



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**WHAT: BROADWAY'S AMERICAN IDIOT**

**WHEN: Tuesday, February 4, 7:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**TICKETS: Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to  
[www.fineartscenter.com/](http://www.fineartscenter.com/)**

**IMAGES: To download images relating to this press release please go online  
to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>**

**“A wonderfully raucous and gorgeously wrought rock opera adapted from the blockbuster album by Green Day, AMERICAN IDIOT is emotionally charged and as moving as anything on Broadway!” – *The New York Times***

**“This new concert-musical hybrid, visually mesmerizing and aesthetically dazzling, is irresistible!”  
– *LA Times***

TONY AWARD WINNING BROADWAY SHOW *AMERICAN IDIOT* COMES TO THE FINE ARTS CENTER FOR A BLOCKBUSTER NIGHT OF ROCK MUSICAL THEATER.

Amherst MA – The groundbreaking show that dazzled critics on Broadway and in London comes to the Fine Arts Center on February 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. The two-time Tony Award winning hit musical *American Idiot* is the story of three boyhood friends, each searching for meaning in a post 9-11 world. The decisions made by these friends – Johnny, Will and Tunny – play out on stage with exciting and emotional performances from a seasoned cast. Through incredible spectacle, thrilling performances and with the hope embodied by a new generation, *American Idiot* has given audiences the time of their lives night after night since its Broadway run at the St. James Theatre. Acclaimed Broadway shows don't often make their way to Western Massachusetts, so fans of musical theater and live music should not miss this chance to see the show on tour at UMass.

The musical features the hits “Boulevard of Broken Dreams,” “21 Guns,” “Wake Me Up When September Ends,” “Holiday” and the blockbuster title track “American Idiot,” from Green Day’s 2004 Grammy Award-winning, multi-platinum album. Also included in the score are several songs from Green Day’s 2009 release “21<sup>st</sup> Century Breakdown,” and an unreleased love song called “When It’s Time.” Fans of any Green Day album will find something to love in this riotous stage production – both punk rockers and musical theater fans can agree that *American Idiot* is a rare opportunity to see those diverse worlds collide in such an exciting way.

Since its Broadway debut, reviews for *American Idiot* have been unanimously positive, and audiences in New York and London were the first to experience the emotional storytelling and heightened musical production of the show. After such a successful run, *American Idiot* has since been touring the world and gaining fans everywhere. The tour launched in December 2011 in Toronto.

“Since its inception, audiences have been surprised by the emotional journey the show takes them on, told almost exclusively through Green Day’s songs, including many they are already familiar with and love,” said Tom Hulse, producer. “This is such a potent time for our country and the search of our characters for what to believe in is gorgeously celebrated through Billie Joe and Green Day’s wonderfully lush score,” he added.

Apart from the genius songwriting that comes with any Green Day production, *American Idiot* boasts an impressive team of Tony Award-winning Broadway veterans, who brought the show to life for audiences. At the helm is director Michael Mayer – winner of a Tony in 2007 for his direction of *Spring Awakening*, which also won for Best Musical. Billie Joe Armstrong and Mayer worked together on the book for *American Idiot*, and the show’s energetic choreography is by Olivier Award winner Steven Hoggett (*Once*). Music supervision, orchestration and arrangements are by Pulitzer Prize winner Tom Kitt (*Next to Normal*), and both Christine Jones and Kevin Adams won Tony Awards for their work leading *American Idiot*’s set design and lighting design, respectively. With a stellar cast that has seen nothing but praise from reviewers on this US tour, there is no question that this one-night-only performance at the Fine Arts Center will be a highlight of the season.

Tickets for *American Idiot* are \$55, \$50 and \$20; Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under are \$30, \$25 and \$20. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at [fineartscenter.com](http://fineartscenter.com). The performance is sponsored by season sponsors Baystate Health and Health New England, with additional event support from Coca Cola, Finck & Perras, the Valley Advocate, Hampshire Hospitality Group, and WRSI 93.9FM.

#### **PHOTOS**

Hi-res photos available for download: <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>

#### **PRESS PASSES**

A limited number of press passes are available. Please contact Shawn Farley at 413-545-4159 or [sfarley@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sfarley@admin.umass.edu).

#### **ABOUT THE FAC**

The Fine Arts Center, located on the UMass Amherst campus, is a presenter of music, dance, theater and the visual arts, bringing hundreds of outstanding and provocative artists to the Pioneer Valley for over 35 years.

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