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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Geva Theatre Center presents ***THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES***

This musical trip down memory lane begins on December 8.

Rochester, N.Y., November 21, 2016 – Geva Theatre Center presents *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, an award-winning, musical trip down memory lane. Written and created by **Roger Bean** with musical arrangements by **Brian William Barker**, orchestrations by **Michael Borth** and vocal arrangements by **Roger Bean** and **Brian William Barker**, *The Marvelous Wonderettes* is directed by **Melissa Rain Anderson** with musical direction by **Don Kot**. *The Marvelous Wonderettes* will be performed in the Fielding Stage from **December 8 to December 24**.

Welcome to the 1958 Springfield High School prom! Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy and Suzy are the “Springfield Songleaders” – four girls with big voices, big skirts and big dreams. Fast forward a decade and they reunite to take the stage for their 10-year reunion. With over 30 classic hits from the 50s and 60s, *Marvelous Wonderettes* is a musical trip down memory lane.

The Marvelous Wonderettes pays homage to the Songleader Squads of the 50s and 60s. In 1998 Roger Bean, fresh off a successful run of his first musical, *Don’t Touch That Dial* at Milwaukee Rep, was commissioned to create a musical for that theatre’s black box space. Originally created as a one-act musical, *The Marvelous Wonderettes* was quickly developed into a full, two-act musical. *The Marvelous Wonderettes* has been produced at theatres around the country including a two-year run at the El Portal Theatre in Los Angeles where it garnered Ovation Award nominations and awards, including the 2007 award for Best Musical. In 2008 it opened Off-Broadway at the Westside Theatre in New York City where it ran until 2010. The original Off-Broadway cast recording was released in 2008. The success of the original *The Marvelous Wonderettes* has produced three sequels, *The Marvelous Wonderettes: Winter Wonderettes*; *The Marvelous Wonderettes: Caps and Gowns* and *The Marvelous Wonderettes: Dream On*.

Geva’s production of *The Marvelous Wonderettes* features **Audra Cramer** as Missy, **Rachael Logue** as Cindy Lou, **Christina Stroup** as Betty Jean and **Ally Young Price** as Suzy.

Geva Theatre Center is the most attended regional theatre in New York State, and one of the 25 most subscribed in the country, serving up to 160,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students.

The 522-seat Elaine P. Wilson Stage is home to a wide variety of performances, from musicals to American and world classics. The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Stage is home to Geva's own series of contemporary drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva Comedy Improv; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornets' Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. In addition, the Fielding Stage hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995, the organization has been under the artistic direction of Mark Cuddy.

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