



JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.  
MAYOR

*City of Charleston*  
*South Carolina*

BARBARA W. VAUGHN  
DIRECTOR  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

***For Immediate Release: April 24, 2014***

## **PICCOLO SPOLETO ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF 2014 FESTIVAL**

**Charleston, SC**—Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. and Director of the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, Scott Watson, announced highlights of the upcoming 2014 Piccolo Spoleto Festival at a press conference Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 11:00am in Washington Square, adjacent to Charleston City Hall. The official poster for the 2014 Piccolo Spoleto Festival, which opens on May 23 and runs through June 8, 2014, was also unveiled, featuring the artwork of local illustrator, Timothy Banks.

Annually presenting more than 500 performing, literary, and visual arts events, the 17-day Piccolo Spoleto Festival transforms Charleston into an exhilarating celebration of the cultural vitality and diversity of the South Carolina Lowcountry. With a focus on accessibility and community participation in the arts, Piccolo Spoleto is the official outreach arm of Spoleto Festival USA.

“Piccolo Spoleto provides an excellent opportunity for everyone to experience the wonder and beauty of the arts. I invite you to join us in celebrating the 36<sup>th</sup> year of this high-energy, spirited event,” Mayor Riley said.

Commenting on the official 2014 Piccolo Spoleto poster image by Timothy Bank, the City’s Director of Cultural Affairs, Scott Watson, remarked. “This is the quintessential reflection of Piccolo Spoleto. Multi-faceted, set in a distinctively Charleston context, and full of joy and whimsy.”

Concurrent with the unveiling of the 2014 Piccolo Spoleto Festival poster image, the full program of ticketed and free admission Festival events was made available online at [piccolospoleto.com](http://piccolospoleto.com). The Piccolo Spoleto Box Office will open for advance sale on Monday, May 5 at the Charleston Visitor Center (375 Meeting Street), with ticket sales also available online and via phone.

“With today’s program announcement and poster unveiling, Piccolo Spoleto 2014 has officially launched and I encourage all of you to make your plans for this year’s Festival,” said City Director of Cultural Affairs, Scott Watson. “Our Box Office will be available for walk-up in person sales from Monday, May 5 through the run of the Festival, while our Ticket Hotline and Piccolo Spoleto Website will allow you to book tickets at your convenience from a home computer, mobile tablet, or cell phone.”

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In addition to the Piccolo Spoleto website, a comprehensive Program Guide for the Festival will be available in hard copy format at the Piccolo Spoleto Box Office and at host venues during the run of the Festival. Late-breaking additions and special events will additionally be promoted via Twitter and Facebook, and select pop-up performances will be promoted exclusively through these social media channels.

**HOW TO BUY TICKETS**

Advance Piccolo Spoleto tickets are on sale online at [www.piccolospoleto.com](http://www.piccolospoleto.com) and by phone through OvationTix at (866) 811-4111 starting April 24. In person ticket sales commence Monday, May 5 at the Charleston Visitor Center, located at 375 Meeting Street in Downtown Charleston. Box Office Hours of Operation will be May 5-May 22: Open Mon.-Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 1-5pm; May 23-June 8: Open Daily 9am-5pm. For additional ticket and schedule information on Piccolo Spoleto, call the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs at (843) 724-7305, email [CulturalAffairs@charleston-sc.gov](mailto:CulturalAffairs@charleston-sc.gov) or visit [www.piccolospoleto.com](http://www.piccolospoleto.com).

**ABOUT PICCOLO SPOLETO**

Piccolo Spoleto, the official outreach program of Spoleto Festival USA, was founded in 1979 by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs and has been produced and directed by the Office of Cultural Affairs over its 36-year history. Piccolo's mission is to provide access to the Spoleto Festival USA experience for everyone, regardless of their economic, social or physical circumstances and to provide the opportunity for excellent local and regional artists, writers and performers to be showcased in the Piccolo Spoleto Festival venues as the outreach arm of Spoleto Festival USA.

**FESTIVAL SPONSORS**

The 2014 Piccolo Spoleto Festival is presented by The City of Charleston, and is funded, in part, by grants from the City of Charleston, County of Charleston, Town of Kiawah Island, and the South Carolina Arts Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Festival is also greatly appreciative of the support provided by:

Title sponsors: The Boeing Company and Publix Super Markets Charities

Event sponsors: SCE&G; Cabot Creamery; MWV; Roper St. Francis; BlueCross BlueShield SC; Xfinity; and the Dewberry Foundation.

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**Editor's Note: High res images available upon request**

FOR MORE INFO:

Barbara W. Vaughn, Director

Media Relations/Public Information

Phone: (843) 724-3746 Fax: (843) 724-3734

Email: [vaughnb@charleston-sc.gov](mailto:vaughnb@charleston-sc.gov)