

THEATRE RHINOCEROS NOMINATED FOR BEST THEATRE COMPANY

Theatre Rhinoceros has been nominated in the *Best Theatre Company* category of the *Bay Area Reporter's* annual readers' choice poll, **BESTIES 2017: The LGBT Best of the Bay**. The *Bay Area Reporter* is America's longest continuously-published and highest circulation LGBT newspaper and the undisputed newspaper of record for the San Francisco Bay Area's LGBT community. The newspaper notified Theater Rhino staff of their nomination on February 7.

Theatre Rhinoceros is the nation's longest running LGBT theatre, currently in its 39th season. It will present *Flim Flam* by Executive Director John Fisher, at the Eureka Theater (215 Jackson St.) Feb. 24-March 18. The play is about a group of actors who hit the road in search of roles and encounter America attempting to be great again. Of the nomination Fisher said, "This is totally great! We have such an exciting theatre community in the Bay Area and to be nominated is an honor indeed. Yay!"

The recipients of the Besties will be selected by the Bay Area Reporters readership through an online survey at <http://www.ebar.com/besties2017>. Voting continues through Thursday, March 6. Winners will be announced in the newspaper's anniversary edition on April 6.

Founded in August, 1977, by the late Alan Estes, Jr., Theatre Rhino describes its mission as developing and producing works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and extraordinary aspects of the queer community. In addition to producing favorites of the LGBT community, such as *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, which will open on May 27 and run until the first weekend of July, Theater Rhino seeks out and mounts plays that represent members of marginalized groups within the queer community. Their production of *The Brothers Size*, Tarrell Alvin McCraney's drama about queer African American men in the American South, earlier in the season was a critical and box office success. They also produce works that explore the too-often ignored homoerotic and queer nuances of mainstream theater. Such was the case with their Fall production of Peter Shaffer's *Equus*, about a troubled youth who projects his spiritual and sexual impulses onto the horses he works with, and the psychiatrist treating him, who recognizes a passion in the youth that is absent from his own life.