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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Aurora Theatre ushers in fall festivities with October programming**

*Theatergoers invited to downtown Lawrenceville for comedy, children’s theatre, adult nights, festivals and more!*

**LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (September 28, 2017) –** As the air cools, leaves change and spooky stories creep in, theatergoers can welcome the Halloween season with continuous fun at **Aurora Theatre!** Kick back and let the side-splitting laughter commence with hysterical and mystical special guests at **Aurora Comedy Nights** throughout the month. Saturday mornings can satisfy little thespians aspirations with **Aurora Theatre’s Children’s Playhouse** series, featuring *The Reptile Wrangler Show* by Ken Panse, *Sing, Dream, Lead like A Princess* by Second Star Events and *Halloween Magic Show* by Arthur Atsma. Adults will unwind with entertainment at **Spirits & Spirits: Ghost Stories & Cocktails** while Latin American culture will be celebrated and showcased at **Festival del Día de los Muertos*.*** Playgoers are also invited to experience the chills and shrills that accompany a limited public engagement of the spooky adventure of ***Goosebumps: Phantom of the Auditorium, The Musical.*** The enjoyment continues on the mainstage as ***Abigail/1702***’*s* eerie tales continue, along with **Lawrenceville Ghost Tours**, **Lawrenceville Haunted Cemetery Tours** and **Brews & Boos** for spooky fun for all ages. With a wide array of entertainment happenings this month, there’s something for everyone to enjoy!

**Special October Programming**

 **Aurora Comedy Nights**

Aurora Comedy Nights are back! Audiences can get ready for tears of laughter and endless entertainment at Aurora Theatre this October, as Aurora Comedy Nights continue to share the best renowned comedians around town. Host Katie Causey will help keep the belly-laughing, ab-aching trend rolling with comical guests and an open bar without the standard two drink minimum! For more information and ticket purchase, please visit [bit.ly/AuroraComedyNights](https://tickets.auroratheatre.com/single/PSDetail.aspx?psn=110949).

**Comedian Mike Speenberg with host Katie Causey**

 *Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7*

 *7:15 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.*

 Tickets $18

Comic Mike Speenberg’s rise to the spotlight involved gourmet meals filled to the rim with hush puppies and fried bologna, making his brand of generational comedy one of pure authenticity. Speenberg has shared the stage all over the country with other comedic icons from Mitch Hedberg to Bog Saget and more. The hysterics are fueled by stories of home and family, love of country and being drunk in public. Audience members can rest assured that this comedy will always hit home in the funniest way possible!

**Freaky Friday the 13th Comedy Weekend with host Katie Causey**

**Magician Arthur Atsma, featuring contortionist comic Emmet Furrow and ukulele player Candasse**

*Friday and Saturday, October 13 and 14*

*7:15 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.*

Tickets $18

Astonishing sleight of hand magic tricks and cutting edge comedy are just a few of the spectacles audience members can expect with this show by Arthur Atsma, blowing minds and tickling funny bones simultaneously with all the skill and charisma of a Vegas headliner. Atsma will join forces with comedy freak Emmet Furrow, a highly capable contortionist born without a collar bone, for an uncommon, jaw-dropping set. A quirky ukulele artist that loves to warble hymns about life, sandwiches and should-be-romantic dates gone awry, Candasse is the cherry on top of this performance. This show is the perfect lineup for Friday the 13th weekend!

**Aurora Children’s Playhouse**

 *Saturdays in October at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.*

 Tickets $7

Aurora Theatre brings the best children’s performers in the region to Gwinnett County, including puppeteers, magicians, storytellers, jugglers and musicians, as a part of this series intended for youngsters to have their first theatrical experience. Parents and their children will witness world-class artistry in Aurora’s amazing facility in downtown Lawrenceville. At roughly 45 minutes long, these lively performances are designed perfectly for the young attention span but are fun for the whole family. Playhouse tickets are $7; Playhouse Tix punch cards are $50 and good for 10 admissions to any Children’s Playhouse show. For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraChildrensPlayhouse](http://www.auroratheatre.com/education/childrens-playhouse/childrens-playhouse-summer-edition-2017/).

