



210 N Santa Fe Avenue | Pueblo, CO 81003  
www.sdc-arts.org | (719) 295-7200

**FOR RELEASE: February 24, 2020**

Contact: Alyssa Parga,  
Director of Marketing & Development  
719-295-7211 | alyssa@sd-arts.org

## Center Stage Presents George Orwell's *1984*

Aquila Theatre "Command(s) Attention and Admiration"

**(Pueblo, Colo.-February 24, 2020)** In the throes of unprecedented challenges to privacy, truth, and personal expression, Aquila Theatre brings *1984*, George Orwell's cautionary novel, to the stage for the finale of the 19-20 Center Stage season.

As our modern world grapples with the threats and benefits of technological integration, Aquila Theatre's production of *1984* provides a space to appreciate the value of individual thought – an evocative and timely narrative of personal freedom against political repression. Today, Orwell's prescient story resonates around the globe as individuals, systems, and governments clash.

Written in 1944 near the end of World War II, *1984* depicts a society controlled by a perfectly totalitarian government bent on repressing all subversive tendencies. "Big Brother" is always watching and technology is wielded as a weapon to inundate citizens with propaganda and to monitor thoughts and actions. Imagined before the existence of computers, this dystopian future explores the power of technology as a mental manipulator and source of curated information.

The resurgence of *1984* marks a widespread desire to understand the present moment by looking back... as a means to look forward. How far are we from realizing Orwell's nightmare? Are we already there? Can there be more than one truth, more than one set of facts?

"Aquila's productions are beautifully spoken, dramatically revealing, and crystalline in effect." - The New Yorker

"The classics made relevant with superb acting and clever staging" - The New Yorker

"This is the most exhilarating, inventive theater company that has put down roots here in many years."  
- The American Reporter

"...The versatile cast of eight, with actors in multiple roles...consistently command attention and admiration."  
- The New York Times

Tickets are \$30 or \$24 for Arts Center members and available at the Arts Center Box Office located in the Welcome Center of the Helen T. White Gallery Building, open Monday - Saturday from 9am - 5pm and Sunday Noon - 4pm. Tickets are also available online at [www.sdc-arts.org/performances/Tickets](http://www.sdc-arts.org/performances/Tickets).

Center Stage performances are presented by Carolyn Jackson, Fran McClave & Kathy Farley, Ron Aichele, with additional support from Montgomery & Steward Funeral Directors, Rocky Mountain Eye Center, WESTAF, Ron & Cathy Diodosio, Dr. Gordon & Mara Beth Rheume, Mark & Kitty Kennedy, Angelo's Pizza Parlor, Dennis Flores, Shirley Meyer, Jeff & Paula Chostner, Dr. Hal & Barbara DeSelms, Timothy Zercher, Jacquie Huffaker, Laura Solano, Drucilla & Michael Pugh, Bev Moore, Holly Hanson, Dr. Richard & Joyce Lawrence, Kay Bauman, and Aavalajn Music/Camarada 320/Steel City Strings and KCME 88.7.

*Photos attached.*

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### **About the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center:**

The cultural hub of Southern Colorado, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center gives visitors the tools to think and act creatively through a three building complex including seven galleries offering the best in historic and contemporary art by artists of local, regional and national renown. The Arts Center offers the Buell Children's Museum, recognized as the second-best for art by Child magazine, a 500-seat theater featuring a variety of performing arts programs, both local and national, and two gift shops. Over 100 fine arts, dance, and leisure classes are available quarterly providing unique offerings to everyone from children to adults of all skill levels. Admission to the Arts Center is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, seniors 65+, and military. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98B, or visit online at [www.sdc-arts.org](http://www.sdc-arts.org).

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