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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

 **Summer in the spotlight: Aurora Theatre set to sparkle this July**

*Audiences of all ages invited to enjoy performances, summer camps, comedy nights and more summer fun in Lawrenceville!*

**LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (July 7, 2017) –** The hotter months are the time to kick back and have a good time at **Aurora Theatre!** Children who dream of the spotlight have the opportunity to go back to school this summer at **Aurora Theatre Academy Summer Camp**s, learning to perform on stage with Atlanta-area professionals. Teens who aspire to be on camera can spend a day with the professional film actors at Aurora Theatre’s one-day workshop, **Acting on Camera Intensive for Teens with Drama Inc.** Toes will tap and hips will sway at **Teatro Aurora**, Atlanta’s only professional Spanish language theatre, as it brings the rhythm of Latin jazz to the stage with *Canto: Songs from Spain and Latin America*. Audiences who love a good laugh will get a kick out of Aurora’s lineup of local comedians during **Aurora Summer Comedy Nights**. Adult with a wicked side are invited to tip one back at **Brews and Boos** a haunted pub crawl**,** while the annual **Lawrenceville Ghost Tours** continue to bring out the *boo-s* year-round with history and mystery for all who enjoy a good scare. Finally, audiences will able to experience the grand production of ***The Hunchback of Notre Dame*** on the main stage,as the theater kicks off a star-studded 22nd season. With so much to enjoy, there’s something for everyone at Aurora Theatre this July!

**Special July Programming**

**Aurora Summer Comedy Nights
Aurora Theatre is bound to be full of laughs this summer! On select weekends in July, a few of Atlanta’s best comedians will take the stage and Aurora will open the bar for an unforgettable adults’ night out without the standard two-drink minimum. Aurora Summer Comedy Nights are sure to be a side-splitting good time and are hosted by local actor and comedian Katie Causey. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit** [bit.ly/AuroraComedyNights](http://www.auroratheatre.com/on-stage/aurora-comedy-nights/).

**Mia Jackson with host Katie Causey**

***Friday and Saturday, July 14 and 15***

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

Guests to this comedy night can prepare to laugh out loud with Mia Jackson, a bonafide Georgia peach and self proclaimed know-it-all. After graduating from the University of Georgia, she hit the local comedy scene and has thrilled audiences since day one. To her credit she has appeared on NickMom’s Night Out, Viceland and was a semi-finalist on Season 9 of NBC’s Last Comic Standing in 2015. She also recently appeared on the fourth season premiere of Inside Amy Schumer and the movie Mother’s Day.

**Debra Cole with host Katie Causey**

***Friday and Saturday, July 28 and 29***

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

Debra Cole is the popular former host of Aurora Comedy Nights! She is returning to the Aurora stage, wowing audiences with her sophisticated and smart humor that's delivered with a seemingly sweet and yet surprising sarcastic Southern Georgia twang. After teaching public school for 9 years, she then sprung forward full time into comedy. While her alluring smile and petite stature may seem innocent, Debra is a pistol guaranteed to push buttons and bring audiences to laughter*.*

**Aurora Theatre’s Signature Series**

***The Hunchback of Notre Dame*
Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz**

**Book by Peter Parnell**

*July 20 – August 27, 2017*
Based on the worldwide bestselling Victor Hugo novel with songs from the Disney film, ***The Hunchback of Notre Dame*** is set to take the stage this July as it kicks off Aurora Theatre’s 2017 – 2018 season. This grand production traces the journey of Quasimodo, a deformed bell ringer in a cold, cathedral tower, as he discovers his inner strength. His guardian Archdeacon Frollo is torn between his vows to the church and his obsession with the beautiful dancer Esmeralda. Audiences can guarantee a seat to this grandiose show, as well as all others in the 22nd season, with a season ticket subscription available for purchase at [bit.ly/SeasonSubscription](http://bit.ly/SeasonSubcription). Tuesday discount matinee shows will be offered on **Tuesday, August 1, 15 and 22** at **10 a.m.** with tickets starting at $20. Regular tickets range from $30-$65 and may be purchasedonline at [bit.ly/AuroraHunchbackTickets](http://bit.ly/AuroraHunchbackTickets).