 ***The Reptile Wrangler Show* by Ken Panse**

 *Saturday, September 30*

Crocodiles, lizards, iguanas, oh my! Reptile wrangler Ken Panse has more than 20 years’ experience handling exotic animals and loves all of the amazing things Mother Nature has to offer. This fun show will allow children to learn first-hand about the world’s most exotic animals. For kids that are fascinated by creepy, crawly, slithering beasts, ***The Reptile Wrangler Show*** is one that will absolutely be loved!

***Sing, Dream, Lead Like A Princess* by Second Star Events**

*Saturday, October 7*

The princesses of Second Star Events are twirling with joy to bring their stories to Aurora Theatre! Princess fans of all ages can hear fan-favorite heroines share their tales of friendship, bravery and love and even sing along with toe-tapping tunes! Join these persevering princesses to learn how overcoming struggles can lead to prevailing achievements. As a bonus after the show, guests can stick around and take pictures with the princesses! Gain entry to the meet and greet by making a $5 donation or more to Atlanta Women’s Foundation at the show. It is not every day that one can enjoy the company of a princess. Tickets are limited, and reservations are highly encouraged!

***Halloween Magic Show* by Arthur Atsma**

*Saturday, October 14*

Atlanta magician Arthur Atsma will enchant Aurora theatergoers for the eighth consecutive year with the ***Halloween Magic Show*** on October 14. Arthur Atsma will amaze and amuse folks of all ages with a show filled with captivating sleight of hand magic, audience interaction and comedy. Spirited thespians will not want to skip out on this holiday tradition, therefore reservations are strongly recommended for this popular performance!

 **Spirits & Spirits: Ghost Stories & Cocktails**

 **An Evening for Adults**

 *Monday, October 16*

 *8 p.m.*

Tickets $15

Attention, adults! Leave the kids at home, grab a cocktail and settle in for a bevy of terrifying tales delivered by spoken word masters with no restrictions on content or language. Host and storyteller Cynthia Rintye welcomes Grammy-nominated and Oracle-award-winning storyteller Milbre Burch to liven up the evening. Known for the versatility of her repertoire, Burch has prepared a program of no-holds-barred and adult storytelling catered to the spooky season. This duet will serve up audience members with an unforgettable night of cultured and clever entertainment for the Halloween season. For ticket purchase or more information, visit [bit.ly/Spirits&Spirits](http://bit.ly/2xX5wNf).

 **Festival del Día de los Muertos**

 *Sunday, October 29 from 3 p.m.- 7 p.m.*

 *Georgia Gwinnett College*

FREE!

As the only professional Spanish language theater in the region, Aurora Theatre’s Teatro Aurora celebrates and shares the art and culture diversities of Latin/Hispanic communities represented in Metro Atlanta. With a series of innovative programs, traditions and an annual theatrical production performed in Spanish with English supertitles, Teatro Aurora will beautifully showcase Latin American culture in this colorful celebration. For ticket purchase or more information, visit [bit.ly/DiaDeLosMuertos](http://bit.ly/2fFgCM8).

**Continuing in October…**

***Abigail/1702***

**By Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa**

**Directed by Justin Anderson**

*September 21 – October 15, 2017*

*Tuesday–Saturday: 8 p.m.*

*Saturday and Sunday: 2:30 p.m.*

From American playwright, screenwriter and Marvel Comic book writer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa and under the direction of Anderson, *Abigail/1702*tells the tale ofAbigail Williams, one of the initial accusers in the Salem witch trials. For ten years since, she has been living in Boston under an assumed name, trying desperately to atone for her past, a past fraught with unspeakable evil. After agreeing to take a job as a nurse, the doors are opened to a discovery of love, lust, pirates, the plague and The Devil, while learning that the past is complicated and cannot always be erased. Tuesday discount matinee shows will be offered on Tuesday, October 3 at 10 a.m. with tickets starting at $16. Regular tickets range from $20-$55 and may be purchased online at [bit.ly/AuroraAbigailTickets](http://bit.ly/2xm0Aku).

**Lawrenceville Ghost Tours***Every night in October**Sunday – Thursday: 7:30 p.m.*

*Friday – Saturday: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m*.

Adults $12, Children $9 (Sunday – Thursday)
Adults $15, Children $12 (Friday – Saturday)

Aurora Theatre actors give thrill seekers a chill-down-their-spine scare to the core with this spooky tour around Lawrenceville, featuring real stories and places. The tour begins and ends at Aurora Theatre and runs May through September, with tours continuing every night in October. To purchase tickets online, please visit [www.scarystroll.com](http://www.scarystroll.com) or call 678.226.6222.

