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KRAVIS CENTER'S 25th ANNIVERSARY GALA KICKOFF AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE AND BEAUTY

Guests treated to special reception with Monique Lhuillier runway fashion show at Neiman Marcus

(PALM BEACH, Fla.) Monique Lhuillier's floral-inspired patterns and elegant style and Neiman Marcus Palm Beach's iconic butterflies made for a festive spring-themed backdrop for the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts' Gala kickoff on Wednesday, January 18th. The private reception was held in honor of Gala Chairs, committee members, sponsors and supporters, and was highlighted with a special formal runway presentation. The Kravis Center's 25th Anniversary Gala is on Saturday, February 11th, and will feature a highly-anticipated "Night of Stars" performance for the milestone celebration.

"Our sincerest thanks to Beth Pine, Vice President and General Manager of Neiman Marcus Palm Beach, for being our exclusive fashion sponsor – and for allowing our supporters to be the first charity partner to see Monique Lhuillier's Spring 2017 collection," said Kravis Center CEO Judy Mitchell while welcoming guests. "Tonight is a celebration of our Gala supporters, and I would like to give special thanks to our leadership – Gala Chairs Monika Preston and Kathryn Vecellio, and Honorary Chairs Alex Dreyfoos, Bill Meyer and Jane Mitchell, our past Board Chairs. Thank you to the Gala Committee and our sponsors for all of your efforts to ensure that the 2017 benefit will be a wonderful success. In addition, I want to thank our current Board Chairman Michael Bracci, for his leadership and support."

Ms. Mitchell continued by noting that the Gala is an evening not to be missed, featuring a red carpet cocktail reception welcome, spectacular performances and an elegant dinner dance. She also noted that while the Gala is sold out, there are still a limited number of seats available for the performance.

She then introduced Beth Pine who personally welcomed Kravis supporters and then presented the spectacular runway show. Guests were treated to cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a fragrant Monique Lhuillier candle as a memento of the evening.

The 25th Anniversary Season Gala "Night of Stars," an elegant black-tie event, will begin with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m., followed by a star-studded extravaganza hosted by master showman Michael Feinstein in Dreyfoos Hall. Legendary artists appearing will include actor Alan Cumming; vocalists Darren Criss, Denyce Graves and Storm Large; singer/composer Neil Sedaka; organist Cameron Carpenter; plus movement artists Lil Buck and Jon Boogz; Greg Schreiner's *Hollywood Revisited*; Kravis Center Pops Orchestra, Director Robert Pullen, Conductor Sam Kriger, and more. This spectacular evening will continue with dinner and dancing in the Gimelstob Ballroom, located in the Cohen Pavilion.

Gala sponsors include Sondra and David S. Mack, Stephen Brown and Jamie Stern, Lori and Bruce Gendelman, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Henni and John Kessler, Dorothy and Sidney Kohl, Jane M. Mitchell, Monika and John Preston, SBA Communications Corporation, Susan and Dom Telesco, Kathryn and Leo Vecellio; The Breakers Palm Beach, Neiman Marcus Palm Beach, Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein;

Dr. Nettie Birnbach, The Miriam and Alec Flamm Charitable Fund, Ingrid and David Kosowsky; Tom and Sherry Barrat, Braman Motorcars, Sherry and Ken Endelson, Diane and Bruce Halle, Harless & Associates, Jack and Goldie Wolfe Miller Fund, Bonnie and Steven Stern, and Lois Silverman Yashar and Dr. James Yashar. Special support will be provided by Tiffany & Co., with media support by *Palm Beach Illustrated*.

This season, as the Center celebrates its silver anniversary, it renews its commitment to the community to present the gold standard of excellence in the performing arts.

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 for local and regional arts organizations to 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.

Fans and friends of the Kravis Center should stay tuned on the Kravis Center's social channels throughout the 25th anniversary season for fun updates and surprises, including trivia contests, ticket giveaways and more. The Kravis Center is located at 701 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm Beach, FL.

For more information about the Gala please visit kravis.org/gala or call 561.651.4320. To purchase tickets for the "Night of Stars" performance call the Box Office at 561.832.7469 or visit kravis.org. Follow the Kravis Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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