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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Aurora Theatre’s September programming steals the limelight**

*Audiences invited to Lawrenceville to dive into classes for all ages, downtown dinners and more fall fun!*

**LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (August 29, 2017) –** Summer may have just come to an end, but bigger and better things are in store for this fall at **Aurora Theatre**! For theatergoers yearning to star center stage, **Aurora Theatre** welcomes in all ages fall classes at the **Aurora Theatre Academy**! Theater patrons and families are invited to indulge in a **Sunday Supper** over Downtown Lawrenceville with lip-smacking food, cool cocktails and locally-brewed craft beers for a noteworthy fundraiser. Along with skill-sharpening classes and a belly-filling good time, Aurora Theatre guests can enthusiastically anticipate fan-favorite productions such as ***Abigail/1702*** and ***Throw Me on the Burnpile and Light Me Up*** and spine-shivering **Lawrenceville Ghost Tours** to keep the fun going all month long. Aurora Theatre offers a wide array of happenings in September with one goal: fun and entertainment for everyone!

**Special September Programming**

 **Aurora Theatre Academy – Fall Classes**

Aurora Theatre Academy is Gwinnett County’s premier destination for gaining experience and studying the arts. With all ages classes and some of the region’s best working professionals as instructors, students are guaranteed the ultimate experience for learning the ropes and tapping into their creativity. For more information and registration, please visit [bitly.com/AuroraFallClasses](http://bit.ly/2vX9iCI).

 **Classes for Elementary School Students Grade 1-5**

**These classes give students the opportunity to learn what it takes to put on a play. Students will be provided with valuable stage experience, while encouraging teamwork and collaboration with peers. The experience instills a sense of self-confidence in every student, allowing them to be active participants in creating portions of the sets, costumes and props for these exciting, whirlwind productions presented to family and friends.**

 **Mini (Grade 1-3) & Master Classes (Grades 4-5)**

 *Tuesdays from September 5-October 24, from 4:30-6 p.m.*

**Students will focus on acting techniques by rehearsing a short play based on a fairy tale, enabling young thespians to get real insight into what makes a memorable performance. The mini class will culminate in a mashup presentation of *Goldilocks and the Three Little Pigs*, while the master class will culminate in *The Classic Case of the Missing Slipper*. Theatergoers will leave these classes with feelings of confidence and pride!**

**Budding Broadway Classes (Grades 1-5)**

***Mondays from September 11-October 30, from 4:30-6 p.m.***

**Students will learn the fundamentals of musical theater and how to tell a clear story while singing. Budding Broadway pupils will gain an understanding of performances comprised of song, dance and storytelling, along with the self-confidence needed to star in one themselves.**

 **Classes for Middle School Students Grades 6-8**

**Teens will take the drama out of their lives and put it where it belongs—on stage! Through a series of theater games, exercises and exploration, the class will become an ensemble of players rehearsing a collection of scenes to be performed for friends and family.**

 **Acting Edge**

 ***Mondays from September 11-October 30, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.***

 ***Tuition: $200 per session***

**Using a mash-up of games and exercises that stem from different aspects of theater, teen members will be exposed to the various sides of stage sensations to explore and gain experience. Students will enhance relationships among classmates, aid each other in rehearsals and bounce around ideas that will benefit the cast-like faction on stage when performing for close-knit audiences.**

**Classes for 18 and up**

**Performing in a play, giving a speech or even informing a crowd about an event can be easier than ever anticipated! Adults will gain enviable stage presence and confidence through this class – it’s not too late! Acting classes give members the extra push to fulfill their acting dreams.**

**Adult Acting Class**

*Mondays from September 18-October 23, from 7:30-9:30 p.m.*

 *Tuition: $200 per session*

**For those who have wanted to act or maybe just feel more comfortable in front of an audience, it’s not too late to make the leap. In the Aurora Theatre Academy Adult Acting Class, learn the craft and techniques of acting used by the professionals. Work on skills like cold readings, monologue delivery, auditioning with confidence and learn how to succeed in the industry of show business.**

