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Theatrical Outfit launches 2016-2017 40th Anniversary Season with Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*, September 8 – 18

"Better than the Broadway version and national tours ... exactly the kind of theater Atlanta needs, at exactly the right time..." – **Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

"This is as strong of a musical as this season has produced." - ArtsATL

ATLANTA, GA – August 1, 2016 – Atlanta audiences are invited to sway along to the salsa rhythms and rich melodies of New York's vibrant Washington Heights community, a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open and the breeze carries the pulse of three generations of music through the Manhattan streets. Written by *Hamilton* creator and pop culture icon Lin-Manuel Miranda, the Tony Award and Grammy Award-winning *In the Heights*, playing **September 8 – 18**, opens **Theatrical Outfit's 2016-17 40**th **Anniversary Season of Hope!** This universal tale, a co-production with our *Memphis* partner Aurora Theatre, delivers a poignant message on the power of family and the strength of community in the face of adversity. "*In the Heights* is the *West Side Story* for a new generation," hails *Time Magazine*.

WHY THIS CONVERSATION:

"No matter your faith, politics, age or race; how much or how little you have in the bank; who you love; what you are glad for or what you are suffering, I believe it is impossible to sit in the audience

of *In the Heights*, with our life-force of a cast, and not leave the theater without being full of hope. This is our promise to you. This is how we begin our Season of Hope."

—Tom Key, Artistic Director, Theatrical Outfit

ABOUT THE PLAY

In the Heights

Book by Quiara Alegria Hudes

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Conceived by Lin-Manuel Miranda

September 8 – 18, 2016 at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts

Before *Hamilton* reinvented musical theatre, its creator, superstar Lin-Manuel Miranda, wowed Broadway with *In the Heights*, a universal story celebrating New York's Washington Heights, where the corner bodega coffee is sweet, neighbors' windows stay open, and the air pulsates with salsa, soul and hip-hop. A charismatic storeowner, full of **hope**, dreams and a gift for storytelling, guides us through the lives of three generations who must choose between tradition and their future. Best Musical Tony Award winner!

PERFORMANCE DATES & TICKETS*

Before moving downtown, *In the Heights* runs July 21 – August 28 at Aurora Theatre in Lawrenceville, GA. Regular tickets may be purchased online at **tickets.auroratheatre.com** or by calling at **678.226.6222**.

The Outfit previews: September 8 – 9, 2016 at 7:30PM and September 10, 2016 at 2:30PM

The Outfit opening night: September 10, 2016 at 7:30PM
The Outfit regular performances: September 11 – 18, 2016

Theatrical Outfit's performances of *In the Heights* are Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30PM and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30PM. There will be one Wednesday evening performance on September 14 at 7:30PM and one Thursday matinee on September 15 at 2:30PM. Running time: two hours and forty-five minutes, including intermission. Tickets range from \$20-\$50 and may be purchased online at www.theatricaloutfit.org or by calling 678.528.1500. Group pricing is available. For info, email groupsales@theatricaloutfit.org.

*Ticket prices are subject to availability. Fees and taxes apply. Order early for best pricing.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS:

Food Truck Fiesta! — Thursday, September 15, 4:30pm-7:30pm @ Luckie St. and Forsyth St. Latin food, drinks, piragua. Mingle with the cast. Come to the 2:30pm matinee and stay for the party, or come party and stay for the 7:30pm evening show.

Page to Stage Talk Back, sponsored by Macy's — Friday, September 16, post-show Representatives from the creative team/staff share how they moved the show from script to finished production.

ABOUT THE CREATOR: Lin-Manuel Miranda is an American actor, composer, rapper and writer, best known for creating and starring in the Broadway musicals *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*. He has won a Pulitzer Prize, two Grammys, an Emmy, a MacArthur "Genius" Award, and three Tony awards, among others.

PRINCIPAL CAST

Diego Klock-Perez* - Usnavi

Diany Rodriguez* - Nina

Garrett Turner* – Benny

Julissa Sabino* - Vanessa

Anthony Rodriguez – Kevin

Maria Rodriguez-Sager - Camila

Felicia Hernandez – Abuela Claudia

Liliangina Quinones – Daniela

Inda Tyree – Carla

Christian Magby – Sonny

Juan Carlos Unzueta – Piragua Guy

Graffiti Pete – Joseph Pendergrast

CREATIVE TEAM

Justin Anderson – Director

Ann-Carol Pence – Music Director and Associate Producer

Ricardo Aponte – Choreographer

Shannon Roberts – Scenic Designer

Maria Cristina Fuste – Lighting Designer

Courtney Flores – Costume Designer

Daniel Terry – Sound Designer

MC Park – Properties Designer

Justin Anderson, Jacyln Hoffman, Clifton Guterman* - Casting

Katie Chambers* – Stage Manager

Stephanie Nichols* – Assistant Stage Manager

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

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PUBLICITY AND PRODUCTION PHOTOS may be accessed here:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/x9frtvkj42rnxz9/AACBkBldi14UqCk9lID9rkwea?dl=0

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS: Fulton County Office of Cultural Affairs, Turner Broadcasting, City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, Jackson Spalding, Publix Super Markets Charities, The Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund

ABOUT THEATRICAL OUTFIT: Atlanta's second-oldest continually-operating professional theatre company was founded in 1976 and has been led by Artistic Director Tom Key since fall 1995. Key led the company through the creation of its award winning downtown home, the Balzer Theater at Herren's, the first U.S. theater to achieve LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The Balzer Theater is also the historical site of Herren's, the first restaurant in Atlanta to voluntarily desegregate in 1962; its first African American patrons, Dr. Lee and Delores Shelton, remain Theatrical Outfit patrons and season ticket subscribers. Key's programming of classics, regional and world premieres tell soul-stirring stories, with themes that explore diversity, equality, ethnicity, race, and religion; and often feature the best writers of the American South, including Ernest Gaines, Lauren Gunderson, Horton Foote, Harper Lee, Flannery O'Connor, Janece Shaffer, Sherry Shephard-Massat, Elyzabeth Gregory Wilder and Tennessee Williams. After ten years of capital investment, T.O. is in new territory. Having retired its mortgage, staff, trustees and artists are in the midst of a 2014-17 Strategic Plan designed to expand mission-driven, artistic offerings of genres ranging from dramas and comedies to large scale musicals, engaging many more of Atlanta's world class theatre artists. The plan now has the benefit of two leaders, Artistic Director, Tom Key and Managing Director, Lee Foster, hired in June 2014, who together have achieved the theatre's most successful season of ticket sales since the 2005 opening of The Balzer Theater at Herren's and the most Suzi Bass Award nominations for one season ever garnered by Theatrical Outfit.

ABOUT OUR VENUE: *In the Heights* will be performed at the Rialto Center for the Arts, 80 Forsyth St NW, Atlanta, GA 30303. All other 2016-2017 productions will be performed at The Balzer Theater at Herren's at 84 Luckie Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30303. Theatrical Outfit utilizes a Loop Listening System, making The Balzer Theater at Herren's the first theater in the state of Georgia to incorporate this technology. Attendees with T-coil hearing aids may participate automatically, and others needing enhancement may obtain system-compatible headsets from our lobby Box Office.

OUR VISION: Creating compassion — one story at a time.

OUR MISSION: Starting the conversations that matter.