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THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS CELEBRATES ITS 25TH SEASON WITH EXTRAORDINARY ENTERTAINMENT, HOSPITALITY AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

FORT LAUDERDALE – The Broward Center for the Performing 2015–16 season features an ever-expanding array of entertainment, hospitality and educational opportunities that will appeal to patrons of all interests and ages. With a spectacular season of performances on all its stages and new spaces for hospitality and education, the Broward Center enters its 25th season with new offerings in dining, enrichment and engagement that are certain to delight audiences.

“When the Broward Center for the Performing Arts first opened its doors in 1991, it was *the* place to see performances in Broward County,” said Broward Center President and CEO Kelley Shanley. “With the completion of our capital expansion project, it is now a place where the experience can go beyond the show. Now people come to the Broward Center as more of a destination: of course, you can still see a fabulous headliner, a Broadway blockbuster, a stunning dance performance. But today patrons can come to celebrate a special occasion in the Porter Riverview Ballroom, linger in the LAN & TAM Club Level, enjoy brunch or dinner at Marti’s New River Bistro, try a class at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center or take a child to a workshop with Broadway cast and crew. We are poised for a new era of arts and entertainment, one that offers a new way to enjoy the arts and a richer experience for those who are seeking it.”

Spectacular Entertainment

The all-star lineup for this sensational season includes: Kristin Chenoweth, Tony Bennett, Rosanne Cash with John Leventhal, Mark Knopfler, Joan Collins, Garrison Keillor, Kathy Griffin, Bob Newhart, Joy Behar, Paul Anka, The Temptations and The Four Tops, dance troupes Pilobolus and Momix, and the acclaimed Zukerman Trio, Emmanuel Ax and Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

The best of Broadway comes to the Broward Center with a season of smash hits with subscription sales already hitting new heights: *Once*; *Disney’s Newsies*; *Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical*; *The Book of Mormon*; *Kinky Boots*; *Dirty Dancing—The Classic Story On Stage*; *Beautiful—The Carole King Musical*; and *Disney’s Beauty and the Beast*. The Broadway in Fort Lauderdale 2015–16 season is made possible with the generous support of Bank of America and is presented by Florida Theatrical Association in association with the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

And there’s even more in store for audiences this season as Slow Burn Theatre Company treats musical theater fans to *Big Fish*, *Violet*, *Spring Awakening* and *Heathers: The Musical* in the newly updated Amaturo Theater. And in the intimate Abdo New River Room, Slow Burn will stage the critically acclaimed *Dogfight* and *Romance/Romance*. “Slow Burn Theatre is one of the hottest theatre companies making a mark on South Florida’s exciting theater scene, and we’re thrilled to welcome them as a partner in the arts this season,” Shanley said.

Other regional companies returning to the Broward Center this season include: Miami City Ballet, Florida Grand Opera, Symphony of the Americas, Gold Coast Jazz Society, Arts Ballet Theatre, South Florida Pride Wind Ensemble, South Florida Symphony Orchestra and Outré Theater Company.

Adding More to the Experience with Enrichment and Education

A master class with dancers from Momix is just one of the exciting ways to experience the arts beyond the stage at the Broward Center. James Beard Award-winning wine and food writer Lyn Farmer resumes his complimentary “Engaging the Senses” concert previews and wine-tastings prior to performances in the Broward Center’s Classical Series. Florida Grand Opera, Symphony of the Americas and Gold Coast Jazz Society also offer a variety of pre- and post-show experiences. Students and teachers can discover Broadway with workshops offering exclusive behind-the-scenes insights of national touring productions with members of the cast and crew.

Anyone can get in on the act at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center on the Broward Center campus. Enrollment is now open for a wide range of classes for children, teens and adults in musical theater, dance, acting, and improv, along with early childhood learning programs for toddlers and preschoolers.

JM Family Enterprises Smart Stage Matinees offer affordably priced, school-day performances for home-schooled, charter and private school students in grades Pre K–12. Produced by professional companies, the JM Family Enterprises Smart Stage Matinees are educational performances that integrate the arts into learning by reinforcing classroom lessons and sparking creativity in students.

This season, the Broward Center and the School Board of Broward County celebrate 25 years of the Student Enrichment in the Arts (SEAS) program, which has become a national model for arts-in-education that has served more than 2.9 million students. Through the award-winning SEAS program, public school students in grades K–12 attend performances at the Broward Center and its affiliated venues free of charge.

Even More Fun for Kids and Families

Sesame Street Live: Make a New Friend, *Veggie Tales Live!* and *Choo-Choo Soul with Genevieve* bring entertainment to kids and families, along with the return of the ever-popular Family Fun Series, which features beloved children’s books that come to colorful life in delightful musical adventures. The Family Fun shows include free pre-show face painting and arts activities from Young at Art Museum, along with complimentary post-show snacks.

A Destination for Dining, Special Events and Memorable Moments

The beautiful Huizenga Pavilion at the Broward Center, set on the bend of the New River, features spectacular views and is a sought-after gathering place for patrons near and far. Friends and family can meet at Marti’s New River Bistro for a delightful dinner or a relaxing weekend brunch. On the second level of the Huizenga Pavilion, the Mary N. Porter Riverview Ballroom has already become an iconic landmark for special occasions.

On the mezzanine level of the Au-Rene Theater, the LAN & TAN Airlines Club Level offers the sophisticated ambience of a private club with viewing windows of the stage, luxurious theater seats, premium open bar, plentiful hors d’oeuvres, coffee and dessert for those looking for a unique all-inclusive experience. Or patrons can purchase tickets to the Intermezzo Lounge overlooking the Peck Courtyard where they can enjoy drinks, appetizers and desserts before performances and during intermission.

Buy tickets online for performances, the Intermezzo Lounge or the Club Level experience at BrowardCenter.org or Ticketmaster.com; by phone at 954.462.0222; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. To register for classes at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center, visit BrowardCenter.org/Education or call 954.414.6904. To reserve a table at Marti's New River Bistro, visit BrowardCenter.org/bistro or call 954.660.6333.

Event sponsors for performances this season include: PNC Wealth Management for Paul Anka; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture for the Classical Series with additional support for the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra provided by Funding Arts Broward Inc. and a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs.

ADT Security Services, AutoNation, Bank of America, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, Latam Airlines Group, MasterCard, Paramount Refreshment Solutions, Rick Case Automotive Group and *Sun Sentinel* are proud sponsors of the Broward Center. *Sun Sentinel* is a proud sponsor of the Parker Playhouse.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. Parker Playhouse is located at 707 N.E. Eighth Street in Holiday Park, in Fort Lauderdale.

All dates, programs and artists are subject to change.

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About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit BrowardCenter.org.

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.