**Aurora Theatre Academy Summer Camps**For kids who see the world as their stage, Aurora Theatre Summer Camp is the place to be! With top-notch training for grades one through 12, Aurora Theatre Academy will prepare students of all skill levels to perform like professionals. Participants can learn from an incredible team of Atlanta-area teaching pros, many who have also frequented the screen from Georgia Lottery commercials to HBO. Located on the square in downtown Lawrenceville, all classes will culminate in a showcase in Aurora’s exquisite facility. Financial need-based scholarship applications are now available for download at [bit.ly/AuroraScholarApp](http://bit.ly/AuroraScholarApp). For more information on Aurora Theatre Academy Summer Camps, please visit [bit.ly/AuroraSummerCamps](http://bit.ly/AuroraSummerCamps).

**Acting on Camera Intensive for Teens with Drama Inc. (Ages 13 – 18)**

*Saturday, July 15 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

Tuition $145 per student

This one-day intensive workshop, for teenagers striving for a career in the theater, focuses on acting technique for the camera, auditioning and understanding the differences between the stage and screen. Aspiring actors will have the chance to work with professional film actors and instructors Scott Poythress and Claire Bronson from Drama Inc. The perfect place for young thespians to learn and thrive!

**Elementary School Camps**

**Camp Aurora (Mini: Grades 1 – 3, Master: Grades 4 – 5)***July 10 –14 from 9:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m. (Mini)
July 10 –14 from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. (Mini)*Tuition $200 per session, per camper
Camp Aurora gives students the opportunity to spend an intensive week learning what it takes to put on a performance. This production class will provide students with valuable stage experience, while encouraging teamwork and collaboration with peers and instilling a sense of self-confidence. During these half-day sessions, students will be active participants in creating portions of the sets, costumes and props for exciting, whirlwind productions presented to family and friends. Students may choose from morning and afternoon sessions on June 26 – June 30 or July 10 – 14. For the June sessions, campers may opt to do both morning and afternoon sessions and stay for lunch in between.

**Aurora’s Bilingual Camp (Grades 1** *–* **5)**July 17 – 21 from 10:30 a.m. *–* 4 p.m.
Tuition $300 per camper
This production class will provide students with stage experience that translates to real life skills, building teamwork and cooperation with peers in a bilingual environment. In these full-day sessions, students will be active participants in character creations for thrilling, magical productions of fairytales from Hispanic Culture presented to family and friends! Aftercare from 4 *–* 6 p.m. is available for purchase.

**Middle School Camps**

**Acting Edge Camp – Treasure Island (Grades 6** *–* **8)**

*July 10 – 21 from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.*Tuition $500 per camperWith this program, budding thespians can explore the craft of acting through various styles: Stanislavski, Shakespeare, stage combat, improvisation classes and more! This two-week camp will culminate with a performance of *Treasure Island*for friends and family. Aftercare from 4 *–* 6 p.m. is available for purchase.

**Brews and Boos**

*Friday, July 7 at 8:30 p.m.*

Ages 21 and over

Tickets $30

Thrill-seekers beware! Brave souls can take a stroll through the haunted streets of Lawrenceville, accompanied by tall tales and bawdy songs, performed in some of the finest downtown establishments. This all-inclusive experience includes entertainment and drinks at Exhibit Ale, Universal Joint and McCray’s Tavern on the Square. For all those who love a good drink, a good time and a good scare, this event is the perfect com-*boo*-nation!

**Lawrenceville Ghost Tours***Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m*.
Adults $12, Children $9

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. Tour begins and ends at Aurora Theatre; runs May through September, with tours continuing every night in October.

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