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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Lawrenceville and Aurora Theatre Win Regional Arts & Culture Award

Annual PRELUDE Event Recognized by Atlanta Regional Commission

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (March 25, 2016) – The [City of Lawrenceville's](#) signature summer event **PRELUDE** received the [Atlanta Regional Commission's](#) (ARC) 2015 CREATE Community Award for its focus on Arts & Culture through a partnership with the Aurora Theatre.

For more than 10 years, the City has hosted the **PRELUDE** celebration on the eve of July 4 as a way to honor America's Day of Independence. Each year, before the stunning display of fireworks, the event features an outdoor stage performance hosted by Lawrenceville's [Aurora Theatre](#). With past productions like *Camelot*, *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *South Pacific*, the City of Lawrenceville and the Aurora Theatre continue to bring Tony Award-winning classics to life in downtown Lawrenceville.

"We are honored to receive this distinguished award as it recognizes Lawrenceville's commitment to local and regional excellence," said Mayor Judy Jordan Johnson. "Promoting community development through artistic and cultural approaches attracts economic investment, a strong workforce, and new visiting populations to our community."

According to the Atlanta Regional Commission, the Arts & Culture award is presented to the local government that "advances creative placemaking and cultural opportunities in their community through the implementation of arts related concepts in programs, policies and projects."

"For 20 years, the Aurora Theatre has developed unique programming meeting the needs of our constantly evolving community," said Anthony Rodriguez, Aurora Theatre Co-Founder and Producing Artistic Director. "Cities that embrace arts and culture activities increase their economic viability and establish their community's competitive advantage."

An ARC Board Presentation and awards ceremony was held on Wednesday, March 23 in the Amphitheater at the Loudermilk Center for Regional Community in Atlanta. Mayor Johnson and Anthony Rodriguez were in attendance at the ceremony to receive the award on behalf of the City of Lawrenceville.

"Lawrenceville takes pride in developing award-winning programming for the community," said Lisa Sherman Director of Community and Economic Development. The regional and national recognition invites tourism revenue to the City, yielding economic growth which is the ultimate goal."

Make plans to visit Lawrenceville to experience the family friendly events taking place throughout 2016:

April 1	Lawrenceville LIVE! on the Square
April 8	Movies on the Lawn – Jurassic World
May 7	Comic Book Day
May 13	Movies on the Lawn – Back to the Future
May 27	Summer Concert Series – 7 Bridges Band (A Tribute to the Eagles)
June 3	Lawrenceville LIVE! on the Square
June 10	Movies on the Lawn – The Lego Movie
June 24	Summer Concert Series – The Return
July 1	Lawrenceville LIVE! on the Square
July 3	PRELUDE to the 4 th
July 8	Movies on the Lawn – An Affair to Remember
July 16	ArtsFest Gwinnett
July 29	Summer Concert Series – R&B, Inc.
August 5	Lawrenceville LIVE! on the Square
August 12	Movies on the Lawn – Grease
August 26	Summer Concert Series – Departure – The Journey Tribute Band
September 2	Lawrenceville LIVE! on the Square
September 10	Paws in the Park
September 17	Rock’n Ribville
September 30	Summer Concert Series – The Whiskey Gentry
October 28	Spooktacular on the Square
November 24	Annual Christmas Tree Lighting
December 10	Lawrenceville’s Hometown Christmas Parade

For more information about the City of Lawrenceville and City events, visit www.lawrencevillega.org.

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About the City of Lawrenceville

The City of Lawrenceville is the Capital City of Gwinnett, Metro Atlanta, with a population of just over 29,000 citizens and a youthful median age of 32. Lawrenceville works to preserve its heritage while pushing ahead to ensure excellence for the future. From state-of-the-art medical, educational and governmental facilities, to thriving business, cultural, and recreational opportunities, Lawrenceville serves as home and host to individuals and families who come here from around the globe.

Connect with us:

- **Facebook:** [City of Lawrenceville](#)
- **Instagram:** [City of Lawrenceville](#)
- **Twitter:** [@GaLawrenceville](#)
- **Web:** www.LawrencevilleGa.org

About the Aurora Theatre

Aurora Theatre, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and is a member of Theatre Communications Group, the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta Performs, C4 Atlanta, Latin American Chamber of Commerce, Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Georgia Commerce Club, Suwanee Business Alliance and Duluth Merchants Association.