**Lawrenceville Haunted Cemetery Tours**

*Friday – Saturday, October 6 – 28*

 *8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.*

Tickets $20

With this guided tour of supernatural phenomenons, Aurora Theatre takes the thrill straight to the source: the cemetery. All guests are required to sign a waiver, have a flashlight and must be over 13 years old. To purchase tickets online, please visit [www.scarystroll.com](http://www.scarystroll.com) or call 678.226.6222.

**Brews & Boos – Lawrenceville Haunted Pub Crawl**

*Tuesday, October 3, 10, 17, 24: 8:30 p.m.*

*Friday, October 6, 13, 20: 9 p.m.*

*Saturday, October 28: 9 p.m.*

Tuesdays $30, Friday - Saturday $40

Patrons are invited to link up with grave-reaping friends for the **Brews & Boos- Lawrenceville Haunted Pub Crawl**, a wicked and wild take on the haunted history walks. Attendees will enjoy no holds barred tall tales and bawdy songs performed in some of the finest establishments in Lawrenceville, accompanied by a frosty cold libation. This all-inclusive experience includes entertainment and drinks at Exhibit Ale, Universal Joint and McCray’s Tavern on the Square on select dates throughout the month! For ticket reservations, please visit [tickets.auroratheatre.com](http://tickets.auroratheatre.com/single/PSDetail.aspx?psn=111915).

***Goosebumps: Phantom of the Auditorium, The Musical***

**Book & Lyrics by John Maclay**

**Music & Lyrics by Danny Abosch**

*October 19 – 22, 2017*

*Thursday–Saturday: 7 p.m.*

*Saturday and Sunday: 2:30 p.m.*

*Sunday: 4:30 p.m.*

Theatergoers, beware! *Goosebumps: Phantom of the Auditorium, The Musical*will play a limited public engagement as part of Aurora Theatre’s Learning Library. Adapted from the hair-raising children’s book *Goosebumps: Phantom of the Auditorium* by R.L. Stine, this not-too-spooky adventure follows two aspiring young thespians named Brooke and Zeke as they embark on a likely-haunted middle school play. From the best-selling children’s author R.L. Stine, the *Goosebumps* book series has risen to great acclaim on nightstands of generations of kids past and present. Aurora Theatre’s Learning Library series is educational outreach that provides school groups the opportunity to experience fully-staged professional productions performed on the Aurora Theatre mainstage on weekday mornings. Tickets range from $10-$15 and may be purchased online at [bit.ly/AuroraGoosebumpsTickets](http://bit.ly/2xn3Ae1).

For more information or to purchase tickets for events, call the **Box Office** at **678.226.6222** or visit [www.auroratheatre.com](http://www.auroratheatre.com).

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*Under the artistic leadership of Co-Founders and Artistic Directors Anthony Rodriguez and Ann-Carol Pence, now in its 22nd Season, Aurora Theatre produces professional live entertainment to suit everyone’s taste. Aurora Theatre is home to over 750 events each year. Two series of theatrical productions, the Peach State Federal Credit Union Signature Series and the GGC Harvel Lab Series, are comprised of the biggest Broadway plays and musicals alongside exciting contemporary theatre. Additionally, Aurora produces concerts, stand-up comedy, children’s programs, metro Atlanta’s top haunted attraction Lawrenceville Ghost Tours, as well as Atlanta’s only professional Spanish language theatre, Teatro Aurora. Aurora Theatre is a world-class theatrical facility with two performance venues. Nestled on the square in historic downtown Lawrenceville, Aurora has FREE attached covered parking and is surrounded by restaurants and shops. Aurora Theatre has garnered numerous accolades highlighted by recent achievements that include a 2016 Governor’s Award for the Arts & Humanities, winner of seven 2016 Suzi Bass Awards, Creative Loafing’s “2010 Best Theatre Company,” Georgia Trend Magazine’s “2011 Best Places to Work in Georgia,” Atlanta Business Chronicle’s “2012 Best Places to Work”, Atlanta Magazine’s “Best of Atlanta 2013”,Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s 2014 President and CEO Award for Excellence in Arts, and Gwinnett Chamber’s 2015 IMPACT Regional Business Award for Hospitality .*