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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aurora Theatre launches 2016-17 Signature Series with Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*, July 21- August 28
Award-winning musical features eclectic score of hip-hop, salsa, merengue and soul music

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (June 20, 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 **July 21- August 28**, opens **Aurora Theatre's 2016-17 Peach State Federal Credit Union Signature Series!** This universal tale, a co-production with Theatrical Outfit, delivers a poignant message on the power of family and the strength of community in the face of adversity.

"With everything going on in our world today, this story is an empowering display of a community rallying together to make positive change in the lives of one another," said Ann-Carol Pence, Aurora Co-founder and Associate Producer. "After partnering with Theatrical Outfit for last season's smash-hit *Memphis*, we knew we wanted to produce *In the Heights* as a co-production; a powerhouse musical of this capacity is destined to leave a beautiful, lasting impression on audiences with two of the region's leading theaters in collaboration."

Led by Aurora's Associate Artistic Director Justin Anderson, *In the Heights* follows the story of a tight-knit Latino community on the brink of change. At the center is Usnavi, the corner bodega owner who dreams of winning the lottery and escaping to the Dominican Republic with the gorgeous girl working in the neighboring beauty salon. Meanwhile, his childhood friend Nina returns home from college, only to share disappointing news with her parents, who have spent their entire life savings on making her dreams come true. In the midst of these characters' bustling lives – full of hopes, dreams and pressures – tough decisions must be made as to which traditions should be upheld and which to leave behind, as they strive to turn the world's ultimate concrete jungle into a permanent home of their own.

In the Heights is presented **July 21- August 28** on Aurora's Metro Waterproofing Strickland Family Mainstage. Two discount matinees will be offered on **Wednesday, August 10 and 17 at 10 a.m.** for \$20-\$30. Regular tickets may be purchased starting **July 1** for \$30-\$65 online at tickets.auroratheatre.com or by calling the **Box Office at 678-226-6222**. Season and group tickets are on sale now. For more information on this production or the 2016-17 Signature Series, please visit auroratheatre.com.

Regular show times are as follows:

- Tuesday – Friday: 8 p.m.
- Saturday: 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Sunday: 2:30 p.m.

Aurora's co-production of *In the Heights* will continue **September 8-18 at The Rialto Center for the Arts** with tickets available from **Theatrical Outfit** online at bit.ly/rialtoheights or by calling **678-528-1500**.

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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 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.