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**Broward Performing Arts Foundation Annual Reception
Kicks off Broward Center's Season and Salutes Benefactors**

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Dec. 5, 2016 – The Broward Performing Arts Foundation recently hosted its annual reception to kick off the 2016-2017 season of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

More than 150 donors and their guests were wined, dined, entertained and enlightened during the evening's activities in the Porter Riverview Ballroom of the Huizenga Pavilion.

Broward Performing Arts Foundation Board Chair Robert B. Lochrie, III reported on the Foundation's successful 25th anniversary season which saw record fundraising revenue in support of the Broward Center's milestone year. Foundation President Lisa Kitei introduced a new fundraising initiative called Playing Favorites and recognized early supporters. "We thank those who have committed to underwriting a performance," said Kitei. "Year after year, we are continuously inspired by the generosity of our donors."

Broward Center President and CEO Kelley Shanley shared some of the successes that were hallmarks of the Center's distinguished 25-year history in his remarks. "Over the past 25 years, we have presented 17,000 performances, welcomed 13.5 million visitors and had an economic impact of more than \$2.1 billion," he said.

Benefactors were treated to live musical performances from *Avenue Q* and Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida* by members of the Carbonell Award-winning Slow Burn Theatre Company. The shows are on the Broward Center stages this season.

Image Captions

Cutlines (Left to Right):

Photo 1: Jack Loos, Robert Lochrie, Lisa Kitei, Kelley Shanley

Photo 2: Noreen Salah Burpee, George Taylor

Photo 3: Rose, Maria and Beatriz Miniaci

Photo 4: Robert and Brooke Lochrie

Photo 5: Christy Lambertus, Susan Lochrie, Micki Peck

Photo 6: Robert Kagan, Bonnie Barnett

Photo 7: Barbara and Michael Landry

Photo 8: Richard Welch, Christine Welch, Lynn LaBate , Jim LaBate

Photo 9: Lorraine Thomas, Diana Metcalf, Noreen Salah Burpee

Photo 10: George Platt, Wini Amaturio, Joe Amaturio

About Broward Center for the Performing Arts

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts, located at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale, is one of North America's premier performing arts venues and the cultural heart of Broward County. Presenting more than 700 events each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Broward Center offers a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events to South Florida residents and thousands of tourists annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, receives and maintains funds to promote, foster, sponsor and develop the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. For additional information, visit www.BrowardCenter.org.

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