

Friends of the Drexel, Inc.
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www.friendsofthedrexel.org



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Friends of the Drexel, Inc. is organized as an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) entity dedicated to a more creative and prosperous future for the Drexel Theatre.

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Friends of the Drexel September 1st Gala Premiere Adds Second Screening Earlier Seven o'clock screening sold out

Due to an overwhelming outpouring of support from the community, the Friend of the Drexel Gala Premiere of the Sundance award-winning film *happythankyoumoreplease* will add a special 10:30 pm screening of the film on September 1.

The film was written, directed and stars Josh Radnor and is produced by Jesse Hara. Radnor, best known as "Ted" in the CBS hit series "How I Met Your Mother," grew up with Hara in Bexley. The premiere will benefit Friends of the Drexel, Inc., the new independent non-profit organization whose mission is to secure and sustain the future of the historic Drexel Theatre as a distinctive cultural asset to Bexley and greater Columbus.

With two weeks before the September 1 premiere, all three screens in the Drexel Theatre are sold to capacity for the 7:00 PM showing. "We are so grateful for all those who are supporting this event to benefit Friends of the Drexel" said Bonnie Milenthal, chair of the Gala Premiere committee. "From our presenting sponsors American Electric Power and Honda to individuals who purchased tickets, we are so pleased that so many recognize the importance of securing and sustaining this important asset in our community."

"We were thrilled when Josh and Jesse contacted us and offered to premiere the film here as a way to raise money for the future their beloved Drexel Theatre" said Richard Stoff, president of the Ohio Business Roundtable and Board Chairman of Friends of the Drexel. "As the first fundraiser for Friends of the Drexel, this has wildly exceeded our expectations."

Those who purchase tickets for the late screening will participate in the "Back Lot Celebration" first before viewing the film. Josh, Jesse and Jaymay, the New York singer-songwriter who wrote the score for the film, will all attend the Back Lot Celebration. The festivities include music from the Columbus HooDoo Band and a short performance from Jaymay. Josh Radnor and Jesse Hara will participate in a short program. Local Bexley restaurants will provide a variety of LA and New York style hors d'oeuvres and feature some of Bexley's favorite local fare.

All seats for the late screening can be purchased for \$125 each through CAPA Ticket Office by calling 614-469-0939 and will also benefit Friends of the Drexel.

The board of Friends of the Drexel, Inc. was formed last summer and is led by Ohio Business Roundtable president Richard Stoff and his wife, Carol Zelizer Stoff, an attorney and Bexley native. The Board is comprised of other prominent civic leaders who have joined hands on behalf of the Drexel – Mike Canter, Don Casto, Gordon Gee, Babette Gorman, Artie Isaac, Lucinda Kirk, Robert Lazarus, Jr., Thomas Mack, Bonnie Milenthal, Susan Quintenz, Mari Sunami, and Miriam Yenkin. The Board is independent of but coordinates closely with the Drexel's current owners – Jeff and Kathy Frank.