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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Aurora Theatre Welcomes New Director of Education**

*Greta Zandstra to take the helm of Aurora’s vaunted education program*

**LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (August 7, 2018) –** At the start of an ambitious 2018-19 Season, Aurora Theatre proudly announces the addition of Greta Zandstra to its full-time staff as Director of Education. Greta will oversee the extensive education department while helping to guide growth into the planned campus expansion set to open in 2020. Aurora Theatre now boasts a staff of 21 employees, 13 apprentices and more than 300 part-time and contract workers.

“Greta comes to us with a wealth of experience for creating educational partnerships at all levels,” said Anthony Rodriguez, Aurora Theatre Producing Artistic Director. “Greta will continue to strengthen our great partnership with Georgia Gwinnett College, will focus on a creating a more competitive training program for our teens and will turn even the shyest child into a budding performer. Greta is a tireless ball of energy and has already identified many opportunities Aurora has to expand our current programs and make the arts more accessible. She joins a top-notch multicultural education team who demonstrates Aurora’s deep commitment to our region, both now and in the future.”

Greta adds, “Since the first moment I walked into Aurora Theatre, I have been impressed with the warm and welcoming environment and I am excited join this company in inspiring hearts and minds with the magic of the performing arts.”

Ms. Zandstra previously led the education departments at Temple Theatre in North Carolina, the Charlotte Shakespeare Festival and the Nebraska Shakespeare Festival. Greta received a bachelor's degree from Saint Mary's College-Notre Dame and earned her master's degree at the University of Nebraska in Omaha. As an experienced professional actor and director, highlights of her career include: June in the *Sanders Family Trilogy* (Temple Theatre), Gloria in *Boeing Boeing* (Maples Repertory Theatre), Olivia in *Twelfth Night* (Charlotte Shakespeare Festival) and Valentine in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (BARE Theatre).

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 23rd Season, Aurora Theatre produces professional live entertainment to suit everyone’s taste. Aurora Theatre is home to over 850 events each year. Two series of theatrical productions, the Peach State Federal Credit Union Signature Series and the 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 ten 2017 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.*