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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Round of applause: Aurora Theatre sets stage for action-packed April**

*Audiences invited to enjoy performances, spring break camps and more fun happenings in Lawrenceville*

**LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (March 28, 2017) –** As the April showers roll in, theatergoers of all ages can take cover and enjoy the many spring happenings at Aurora Theatre! Young thespians can soak up the sun with beach-themed theatre activities and camps, while adults unwind and escape with a multitude of performances, including *The Bridges of Madison County* or *Pais de Bicicleta /**Bicycle Country*. In addition to theatrical entertainment and glee, Lawrenceville neighbors can grab a lawn chair and enjoy a one-night-only screening of *Hairspray, The Broadway Musical.* Rain or shine, Aurora Theatre guests can look forward to a spectacular April lineup!

**Special April Programming**

**Aurora Children’s Playhouse**

 *Select days during April at 10 and 11:30 a.m.*

Aurora Theatre assembles the best children’s performers in the region, including jugglers, magicians, musicians and puppeteers, bringing them to Gwinnett County for a family-friendly series of extraordinary performances. Playhouse tickets are $7; PlayhouseTix punch cards are $50 and good for 10 admissions to any Children’s Playhouse show. For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraChildrensPlayhouse](http://bit.ly/AuroraChildrensPlayhouse).

 **Around the World in Under an Hour by Children’s Museum of Atlanta**

 *Special spring break edition! Wednesday, April 5*

Master explorer Phineas Figg has been challenged to travel the world in under and hour, but he can’t do it without the help of a few junior adventure explorers! Travel to all seven continents with Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s award-winning Imaginators as they bring geography to life.

 **Nutty Songs & Stories with Eric Litwin**

 *Saturday, April 15*

Aurora Theatre welcomes Eric Litwin, award-winning musician and *The* *New York Times* bestselling author of the first four “Pete the Cat” books, “The Nut Family” series and “Groovy Joe.” After hearing silly stories and side-aching songs, guests can purchase a signed copy of his new book, “The Nuts, Keep Rolling!”

 **Aurora Theatre Academy**

**Drama Beach Spring Break Workshops**

 *April 6 - 7 from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

Local parents looking for a not-so-far away tropical getaway can enroll their children in Drama Beach ‘17 at Aurora Theatre Academy! Led by Atlanta’s most talented actors and comedians, students will test the waters or polish off their skills during a one-day Improv workshop geared for grades 1-8. Kicking off the season with a cookout party reception, students will engage in beach-themed activities and games focused on teamwork, character development, inventiveness and more! Can’t get enough Drama Beach ’17? Enroll in both sessions before space runs out! Admission is $35 per student per day and includes a cookout lunch. For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraDramaBeach](http://bit.ly/AuroraDramaBeach)

 Sessions include:

 Elementary School Students Mini Class (Grades 1–3)

 Elementary School Students Master Class (Grades 4–5)

 Middle School Students (Grades 6–8)

 **Summer Camp One-Day Sale & Open House**

 *Monday, April 17*

 **One-Day Sale**

*All day*

 On Monday, April 17, parents will receive a $25 discount on 2017 Summer Camp tuition when registering online, over the phone or in person!

 **Open House**

 *4 – 6 p.m.*

Families are invited to experience an exclusive inside look at Aurora Theatre’s Summer Camp Program with a behind-the-scenes tour, sample classes and meet-and-greets with some of the teaching staff! For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraSummerCamp](http://bit.ly/AuroraSummerCamp).

 **Summer Musical Talent Scholarship Auditions**

 *4 – 7 p.m.*

 Students enrolling in The Lion King Jr Musical Camp who would like to be considered for a talent scholarship must audition. To schedule an audition, email education@auroratheatre.com. Scheduling will begin on Saturday, April 1.

 \* Financial Need-Based Scholarship Applications will be available starting Monday, April 10. For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraSummerCamp](http://bit.ly/AuroraSummerCamp).

 **Aurora Theatre’s Musicals by Moonlight and the City of Lawrenceville present:**

 ***Hairspray, The Broadway Musical***

 *Saturday, April 29 at 7 p.m.*

Families are invited to enjoy a one-night-only, free performance of the smash hit *Hairspray, The Broadway Musical* under the stars on the Lawrenceville Lawn! Pack a picnic, choose from a variety of favorites at McCray’s Tavern on the Square or browse delicious menus from food trucks located around the lawn. Lawn seating will begin at 5 p.m.

A VIP table and dinner for six is also available for $350! Package includes a VIP reserved table with linens under a buffet tent and dinner provided by McCray's Tavern on the Square, including a mixed greens salad, steak with mushroom sauce, chicken piccata or vodka pasta as a meatless option. Guests will also enjoy side items, such as mixed vegetables, roasted potatoes and dessert, two drinks per seat (choice of beer, wine or soda) and servers to tend to the table throughout the show. For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraHairspray](http://bit.ly/AuroraHairspray).

**Continuing in April**

 **The Bridges of Madison County**

 *Through Sunday, April 16; varied times*

 Prepare to be swept away by one of the most endearing love stories of all time! **Aurora Theatre** will dazzle audiences with its production of the timeless tale ***The Bridges of Madison County***,on stage **March 9–April 16**. Based on the best-selling novel by Robert James Waller, the now two-time Tony Award-winning musical tells the story of a lonely Iowa farmer’s wife Francesca and her unexpected, four-day love affair with traveling photographer Robert. Will the passionate romance fuel Francesca to leave her family and to continue along the fiery, adulterated path with her newfound love? Audiences are invited to experience the whirlwind romance that has captivated generations for the last five decades. For more information, visit [bit.ly/AuroraBridgesofMadisonCounty](http://bit.ly/AuroraBridgesofMadisonCounty).

 **Pais de Bicicleta / Bicycle Country**

*April 7 –April 30; varied times*

 From Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Nilo Cruz – the creative behind last season’s stirring *Sotto Voce* – comes the tale of three Cuban refugees with a lust for freedom and the hope to achieve liberty. Paralyzed by the oppression of Cuba’s totalitarian society, Julio, Ines and Pepe find the courage to finally leave their current lives behind and embark on the harrowing journey across the Caribbean Sea from Havana to Miami. The play’s magical realism, accented by whip-fast dialogue, encompasses the Latin love of music and dance in this powerful display of what can happen when one dreams big enough. Part of the Teatro Aurora initiative, *Pais de Bicicleta / Bicycle Country* is performed in Spanish with English supertitles.  For more information, visit  [bit.ly/AuroraPaisdeBicicleta](http://bit.ly/AuroraPaisdeBicicleta)

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 21st Season, Aurora Theatre produces professional live entertainment to suit everyone’s taste. Aurora Theatre is home to over 650 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 .*