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Adventure "Into the Woods" with Aurora Theatre, March 10-April 17

Award-winning musical explores what happens after happily ever after!

LAWERENCEVILLE, Ga. (February 25, 2016) – Presenting a modern twist on the magical fairy tales of the beloved Brothers Grimm, **Aurora Theatre** invites audiences to experience the enchanting presentation of six-time Tony Award-winning musical *Into the Woods*, **March 10-April 17!** Legendary composer Stephen Sondheim unveils the consequences that come when acting upon one's deepest desires and wishes. Will good overcome evil? Will the price paid be enough? This vibrant adaptation of the global phenomenon transports audiences *into the woods* alongside favorite fictional characters to find out *what happens after happily ever after!*

"Directing shows of this caliber is always an enjoyable challenge because we get the opportunity to take a popular production like *Into the Woods* and, without compromising the level of entertainment and expectation, execute it beautifully in a much smaller space," said Justin Anderson, Aurora Associate Artistic Director. "Productions don't always have to be seen on the world's largest stages in order for them to be deemed great theater; we're producing successful, ingenious theater right here in metro-Atlanta!"

The tale begins when a vengeful witch curses a childless baker and his wife for stealing her "magic" beans; in order to redeem themselves and have the curse lifted from the wife's fertility, they must seek out special ingredients for her potent potion. While obeying the witch's commands, they journey into the woods and encounter Cinderella, Rapunzel, Jack (of the Beanstalk), Little Red Riding Hood and other fictional favorites, who too are faced with unfavorable consequences for decisions they've made.

Directed by Anderson, the production features veteran actors Natasha Drena, Brandon O'Dell, Diany Rodriguez and Wendy Melkonian, among others, as well as the nationally recognized Bernardine Mitchell and Broadway acclaimed Christopher L. Morgan. With live music led by award-winning Associate Producer and Aurora Co-founder Ann-Carol Pence and choreography by Sarah Turner Sechelski, this smash-hit sensation is perfect for fairytale fans and not!

Although based on fairy tales, this musical is not a children's show. *Into the Woods* is presented **March 10-April 17.** Tickets range from \$30-\$65 and can be purchased online at <u>tickets.auroratheatre.com</u> or by calling the box office at **678-226-6222.**

Show times are as follows:

• Wednesday- Saturday: 8 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 2:30 p.m.

Prior to the performance on **Wednesday, March 30**, a Community Conversation: *Finding the Hero Within* will be held beginning at 7:15 p.m. Join Aurora for an invigorating discussion about how fairytales are no longer just a child's domain; they are used to navigate the narratives of people's lives, helping many work through things like failure, fear and hope in cultures around the globe.

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Under the artistic leadership of Co-Founders and Artistic Directors Anthony Rodriguez and Ann-Carol Pence, now in its 20th Season, Aurora Theatre produces professional live entertainment to suit everyone's taste. Aurora Theatre is home to over 600 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 winner of five 2015 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.