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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KRAVIS CENTER KICKS OFF 25TH SEASON WITH “COMMUNITY SALUTE” FOR THE PUBLIC ON OCT. 1ST

Day-long community event includes free admission, special prize drawings, backstage tours and a variety of entertainment

(WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.) – It’s time to roll out the red carpet and strike up the bands! To kick off the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts’ upcoming 25th anniversary season, the public is invited to a day-long “Community Salute” on Saturday, October 1, 2016, as a thank you to those in the region. The event includes free admission, ticket giveaways, prize drawings, backstage tours and a variety of entertainment (listed below) throughout the day and night. The event will also feature Public Ticket Sale Day, where seats for most 2016 – 2017 season presentations will be offered for the first time to the general public.

Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. with lite bites, mimosas and coffee in the Dreyfoos Hall lobby, with special appearances by local media and live performances taking place in the Kravis Center’s many venues all day long until the final curtain goes down late at night.

“The Community Salute is an extravaganza of community talent, featuring song, dance, performing arts and colorful productions,” reported Kravis Center Chief Executive Officer Judith Mitchell. “We warmly invite everyone in the community to join us on October 1st as we thank them for their ongoing support and kick off our 25th season of spectacular performances.”

Today, the Kravis Center is a thriving cultural complex, serving as the gateway to downtown West Palm Beach. According to Ms. Mitchell, the Center is grateful to those in the community who had the vision to create and sustain the premier performing arts center, which now enjoys a renowned national and international reputation.

“While we celebrate our silver anniversary, we renew our commitment to the community to present the gold standard of excellence in the performing arts,” Ms. Mitchell continued. “On behalf of the Kravis Center Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, I extend appreciation and praise for the many city, county, state and cultural leaders who have encouraged the Center’s growth since the Grand Opening Gala on November 28, 1992. Our performing arts center has become a true economic catalyst that boosts travel and tourism and has led to Palm Beach County being designated by the state of Florida as Florida’s Cultural Capital.”

Starting at 9 a.m. during the Community Salute, the public will be able to purchase tickets for most 2016-2017 Kravis Center season presentations. Guests may order their tickets at the Kravis Center’s official website at kravis.org, by phone at 561-832-7469 or 800-572-8471 or in person on October 1st.

Kravis Center donors have the privilege of ordering tickets in advance of October 1st. Priority seating is provided to donors according to their level of giving and by the date orders are received within each donor level. Membership begins at \$100. For more information about becoming a donor, please call 561-651-4320 or visit www.kravis.org/membership.

Fans and friends of the Kravis Center should plan to stay tuned on the Kravis Center's social channels throughout the 2016 – 2017 season for fun updates and surprises, including trivia contests, ticket giveaways and more. For more information about the Community Salute, or the Kravis Center's 25th anniversary season, please visit kravis.org or call 561-832-7469. Follow the Kravis Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The Kravis Center is a not-for-profit performing arts center whose mission is to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County by presenting a diverse schedule of national and international artists and companies of the highest quality; by offering comprehensive arts education programs; by providing a Palm Beach County home in which local and regional arts organizations can showcase their work; and by providing an economic catalyst and community leadership in West Palm Beach, supporting efforts to increase travel and tourism to Palm Beach County. The Kravis Center is located at 701 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm Beach, FL. For more information, please call 561-832-7469 or visit the official website at kravis.org.

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*** “COMMUNITY SALUTE” SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

- ***Dreyfoos Hall Lobby*** (An appearance and welcome by: Jill and Rich – The Morning Lounge, Legends Radio)
+ 8 am to 11:30 am
Attendees will enjoy breakfast treats, ticket giveaways, prize drawings and more.

+ 8 am to Noon
Backstage Sneak Peak

+ 9 am to 11 am
Alexander W. Dreyfoos
The Man Behind The Mission & The Lens Kravis Center's Founding Board Chairman Book Signing.
- ***Kravis Center Box Office***
+ 9 am
Tickets go on public sale for the Kravis Center's 25th Anniversary Season.
- ***Outdoor Gosman Amphitheatre*** (An appearance and welcome by: Bill Adams from Sunny 107.9)
Enjoy activities by the South Florida Science Center, Palm Beach Library System, CityPlace, face painters and more.
+ 10 am to 11 am

Justin Roberts Trio

(Family Fare)

Praised for his ability to see life through a child's eyes, from the bliss of summer break to the challenge of moving to a new town, former indie rocker Justin Roberts is beloved by parents and critics alike. Accompanied by two of the members of his all-star band, The Not Ready for Naptime Players, Roberts serves up smart, fun and robust fare, including family favorites from his Grammy-nominated album, *Recess*.

Sponsored by The Stiller Family Foundation

+ 11:15 am to Noon

Ascension 33 Dance Studio

Belle Glade Troupe displays ballet, hip-hop and contemporary moves.

+ 12:15 pm to 1 pm

The Ebony Chorale of the Palm Beaches

More than 20 years performing traditional African-American spirituals.

- ***Rinker Playhouse* (An appearance and welcome by: Joyce Kaufman from 850 WFTL talk radio)**

+ 2 pm to 2:30 pm

Paris Ballet

Ethereal beauty: Jupiter students show classical techniques in *Etudes*.

+ 2:45 pm to 3:15 pm

MNM Productions

Must-see highlights from a South Florida theater company's hit shows.

+ 3:30 pm to 4 pm

The Dancers' Space

The Dancers' Space will share entertaining, inspiring and thought-provoking works of modern dance from their repertory over the past three seasons.

+ 4:15 pm to 4:45 pm

Take Heed Theater Company

A fully improvised comedy play based solely on audience input.

+ 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Sean's Dance Factory

West Palm Beach studio takes high-energy hip-hop to new heights.

- ***The Picower Foundation Arts Education Center***

+ 5 pm to 7 pm

25th Anniversary Community Salute

Student Performance Showcase

Local students sing, dance, play instruments, perform improvisation and recite poetry simultaneously in 30-minute blocks in the Helen K. Persson Hall, the Khoury Family Dance Rehearsal Hall and the Crown Lecture Hall so that guests may move from one venue to the next to see different arts genres.

- ***The Golden Walkway***
+ 5:15 pm to 5:45 pm
Junkanoo Sensation
Bahamian parade of drums, cowbells, horns and costumes.

- ***Alexander W. Dreyfoos, Jr. Concert Hall*** (An appearance and welcome by: Mo & Sally from KOOL 105.5)
+ 7 pm to 7:45 pm
Symphonic Band of the Palm Beaches
Toe-tapping local talent from classical and jazz to marches and Broadway.

- + 8 pm to 8:45 pm**
Ballet Palm Beach
Raising the barre. A Mixed bill of alluring pieces from the acclaimed company.

- + 9 pm to 9:45 pm**
Young Singers of the Palm Beaches
Charming, dedicated 350-member children's choir inspires and delights.

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****All programs, artists and times are subject to change.***