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For Immediate Release

**A Musical and Culinary Trip Around the World
at GSU's Center for Performing Arts**

University Park, IL, August 24, 2016 – Food and music go way back. From The *Supremes'* *Buttered Popcorn* and The Beatles' *Strawberry Fields Forever* to ZZ Top's lyrics about TV dinners, food has inspired musicians throughout the decades and made for some great metaphors. Mozart, Rossini and Verdi all composed drinking songs with gastronomical references—Opera and food are like a fine duet.

Center for Performing Arts celebrates this perfect pairing on **September 18 at 4 p.m.** with a globally inspired operatic program **Music and Food Around the World**, hosted by Southland favorite Michael Cavalieri. The repertoire includes music and a sampling of food from Germany, Finland, Romania, Spain, Wales, Norway, Czech Republic, Russia, France, Ireland and Italy—a true trip around the world in 90 minutes. One of many on stage experiences the Center now offers, patrons are seated on the stage with the artists, right in the midst of the action.

The ensemble of singers will include John Concepcion, Desirée Hassler, Dan Richardson and Pamela Williams.

For Tickets and Information

Tickets: \$53 *includes a sampling of food and wine*

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.

This performance is part of the Center’s “Opera Up Close” programming, which brings local artists from the Lyric Opera to the southland for intimate performances. A portion of the funding is provided by The Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

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