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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FAT KIDS ON FIRE

By Bekah Brunstetter

Directed by Karen M. Dabney

The Wings Theatre

154 Christopher Street

Opens January 26, 2008 at 3:00 PM

Back at home, 15 year old Bess is another angst-ridden teenager trying to fit in. But this summer, things are going to be different. Shirts come off, hearts are faint, first times are had, hands sweat, the sun burns. Campers and counselors alike at this "new image camp" are automatically drawn to the new skinny fat girl who's a definite shoe-in for the illustrious title of Camp Princess. Popularity, power, and self-worth get mixed up as Bess struggles to find her identity. Will she return to school a new woman or will her new self fade like the summer? Colored with sweat stains, stashed sweets, and the awkward innocence of first loves, award-winning playwright Bekah Brunstetter's "Fat Kids on Fire" is a candid telling of fitting in, living big, and feeling small.

CAST

Starring: Noelle Fair, Matt Farabee, Mark Garkusha, Maggie Hamilton, Kayla Kuzbel, Rachel Lin, Erin McCarson, Faye Rex and Ryan Serhant

PRODUCTION STAFF

Bekah Brunstetter (Playwright) hails from North Carolina. She received her BA in Theater, with an Honors Thesis in Fiction Writing, from UNC Chapel Hill in 2004. As of May, she proudly holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from The New School for Drama. Her plays have been read and staged by The Rattlestick Playwright's theater, NYU's HotINK Festival of New Plays, Canada's NEXTFEST, The Alliance Theater, SPF, The Emerging Artists' Theatre, Boston Theater Works, Working Mans Clothes Productions, Manhattan Theatre Source, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, Old Vic New Voices, the Soho Think tank, and in venues such as the Ohio Theater, the Atlantic, and Galapagos Art Space. Her works have been honored by the Cherry Lane Mentorship Program (nominee), The Jane Chambers Student Playwriting Award, The Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival, KCACTF, Actor's Theater of Louisville, and the Alliance Theater. Her play *To Nineveh* received Six New York Innovative Theatre Awards in September 2006, including Best New Full Length Play. Her play *Sick* won the 2006 Samuel French Short Play Competition. Most recently, she was honored as a finalist for the Alliance Theater's Keneda graduate playwriting award for her play *Green*. She was a semi-finalist for the 2007 O'Neill Playwright's Conference, and the 2007 Princess Grace Award. A founding member of Working Man's Clothes Productions, she

currently serves as its Director of New Play Development. Most recently, the Babel Theatre Project staged Brunstetter's new play, *You May Go Now*, at the 45th St. Theater, a production which nytheatre.com called "remarkable." Her plays are published by Samuel French, United Stages and Smith & Krauss. She is a contributing member of Working Man's Clothes Productions, Old Vic New Voices, and a member of the Dramatist's Guild and the Playwright's Center. She is also proudly a new addition to the Ars Nova Play Group.

Karen M. Dabney (Director) Upcoming productions include *Any Number Can Die* with the Amateur Comedy Club. Most recent credits include *And Toto, Too; I Have It; Not So Bad Once You Get Used to It; A Stall of One's Own; Drift; Brother; The Loveliest Afternoon of the Year* and *Mom, Stoned*. Other favorite productions include *American Buffalo, Zipless, PIMP, Eleemosynary*, and *Sick*, winner of the Samuel French Festival in 2006. AD, *Black Snow*. Directing Observer on *Hamlet*, directed by Shep Sobel at the Pearl Theatre. ASM, EST 29th Marathon, Series A. MFA in Directing, The New School for Drama, NY. BA, St. Olaf College, MN.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

January 26 – February 6

Saturdays at 3PM; Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8PM

Dark on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays

The Wings Theatre
154 Christopher Street
(between Washington & Greenwich Streets)
New York, NY 10014

Subway: 1 train to Christopher Street (walk 4 ½ blocks west)
 PATH train to Christopher Street (walk 1 block west)

TICKET INFORMATION

Ticket Prices: \$15 general admission
 \$12 students

Reservations: (646)241-0823

Tickets online at <https://www.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/27941>

ABOUT THE COMPANY:

Phare Play Productions has emerged as *the* home for up-and-coming artists in the Off-Broadway community. Embracing top tier actors, directors and production staff alike, Phare Play has produced in its first year a wide range of works from the classic (*The Cherry Orchard*) to the contemporary (*Snake in Fridge*), the dramatic (*Dark of the Moon*) to the comedic (*The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [Abridged]*), the original (*Callback*) to the published (*Unwrap Your Candy*). With the excellent guidance of Emmy winner Joan Darling, Christopher-Award winning playwright Bill Svanoe, New York Times Bestseller Judy Kerr, and Strasburg Institute founding member Kerry Shear, Phare Play has been labeled one of the most exciting new companies in New York.

For more information, please go to www.phareplay.com or www.myspace.com/phareplayshow.

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