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**Aurora Theatre kicks off 2018-19 season with Disney’s *NEWSIES*, July 19 – September 2**

*Gwinnett County’s largest arts organization opens 23rd season with Tony Award-winning dynamic musical*

**LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (June 12, 2018)** – Inspired by the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899, **Disney’s *NEWSIES*** is set to kick off **Aurora Theatre’s** 23rd season with rousing dance numbers and non-stop fun for the whole family! This high-energy musical is set to soar onto the mainstage **July 19 –September 2**, where audiences will follow charismatic Jack Kelly and his ragged band of teenaged “newsies” as they strike against an unfair system in New York City at the turn of the century.

"We're thrilled to bring this fan favorite to audiences in Lawrenceville,” said Justin Anderson, Director. “For those like myself who grew up watching the song-filled cult-classic film in the 90s, and even those who are not familiar with the story, will find this version resonates with sheer joy and triumph for the underdog. It’s a feel-good, energetic production that is the perfect way to kick off our season!”

With music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Jack Feldman and book by Harvey Fierstein, ***NEWSIES*** highlights publishing titans Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst as they try to take advantage of newsboys to increase profits. However, everything changes when Jack Kelly and his group of “newsies” come on the scene. This Tony Award-winning musical, based on the timeless Disney film, is toe-tapping fun for the entire family!

Aurora Theatre’s production of ***NEWSIES***stars **Greg Kamp** as Jack Kelly, **Adrianna Trachell** as Katherine Plumber, **Stephan Jones** as Joseph Pulitzer, **Russell Alexander II** as Crutchie, **Marcello Audino** as Davey and **Mahalia Jackson** as Medda Larkin, along with a star-studded ensemble. Audiences will recognize the same creative talents behind Aurora Theatre’s *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Mamma Mia! –* direction by **Justin Anderson**, musical direction by **Ann-Carol Pence** and choreography by **Ricardo Aponte.**

***NEWSIES*** will play Aurora Theatre **July 19-September 2**, with a discount matinee on **Tuesdays, July 31 and August 7** at **10 a.m.** with tickets starting at $20. Regular, single tickets range from $30-$65 and can be purchased online starting July 1 at [tickets.auroratheatre.com](http://tickets.auroratheatre.com/Default.aspx) or by calling the **Box Office** at **678-226-6222**. Group rates are also available. For more information on this production or other programming, please visit [auroratheatre.com](http://www.auroratheatre.com/).

Regular show times are as follows:

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

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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.*