

# Anne Hathaway Stars in The Public Theater's GROUNDED Production Partnering with IAVA

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*Julie Taymor directs play focusing on the human cost of tech-driven war*

**NEW YORK (April 7, 2015)** – Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) partnered with The Public Theater on their production of George Brant's play [GROUNDED](#), starring Oscar winner Anne Hathaway and directed by two-time Tony winner Julie Taymor. GROUNDED, which begins performances today and runs through May 17, follows a female ace fighter pilot re-assigned to remote-controlled drone duty. Facing 12-hour shifts hunting targets from her Air Force trailer followed by the pressures of dealing with her family, this "gripping" (New York Times) new play exposes the complicated consequences of waging war without ever leaving home.

"We're proud to support this one-of-a-kind play that focuses on the human cost of our increasingly technology-driven wars," said IAVA CEO and Founder Paul Rieckhoff. "The recent conflicts we've been engaged in have been unconventional, and many of our service members have provided direct support to the war effort without their boots touching the soil of Iraq or Afghanistan. GROUNDED provides a unique look into that reality, as well as the challenges faced by our female servicemembers. IAVA is excited to partner with GROUNDED and The Public Theater to bring the experiences of our servicemen and women to New York City and it's theater-going audience."

Founded and headquartered in New York City, IAVA will have staff and veteran volunteers onsite at each performance to provide information on its free services and support for post-9/11 veteran members. For example, IAVA's innovative, locally focused [Rapid Response Referral Program](#) connects veterans to local resources and to one-on-one support with Veteran Transition Managers for services ranging across employment, education, housing, mental health and more.

GROUNDED has been named one of the best plays of the year by both London's The Evening Standard and The Guardian, and won the Smith Prize for Political Theater. For tickets, please go to <http://www.publictheater.org/en/Public-Theater-Season/Grounded/>.

The Public Theater is the only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare, classics, musicals, contemporary and experimental pieces in equal measure. The Public continues the work of its founder, Joe Papp, by acting as an advocate for theater as an essential cultural force and leading and framing dialogue on some of the most important issues of our day.