 **Sunday Supper: Dinner Over Downtown**

 *Sunday, September 23 at 6 p.m.*

 *Located on the roof of the Downtown Lawrenceville parking deck*

Local Republic, Springer Mountain Farms and Second Self Beer Company will come together for Sunday Supper: Dinner Over Downtown Lawrenceville, elevating picnics to new heights! Enjoy a family-style supper with neighbors, family and friends old and new around communal tables. Local Republic serves up the best of locally-farmed fare: fried Springer Mountain chicken and all the gourmet fixins, paired with craft cocktails and the best locally-brewed craft beers from Second Self. The event will feature live music from **Kristin & the Honey Badgers** led by Kristin Markiton—who audiences loved as Francesca in *The Bridges of Madison County*—and will be the lead in Aurora’s upcoming *MAMMA MIA*! Come together as a community for a delicious and unexpected fundraising event that benefits Aurora Theatre! Sunday Supper tickets are $60. For more information and ticket purchase, please visit [http://bit.ly/AuroraTickets](http://bit.ly/2vi64aR).

**Continuing in September…**

**Abigail/1702**

**Directed by Justin Anderson**

 *September 21-October 15*

*Tuesday–Saturday: 8 p.m.*

*Saturday and Sunday: 2:30 p.m.*

Tickets $20-$55

Ten years after the infamous Salem witch trials, *The Crucible’s* notorious young accuser seeks a new life in Boston, hoping to leave the terrors of the past behind. As she will discover, forgiveness is often difficult and may come at an unthinkable price. From American playwright, screenwriter and Marvel Comic book writer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa and under the direction of Anderson, *Abigail/1702* tells the tale ofAbigail Williams, one of the initial accusers in the Salem witch trials. For ten years since, she has been living in Boston under an assumed name, trying desperately to atone for her past contact with Satan himself. After agreeing to take a job as a nurse, the doors are opened to a discovery of love, lust, pirates, the plague and The Devil, while learning that the past is complicated and cannot always be erased. For more information or ticket purchase, please visit [bit.ly/AuroraAbigailTickets](http://bit.ly/2g0GZiR).

 **Throw Me on the Burnpile and Light Me Up**

 **Directed by Rachel Parish**

 *September 8-October 1*

*Thursday–Saturday: 8 p.m.*

*Saturday and Sunday: 2:30 p.m.*

Tickets $15-$20

A lecherous goat, Pentecostals on the radio, a clutter of in-bred cats, phone calls from death row and Daddy’s burnpile are only a few of many elements in this stew of stories from Oscar-nominated screenwriter and actor Lucy Alibar. Aurora Theatre playgoers are sure to be captivated by the enchanting stories in this coming-of-age one-woman show about growing up on the Georgia-Florida line! For more information or ticket purchase, please visit [bit.ly/AuroraBurnpileTickets](http://bit.ly/2vSpjve%20%20).

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

Aurora Theatre actors give thrill seekers a fun-for-the-family scare with this spooky, historical tour around Lawrenceville, featuring real stories and places. The tour begins and ends at Aurora Theatre and runs May through September, with tours continuing every night in October. To purchase tickets online, please visit [www.scarystroll.com](http://www.scarystroll.com) or call 678.226.6222.

**Lawrenceville Haunted Cemetery Tour**

*September 30 at 8:30 p.m.*

Tickets $20

Lawrenceville is the oldest city in the Atlanta metro area, and as such, the growth and development of the area has awakened sleeping ghosts resulting in increased reports of paranormal activity. Hear chilling tales, told in the most frightening place you can imagine, by a master storyteller. Scattered throughout the evening will be stories about the occupants of the Historic Lawrenceville Cemetery: the town’s earliest settlers and founders. This haunted cemetery tour will send shivers down the spines participants and open the eyes of the living to the souls of the dead! For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit [bit.ly/AuroraCemeteryTours](http://bit.ly/AuroraCemeteryTours).

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 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 .*