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For Immediate Release

A New Season of Theatrical Performances Welcomes You To GSU

University Park, IL, June 19, 2017 – Whether you enjoy music, dance or theatre, the 2017-18 cultural season at GSU’s Center for Performing Arts invites you to explore your connection to others through art. “Art is the universal language of creativity and inclusion. You will notice these themes presented in fresh and inspiring ways throughout the season,” says GSU President, Dr. Elaine P. Maimon. The season goes on sale July 17th, but those who purchase three or more shows can purchase and get the best seats, starting on July 10.

The season kicks off with a celebration of animals in song at *The Animal Instinct* opera. Complete with an “animal-friendly” vegetarian menu of treats and wine, this up-close experience on stage pays tribute to man’s best friends, and more. Explore the dynamics of a transgender relationship through time and place, from a small town to a big city, in *Shepshu Aku’s Starting Over* by MPACCT Theatre. Bridge cultural and generational divides at the Stomping Grounds Dance Festival, featuring over 50 dancers from Chicago Human Rhythm Project, Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, Muntu Dance, and Trinity Irish Dance, as part of GSU’s Family and Friends Weekend this October. Learn about the complexities of human nature in Sarah Saltwick’s modern adaptation of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter*, presented by GSU’s Theatre and Performance Studies. Make family memories with Dallas Children’s Theatre at *How I Became a Pirate*, or celebrate the holiday season at Salt Creek Ballet’s *The Nutcracker*.

In 2019, Governors State University will celebrate its 50th anniversary. In anticipation of this milestone, we’re kicking off 2018 with *50 Years of Wonder: A Tribute to Stevie Wonder* by “America’s Got Talent” finalists, Sons of Serendip. Then, we’ll *Lift Every Voice* in tribute to the black experience for our second *Opera Up Close* production. Southland Area Theatre Ensemble brings Broadway center stage with Tony award-winning *Caroline, or Change*. The Blues Hip Hop Experience closes the season in April, bringing generations together through a mix of music by legendary blues icon Billy Branch and a spoken work collective, including Avery R. Young, FM Supreme, and more.

For a complete list of programs, please visit CenterTickets.net.

For Tickets and Information

Tickets range from \$13 to \$55, with discounts available for students (\$10 tickets), seniors 65+ (\$25 tickets), groups of ten or more and patrons purchasing 3 or more shows (15% off).

Online: CenterTickets.net

By Phone: 708.235.2222

In Person at the Box Office: 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL

Box Office Hours: Monday- Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (open to 6p.m. on Thursdays) & 2 hours prior to all performances.

Parking is free. For best GPS directions always use the location search term "Governors State University" only.

Center for Performing Arts thanks our generous partners and funders: The Chicago Community Trust, First Midwest Bank, The National Endowment for the Arts (Made in Chicago series), and individual donors.

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