## WESTPORT COUNTRY PLAYHOUSE

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Contact:** Patricia Blaufuss, Public Relations Manager (203) 227-5137 x197 | (203) 571-1287 | pblaufuss@westportplayhouse.org FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 24, 2024

## Westport Country Playhouse Announces "Stand Up & Learn™," a Stand-up Comedy Program for Kids Ages 8 – 16, Starting July 15

Westport Country Playhouse announces registration is underway for "Stand Up & Learn™," a stand-up comedy program for kids ages 8 through 16, with an emphasis on writing comedic stories and bits. The program will run Tuesday through Friday, July 15 – 18, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., culminating in a performance on Friday, July 18 at 5 p.m. Maximum class size is 12 students.

"Stand Up & Learn<sup>™</sup>" is the first stand-up comedy program developed for school-aged children. Comprised of a series of lessons using video and interactive worksheets, the program engages students in creative writing, communication, and critical thinking as well as team and confidence building.

Program fee is \$275, covering four two-hour classes, materials, and one complimentary ticket to the performance. Scholarships are available for those who qualify. Additional performance tickets are \$20 each.

"Stand Up & Learn<sup>™</sup>" founder and director is Kevin Flynn, an award-winning actor, writer, producer, host, and comedian. Starting out as a professional soccer player, Flynn made the transition to standup comedian by winning the prestigious Boston Comedy Riot. Since that time, Flynn has gone on to make numerous television and film appearances as a comedian and actor. He was in "The Heartbreak Kid" with Ben Stiller; "Me, Myself and Irene" with Jim Carrey; "Osmosis Jones" with Bill Murray; "The World's Greatest Beer Run" with Russell Crowe and Zac Efron; and HBO's "Sex and the City,"

In 1996, Flynn was the host of The Discovery Channel's "Go for It," an extreme outdoor adventure show where he swam with sharks, jumped out of airplanes, and scaled dangerous peaks. The show led him to create his first one-man show, "The Go for It Guy," which won the Best of Fest at the Boston Comedy Festival and HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen. Flynn is currently touring nationally with his latest one-man show, "Fear of Heights—A Very Funny Phobia." He is also the founder and executive director of the Nantucket Comedy Festival.

For "Stand Up & Learn™ details and application, visit: <u>https://www.westportplayhouse.org/standupandlearn/</u>

For questions about the program or scholarships, contact Maggie Meath, administrative associate, <u>mmeath@westportplayhouse.org</u>

2025 Programming and Season Sponsor is Barbara Streicker. Media sponsors are Moffly Media and WSHU Public Radio. Westport Country Playhouse is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization.

The complete schedule of Playhouse events is available at westportplayhouse.org. All play titles, artists, dates, and times are subject to change.

For more information and to buy tickets, visit <u>www.westportplayhouse.org</u>, or call the box office at (203) 227-4177, toll-free at 1-888-927-7529, or visit Westport Country Playhouse, 25 Powers Court, off Route 1, Westport. Stay connected to the Playhouse on Facebook (Westport Country Playhouse), Instagram (wcplayhouse), and on YouTube (WestportPlayhouse).

## WESTPORT COUNTRY PLAYHOUSE 25 POWERS COURT WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE T (203) 227-5137 | BOX OFFICE T (203) 227-4177 westportplayhouse.org