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NEWS RELEASE

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Take a Trip Under the Sea this Holiday Season with Disney's *The Little Mermaid* *Beck Center presents the classic tale December 2 - 31*

Lakewood, OH—Beck Center for the Arts presents Disney's *The Little Mermaid* December 2 – 31, 2016 in the Mackey Theater. Evening performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday (12/28), Thursdays (12/15, 12/22, 12/29), Fridays, and Saturdays (12/10, 12/17). Matinee performances at 2:30 p.m. are Saturdays and Sundays. There are no performances on Saturday, December 24 and Sunday, December 25. Tickets are on sale now. Buy early and save with promo code: **ARIEL** to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by December 1.

Based on the classic fairy tale and film, *The Little Mermaid* begins under the sea where Princess Ariel is fascinated by the forbidden land above. After saving Eric from stormy waters, she begins to discover her love for the human prince. In an effort to be with him, Ariel makes a deal with a sea witch and trades her voice for temporary life on land. This dangerous sacrifice ultimately leads to an epic battle of good and evil that only love can remedy. *The Little Mermaid* was nominated for two Tony® Awards including Best Original Score and the Grammy® Award for Best Musical Show Album.

"Beck Center is thrilled to present our third holiday Disney musical following amazing productions of *Beauty and the Beast* and *Mary Poppins*," said Director **Scott Spence**. "Disney's *The Little Mermaid* captures the heart of the animated original, while adding zest and crackling energy in the live stage version. Classic songs like 'Part of Your World' and 'Poor Unfortunate Souls' are all there, along with new and wonderfully inventive numbers from **Alan Menken**. Come be part of our world for the holidays at Beck Center!"

Under the musical direction of **Larry Goodpaster** with choreography by **Martín Céspedes**, the cast features **Kathleen Rooney** as Ariel. Kathleen, an Ohio native, is best known for her role as Mallory Kingsley in *City of Angels* opposite several of her Broadway idols and most recently performed as Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* during Disney's Hong Kong tour of the production. Natalie Blalock and Darryl Lewis appear alongside Rooney courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.

Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 for seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, December 1 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI), and is sponsored by Cox Communications, Inc, Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, and the Ohio Arts Council.

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 special needs, outreach education programming, and gallery exhibits featuring local, regional, and international artists.

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