March 8, 2017 Media Contact: Savannah Whaley Pierson Grant Public Relations 954-776-1999 ext. 225 Jan Goodheart, Broward Center 954-765-5814

## SLOW BURN THEATRE'S ACCLAIMED SEASON ROLLS ON WITH THE TONY AWARD-WINNING "BIG RIVER"

**FORT LAUDERDALE** – Slow Burn Theatre Company's blockbuster season continues with the Tony Award-winner for Best Musical *Big River* in the Amaturo Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts **Thursday, March 16 – Sunday, April 2**.

Mark Twain's timeless classic sweeps audiences down the mighty Mississippi when the irrepressible Huck Finn helps his friend Jim, a slave, escape to freedom at the mouth of the Ohio River amid hilarious, suspenseful and heartwarming adventures.

Winner of seven Tony Awards *Big River* is a brilliantly theatrical celebration of pure Americana propelled by music and lyrics by Roger Miller and book by William Hauptmann. *Time Magazine* reported of the original production that is *Big River* is "a classic American musical with the most fetching score of the decade."

Ricky Cona as Huck and Brian Kinnard as Jim lead a cast that features A.J. Cola, Leigh Green, Cameron Jordan, David Klein, Matthew Korinko, Eric Daniel O'Keefe, Ann Marie Olson, Sahid Pabon, Erin Pittleman, Andre Russell, Leah Sessa, James Skiba, Victor Souffrant, Troy Stanley, Shonda Thurman, Kendra Williams and Elijah Word.

Big River is directed and choreographed by Slow Burn Theatre Artistic Director Patrick Fitzwater and Music Director Manny Schvartzman leads a live band of five musicians. The creative team is scenic designer Sean McClelland, costume designer Rick Pena, lighting designer Becky Montero and sound designer Rich Szczublewski.

Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$47–\$60. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at <a href="mailto:BrowardCenter.org">BrowardCenter.org</a> or <a href="mailto:Ticketmaster.com">Ticketmaster.com</a>; by phone at 954-462-0222; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

The Broward Center 2016-2017 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation with generous support from the Salah Foundation. AutoNation, Bank of America, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, LATAM AIRLINES, MasterCard, Paramount Refreshment Solutions and Sun Sentinel are proud sponsors of the Broward Center.

All dates, programs and artists are subject to change.

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## About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

One of America's premier performing arts venues, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts presents more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, showcasing a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events. Guest experiences at the Broward Center include the all-inclusive LATAM AIRLINES CLUB LEVEL, spectacular riverfront views for special events in the Huizenga Pavilion, waterfront dining at Marti's New River Bistro and innovative classes and workshops for all ages at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center. With one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, the Broward Center serves 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.

**CALENDAR BRIEF**: Slow Burn Theatre Company presents *Big River* in the Amaturo Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts **Thursday, March 16 – Sunday, April 2**. Mark Twain's timeless classic sweeps audiences down the mighty Mississippi when the irrepressible Huck Finn helps his friend Jim, a slave, escape to freedom at the mouth of the Ohio River amid hilarious, suspenseful and heartwarming adventures. Winner of seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical, *Big River* is a brilliantly theatrical celebration of pure Americana propelled by music and lyrics by Roger Miller and book by William Hauptmann. Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$47–\$60. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at <a href="BrowardCenter.org">BrowardCenter.org</a> or <a href="Ticketmaster.com">Ticketmaster.com</a>; by phone at 954-462-0222; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.