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## The Civic Names Tony Humrichouser Interim Artistic Director

Tony Humrichouser has been named the Civic's Interim Artistic Director. He will assume the position in August of 2018 and will direct the Civic's 90<sup>th</sup> season opening production *Hello, Dolly!* this fall.

Humrichouser is an award-winning actor, choreographer, director and educator from Detroit. A Western Michigan University alumnus, Humrichouser performed in numerous productions at the Civic while an undergrad at WMU, and most recently directed the Civic's critically acclaimed productions of *White Christmas* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*.

Currently residing in New York, Humrichouser brings a wide array of regional and national theatre credits and contacts to his position at the Civic. Humrichouser's partnership with playwright Robert Joseph Ford on *CAUCUS! The Musical!* received international attention and was featured by over 200 international, national, and regional media organizations. Most recent New York production credits include assisting Director Lonny Price on the New York Philharmonic's production of *Company* at Lincoln Center and directing *The Other Steve and Edie* starring Edie Falco and Stephen Wallem at The Laurie Beechman Theatre.

Humrichouser has a longtime love for the Civic and recently stated, "As I grew and moved away, I always felt and feel that the Civic is home. I have vivid memories of sitting on that purple fire escape on hot summer nights on breaks during *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* and laughing. 40+ people in the sweetest, sweatiest, teeniest of rehearsal rooms - but that place is magic and we all sensed it. We couldn't articulate it - but we knew it. That Rehearsal Hall still has the same feeling. Loaded with decades of discarded imaginary props, it's my favorite place in the building!"

The Civic's Executive Director, Stephen Carver recently stated, "We are thrilled to have an opportunity to work with Tony. His long volunteer history as a performer with the Civic, along with his professional accomplishments and his love of teaching theatre makes him a perfect fit for the Civic. I believe our patrons and volunteers will immediately see Tony's artistic impact both on stage and in the volunteer experience."

Humrichouser holds a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre Performance from Western Michigan University and an M.F.A. in Acting from Rhode Island College. He is a graduate of the Trinity/Brown Consortium in Providence, RI and a member of the Actors Equity Association.

He succeeds the Civic's most recent Artistic Director, Todd Espeland, who has taken a position with the Fort Wayne Children's Theatre.