AFRICAN-AMERICAN SHAKESPEARE COMPANY OPENS 19TH SEASON WITH CONTEMPORARY CLASSIC “DRIVING MISS DAISY”
November 2-17, 2013

San Francisco’s African-American Shakespeare Company opens its 2013-14 season with a reprisal of Diablo Actors’ Ensemble’s 2011 production of Alfred Uhry’s DRIVING MISS DAISY. Winner of the 1988 Pulitzer Prize, DRIVING MISS DAISY is a timeless meditation on race relations in America told through the complex relationship between an elderly Southern Jewish woman and her black chauffeur. Having recently demolished another car, Daisy Werthan is informed by her son that she must rely on the services of a proud, soft-spoken black man named Hoke whom she immediately regards with disdain and who, in turn, is equally unimpressed with her. In a series of absorbing scenes spanning 25 years, the two develop an unlikely bond despite their mutual differences, growing closer to, and more dependent upon, one another.

Scott Fryer directs this warm-hearted, humorous, and affecting study, featuring Diablo Actors’ Ensemble’s original cast, L. Peter Callender, Ann Kendrick, and Tim Beagley.

African-American Shakespeare Company was introduced in 1994 to open the realm of classic theater to a diverse audience, and provide an opportunity and place for actors of color to hone their skills and talent in mastering some of the world’s greatest classical roles. The company produces plays from the classical theater canon, including the works of William Shakespeare, as well as classic and contemporary works from American and international playwrights, that are lively, entertaining, and relevant.

SHOWS: Opening: Saturday, November 2, 8pm (also press opening)
Sunday, November 3, 3pm
Friday, November 8, 8pm
Saturday, November 9, 8 pm
Sunday, November 10, 3pm
Saturday, November 16, 8pm
Sunday, November 17, 3pm
Sunday November 17, 7pm

WHERE: Buriel Clay Theater at the African American Art and Culture Complex
762 Fulton Street (at Webster), San Francisco, CA

TICKETS: For subscriptions ($40-140), tickets ($12.50-37.50), and information, the public can call 1-800-838-3006 or visit www.African-AmericanShakes.org.

As part of their outreach to public schools in the Bay Area, African-American Shakespeare Company provides free student matinee performances for all their productions.

African-American Shakespeare Company is funded in part by The Columbia Foundation; Creative Work Fund; The Zellerbach Family Fund; Grants for the Arts/SF Hotel Tax Fund; The San Francisco Foundation; The California Arts Council, a state agency; The National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; and Shakespeare for a New Generation, a national program of the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Arts Midwest.