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## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** November 9, 2017

### **The Magic of Disney's *The Little Mermaid* Returns to Beck Center this Holiday Season** *Come be part of our world December 1 - 31*

**Lakewood, OH**—Join us under the sea again for Beck Center's critically acclaimed production of *The Little Mermaid*. Last year, this production was winner of Cleveland Critics Circle 2016 Theater Awards for Best Musical Direction, Best Projection Design, and the Rising Star Award, and recognized for Best Musical Production, Best Lighting Design, and Best Choreographer.

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. Watch as she saves a human prince, loses her voice to a sea witch, and ultimately fights to gain it back. *The Little Mermaid* was nominated for two Tony® Awards including Best Original Score and the Grammy® Award for Best Musical Show Album repeating the success of the original animated film.

"We are thrilled that Beck's long-standing tradition of a holiday show encore will continue this season with a second helping of *The Little Mermaid*," said Director **Scott Spence**. "The time honored Hans Christian Anderson tale was brought to wondrous aquatic life by the good people at Disney, and they certainly know how to turn out joyous musical theatre."

Returning this year are NYC's **Kathleen Rooney** as Ariel, best known for her role in Paper Mill Playhouse's *City of Angels*, and **Natalie Blalock** from Broadway's *The Scarlett Pimpernel* and Television's *Strangers with Candy*. Local favorites **Darryl Lewis** and **Shane O'Neill** also return as King Triton and Prince Eric. Blalock, Lewis, and Rooney appear courtesy of Actors' Equity Association. Under the musical direction of **Larry Goodpaster** with choreography by **Martín Céspedes**, projection design by **Adam Zeek**, and spectacular costumes by Music Theatre Wichita, this year's production promises to delight.

*The Little Mermaid* runs December 1 – 31, 2017 in the Mackey Theater. Evening performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and matinee performances at 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. An additional evening performance will take place Saturday, December 9. There is no performance on Sunday, December 24. Tickets are on sale now. Buy early and save with promo code: **ARIEL** to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by Nov 30.

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 is applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, November 30 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at [beckcenter.org](http://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 generously sponsored by 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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