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Beck Center For The Arts Announces The Crowd Pleaser, Something Rotten!

Lakewood, **OH**–<u>Beck Center for the Arts</u> is pleased to announce the hilarious musical comedy that brings Shakespeare to vibrant life, **Something Rotten!**

Now in his thirty-third season, Beck Center for the Arts' Artistic Director <u>Scott Spence</u> says, "Theater audiences are always asking...."Aren't there any ORIGINAL musicals anymore? At least some that are not based on movies?" Well, the answer is a resounding YES! **Something Rotten!** is that musical. A completely original idea that takes its cue from using common Shakespeare references and well-known characters (including the Bard himself), and wrapping it around the concept.... 'Where are all the musicals from 1590???' **Something Rotten!** answers this question and more while serving up huge laughs, great music and overthe-top dance numbers (dancing eggs anyone?)."

Something Rotten! was written by John O'Farrell, and Karey Kirkpatrick, with music and lyrics by Karey and Wayne Kirkpatrick. Direction by Scott Spence, Musical Direction by Larry Goodpaster, and Choreography by Martín Céspedes. This production takes place July 8 – August 7, 2022, in the Senney Theater. Additional performances include Thursday July 28 & August 4, 2022. Cast includes Eric Fancher, Ian Stewart, Theresa Kloos* (member of Actors' Equity Assoc), Eileen Brady, Matthew Wright* (member of Actors' Equity Assoc), Scott Sumerak, Brian Altman, John Polk, Tim Tavcar, Trey Milcowitz, and more talented local actors.

Set in 1595, the story of two brothers, who just happen to be the nemeses of a little-known Mr. William Shakespeare, are desperate to write a hit play. A local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre will involve singing, dancing, **AND** acting, *all at the same time*! The brothers then decide to write a (wait for it) MUSICAL! The world's **very first** musical!

Individual tickets may be purchased at <u>beckcenter.org</u> with ticket prices from \$34 (adults), \$30 (for seniors 65 and older), and \$12 for students with valid ID. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Curtain times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Preview performances are 7:30 p.m. the Thursday before opening night, with general admission seating for \$10. \$10 Smart Seats® are available for each performance. For more information on the 2021-22 Professional Theater Season please visit beckcenter.org.

Critics say of this production: "Broadway's big, fat hit!"-- New York Post. "The Producers, Spamalot, and The Book of Mormon. Squared!"-- New York Times

Produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All performances are at theaters inside <u>Beck Center for the Arts</u> located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available. For more information visit <u>beckcenter.org</u>.

Beck Center for the Arts is proud to be a part of Northeast Ohio's professional theater landscape, operating under a letter of agreement with Actors' Equity Association. We are a Small Professional Theater (SPT) based on the number of seats, number of our performances, and the maximum weekly hours of work we provide to actors. We produce every show on our stages, by choosing the play, casting and rehearsing it, building the sets, props, and costumes, directing and performing the live music, and designing lights and sound. We proudly utilize regional resources and talent.

Beck Center for the Arts also offers arts education for all ages, all skill levels, and all abilities with classes and lessons in music, dance, visual arts, and theater, as well as creative arts therapies. <u>Financial assistance</u> is offered for qualified applicants so that these programs can be enjoyed by all.

Programming at Beck Center for the Arts is made possible through the generous support of the Ohio Arts Council. Beck Center gratefully acknowledges the generous funding provided by the citizens of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming in dance, music, theater, visual arts, early childhood, and creative arts therapies for individuals with disabilities, free gallery exhibits year-round, and outreach education programming.

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