



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2012

Contact: Lacey Leffler

Marketing Director

253.573.236

[laceyl@broadwaycenter.org](mailto:lacey@broadwaycenter.org)

**Valentine's Day Special Benefit
Gets Sweet & Spicy at Broadway Center
With Burlesque Show Featuring Gritty City Sirens and TUSH!**

Performance Sponsored by [London Couture](#)

Tacoma, WA - The Broadway Center and [YWCA Pierce County](#) will host [Sweet & Spicy: A Valentine's Day Burlesque](#) on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pantages Theater. The evening stars local Burlesque troupes [Gritty City Sirens](#) and [TUSH!](#), plus other Valentine's Day essentials: a complimentary decadent dessert buffet, fine wines, and unique shopping opportunities. Proceeds from the event benefit Broadway Center and YWCA Pierce County programs.

Burlesque performances have seen a renaissance reminiscent of their American hey-days in the 1920s and '30s. Despite a lurid reputation, Burlesque performances encompass a wide range of caricatures, bawdy comedy and sensual dance. These exotic entertainments originated in clubs and cabarets, but with soaring popularity moved to music halls and theaters to accommodate larger audiences. Performances are known for their artistry and humor, and have seen mainstream success with films such as *Cabaret* and *All That Jazz*.

Gritty City Sirens are a local Burlesque troupe from Tacoma. Making their debut last year at The Swiss Pub, they have quickly cultivated a loyal following as they make the rounds of local venues - including Jazzbones, Hell's Kitchen and The New Frontier. They have also performed at Weekly Volcano's "Best of Tacoma" party with New York's *Dangerous Curves Ahead: Burlesque on the Go-Go*. The ladies of Gritty City Sirens are Ava D'Jor, Rosie Cheex, Tizzy Van Tassel, Funny Face Fanny and Polly Puckerup.

Tush! is an Olympia based burlesque, vaudeville and circus troupe formed in 2009. The group of women (Hattie Hotpants, Frida Fondle, Lowa DaBoomBoom, Princess LuckyButtons, and Ginger Smack) seek to spread a positive message of empowered women while performing throughout the South Sound. They represent women of all ages, body types and cultural identities with incredible talent, humor and abilities that mesh together in a spectacular performance that validates individual representations of beauty.

Both Burlesque troupes focus on positive messages of acceptance and women empowerment, a mission which coincides well with the YWCA Pierce County's vision. Since providing Washington State's first domestic violence shelter in 1976, YWCA Pierce County provides comprehensive domestic violence services, and provides a place of safety and understanding for all women and children in the south sound.

Before the show special boutique shopping opportunities include wine and chocolates; unique cupcake bath bombs by [Feeling Smitten](#), flowers, jewelry and more. London Couture will be showcasing some of the latest and most fashionable clothes.

Tickets for the **Sweet & Spicy: A Valentine's Day Burlesque** are [available now](#). Tickets are \$40. To purchase tickets call the Broadway Center Box Office at 253.591.5894, toll-free 1.800.291.7593, in person at 901 Broadway in Tacoma's Theater District or online at www.broadwaycenter.org. All proceeds from the event benefit the Broadway Center and YWCA Pierce County.

###

Become a supporter on Facebook at Broadway Center for the Performing Arts or on Twitter at [Twitter.com/BroadwayCenter](https://twitter.com/BroadwayCenter). Visit www.broadwaycenter.org for events and information.

The Broadway Center for the Performing Arts gratefully acknowledges the following for support of the 2011-12 Season: ArtsFund, Ben B. Cheney Foundation, The Boeing Company, City of Tacoma, Forest Foundation, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, The News Tribune, Pierce County Arts Commission and Sequoia Foundation Pierce County Program.