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NEWS RELEASE

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Beck Center Brings Smiles to the Stage with Annie

The classic Broadway musical closes Beck's Youth Theater 2017-2018 season May 11–20

Lakewood, OH—Beck Center Youth Theater presents the final production of their 2017–2018 season, *Annie*, **May 11–20, 2018** in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. TA special student matinee will take place at 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 17. Tickets are now on sale by calling 216.521.2540 x10 or visiting beckcenter.org

With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. She is determined to find her parents who left her on the doorstep of an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil plans... and befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. She finds a new home and family in billionaire, Oliver Warbucks, and a lovable mutt named Sandy. Based on *Little Orphan Annie*, this popular musical includes song favorites such as "It's the Hard Knock Life" and "Tomorrow."

With a cast of 55 Beck Center students ages 7 to 19, this family-friendly production is directed by **Jonathan Kronenberger**, Associate Director of Theater Education. "In the over 40 years since the musical *Annie* has been around, this is the first time our Youth Theater has presented the show!" remarked Kronenberger. "So it is a lot of fun to experience the students enjoying, as well as learning from, this perfect and timeless theater classic." This production is musically directed by **Heidi Herczeg** and choreographed by **Katie Zarecki**.

Tickets are \$12 for Adults/Seniors and \$10 for Children (18 and under), and may be purchased online at beckcenter.org or by calling 216.521.2540 x10. Discounted group rates are available and can be scheduled by calling Customer Service Manager Rennie Tisdale at 216.521.2450 x28.

Beck Center is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free onsite parking is available. This production of *Annie* is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). The 2017–2018 Youth Theater season is presented by the **Mort and Iris November Philanthropic Fund**, and is made possible by the support of 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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