



**Scott L. Nolte**  
*Producing Artistic Director*

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 30946  
Seattle, Washington 98113

**Administrative Office**  
312 North 85<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 103  
Seattle, Washington 98103  
206.781.9705  
(Fax) 206.297.6882

**Box Office**  
204 North 85<sup>th</sup> St.  
Seattle, Washington 98103  
206.781.9707  
(Fax) 206.706.1502

**E-mail**  
info@taproottheatre.org

www.taproottheatre.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Daytona Strong  
Communications Manager  
206-529-3676  
[daytona@taproottheatre.org](mailto:daytona@taproottheatre.org)

## **Taproot Theatre's 2011 Gala: Record donations and dedication as theatre celebrates 35 years, announces Deep Roots Campaign**

SEATTLE – May 9, 2011 – Taproot Theatre Company is thanking the abundant generosity of its supporters who contributed to making its 2011 Gala, its annual fundraising event, its most successful yet. Giving a net of over \$267,000 in gifts and pledges, Taproot's donors exceeded the evening's goal of \$250,000 by about 7.5 percent. Taproot Theatre Company celebrated 35 years of bringing theatre to the Seattle region and beyond with its annual gala at The Triple Door on April 9. The theatre also announced its new Deep Roots Campaign, a three-year, \$6 million drive to replace the former Eleanor Roosevelt Building, which was destroyed in the October 2009 arson, as well as help Taproot maintain its programming and refill its emergency reserve fund.

"No theatre can survive, let alone thrive, without the encouragement and generosity of friends." said Scott Nolte, Taproot's producing artistic director. "Clearly, we're blessed to have an exceptional family of patrons who care deeply about Taproot Theatre's success, artistry and stability."

The event was completely underwritten, with no out-of-pocket expenses to Taproot Theatre. Each of the 250 seats was full, over 10 percent of them with new donors.

### **ABOUT TAPROOT THEATRE COMPANY**

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Mainstage Productions, Touring Productions and Acting Studio. Taproot exists to create theatre that explores the beauty and questions of life while bringing hope to our search for meaning. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS), and the Greenwood-Phinney Chamber of Commerce.

Support for Taproot Theatre's 2011 Mainstage season is generously provided by The Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, The Seattle Foundation, 4Culture, ArtsFund and PONCHO.

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