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## **Alex Kyger Joins Lifeline Theatre as Development Manager**

CHICAGO - Lifeline Theatre welcomes **Alex Kyger** as the company's first Development Manager, starting December 12, 2011. In this fulltime, on-site position, Kyger will be responsible for building, implementing, and managing the entire development strategy for Lifeline Theatre, reporting directly to Artistic Director Dorothy Milne and Managing Director Allison Cain. Under the leadership of Cain and Milne, Kyger will begin to work to secure funding for the ensemble's upcoming landmark 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 2012-2013 season. Meanwhile, Lifeline Theatre's 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary season continues with the world premiere MainStage production "*Hunger*" (running February 3–March 25, 2012) and the world premiere KidSeries production "*How To Survive A Fairy Tale*" (running January 7–February 26, 2012).

Alex Kyger moved to Chicago in 2006 from the island of Bahrain, quickly becoming embedded in Chicago's theater community as a performer, administrator, and producer. Kyger received his BFA in Theater with honors from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, serving as Development Apprentice at Redmoon Theater while pursuing his studies. Upon graduating, Kyger joined Red Tape Theatre as a member of the artistic ensemble and the company's first Director of Community Engagement, establishing meaningful relationships with locally-owned Lakeview businesses, securing season sponsorship, and generating a blueprint for the company's first major giving campaign. Concurrently, Kyger served as the Executive Producer of the fledgling Les Enfants Terribles (LET) company, establishing LET as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and securing the ensemble a spot in the 2011 New York International Fringe Festival, where it received a Fringe NYC Excellence Award for Best Ensemble. Since April of 2011, Kyger has served as American Theater Company's Development Associate. In his six-month tenure at ATC, Kyger cultivated increased grant support for the theater's education and mainstage programming, launched a major giving campaign to raise funds for ATC's Youth Ensemble, and secured sponsorships from numerous businesses in the North Center neighborhood.

*"Working in multiple capacities at a number of organizations over the past few years has given me a broad range of experience, but I look forward to focusing my efforts and am proud to call Lifeline home,"* Kyger said. *"The time is now for Lifeline to capitalize on its full fundraising potential. I look forward to building a comprehensive Development strategy that engages individuals, partners with local businesses, and generates healthy grant support for Lifeline's education, MainStage, and KidSeries programming."*

In addition to **Cain** and **Milne**, Lifeline Theatre is led by an active group of 22 artistic ensemble members, including **Patrick Blashill, Christina Calvit, Victoria Delorio, Alan Donahue, Kevin D. Gawley, Peter Greenberg, James E. Grote, Chris Hainsworth, John Hildreth, Paul S. Holmquist, Elise Kauzlaric, Robert Kauzlaric, Frances Limoncelli, Katie McLean Hainsworth, Shole Milos, Sandy Snyder Pietz, Suzanne Plunkett, Phil Timberlake, Jenifer Tyler, Christopher M. Walsh, and Elizabeth Powell Wislar.**

Now in its 29<sup>th</sup> season, Lifeline Theatre is known for specializing in original literary adaptations. Its ensemble of artists uses imaginative, unconventional staging to portray sprawling stories in an intimate space. Lifeline is committed to promoting the arts in its Rogers Park neighborhood and is an anchor of the Glenwood Avenue Arts District. We aspire to create art that is relevant to our culturally diverse, increasingly youthful neighborhood. Lifeline Theatre – Big Stories, Up Close.

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