioned expanding the Broadmoor Art Academy into an entire arts district under one roof – ultimately evolving into what is known today as the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College. The FAC is deeply rooted in the legacy of its founders, who possessed bold visions, a deep passion for the arts, and dedication to the Colorado Springs community. The FAC honors this legacy and spirit today by providing innovative, educational, and multidisciplinary arts experiences designed to elevate the individual spirit and inspire community vitality, building on its history as a unique cultural pillar of the Pikes Peak region. For more information, visit [www.coloradocollege.edu/fac](http://www.coloradocollege.edu/fac).

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