



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**New Beginnings Premieres Internationally Acclaimed Play  
*Every Brilliant Thing* for its Annual Fundraiser**

(SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.) – New Beginnings will hold its Annual Fundraiser at the Center Stage Theatre on September 24, 2022, hosting British comedian Jonny Donahoe, who will perform his dramatic comedy *Every Brilliant Thing*, a critically acclaimed humorous and heartfelt play about a boy growing up in the wake of his mother’s depression. Donahoe, co-creator and award-winning star of *Every Brilliant Thing*, performed the show over 400 times across four continents, including a very successful run off-Broadway. *Every Brilliant Thing* has been lauded by the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *San Francisco Chronicle* among others, and was even made into a film for *HBO*.

New Beginnings is presenting three performances of *Every Brilliant Thing* to raise funds for its mental health and housing assistance programs. As mental illness is a most critical social issue, New Beginnings hopes this performance will help our community learn about the impacts of mental illness on family, relationship and community and better understand the beliefs that can stigmatize mental illness and inhibit change.

Kristine Schwarz, Executive Director of New Beginnings said, “*Every Brilliant Thing* is a captivating story about depression and the many brilliant things that make life worth living. This narrative brings the audience hope, connection and an understanding of mental illness through a very unique play that works to remove the stigma of talking about mental health and one’s feelings.”

In addition to the Saturday evening performance on September 24, New Beginnings will also present an evening preview performance on September 23rd and a matinee performance on September 25th at Center Stage. The three-day event offers incredible recognition for individuals and companies looking to sponsor events that advance mental wellness in our community. To learn how to become a sponsor, please visit <https://sbnbcc.org/benefit-september-2022/>. Tickets to attend one of three performances are available at <https://www.centerstagetheater.org/show-details/every-brilliant-thing>.

Jonny Donahoe is a Drama Desk award-nominated actor, a Lucille Lortel award-nominated writer, and a Chortle award-nominated comedian. In addition to acting, Donahoe also produces several comedy podcasts, a duo comedy act called *Jonny and the Baptists*, and tours regularly internationally.

New Beginnings provides quality, affordable counseling, shelter, case management and education that strengthens our community and provides people the ability to lead healthy and productive lives. New Beginnings, located at 324 East Carrillo Street, Suite C, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. For more information, please contact our development department at (805) 963-7777 x112 or email at [development@sbnbcc.org](mailto:development@sbnbcc.org).

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