



Youth Musical Theater Company

FOR IMMEDIATE

RELEASE

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YMTC TO PRESENT COMMUNITY TALK BACK AFTER *SPRING AWAKENING*.

Berkeley, California: February 14, 2017— YMTC presents the celebrated rock musical *Spring Awakening* on February 24–March 5, 2017 at the Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts in Oakland with a community talk back on February 26th after the matinee.

In schools, churches, and homes of 1891 Germany, adults enforced a rigid moral code on children based on secrets and shame. In the midst of this oppressive culture, three teens, Wendla, Melchior, and Moritz, try to navigate their coming-of-age anxieties and experience their first tastes of love, despair, and rebellion. Winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, *Spring Awakening* presents their journey from adolescence to adulthood.

Spring Awakening explores difficult issues, including teen sexuality, the impact of an oppressive culture on families and youth, and suicide. YMTC has put together a panel featuring leaders from the Family Violence Law Center and the Trevor Project who will join directors and cast members for an interactive discussion after the matinee performance February 26th. All are welcome. Tickets are available online at www.ymtcbayarea.org or at the door one hour before curtain. Ticket prices are \$15–28, with discounts for students, seniors, military, teachers and groups. *Spring Awakening* contains strong language and intense content not appropriate for younger children.

The YMTC production features a cast of 19 talented and dedicated performing arts students (grades 9–12) from cities including Berkeley, Albany, Oakland, Piedmont, Castro Valley and Lafayette, mentored by professional directors, designers, and musicians. The production is co-directed by Jennifer Boesing and Simone Kertesz, with musical direction by Diana Lee and choreography by Janet Collard.

ABOUT YMTC:

YMTC is dedicated to providing exceptional training to young theater artists through the production of exceptional musical theater. The organization brings together the Bay Area's most talented and dedicated young singer/actors—as well as students of technical theater—with professional directors, designers, and musicians. They take on challenging and sophisticated musical and dramatic themes, and productions are always accompanied by a full, live orchestra.