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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GEVA THEATRE CENTER HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING, BOARD ELECTS FIVE NEW TRUSTEES

Rochester, NY. July 13, 2017 – **Ted Boucher**, Chair of the Board of Trustees for Geva Theatre Center, **Mark Cuddy**, Artistic Director and Co-CEO and **Christopher Mannelli**, Executive Director and Co-CEO, have announced board transitions for Geva, which were voted on at the organization’s Annual Meeting on June 28, 2017.

Officers of the Board of Trustees for 2017-2018 are **Ted Boucher**, Chair; **Kelly Shea**, Treasurer; **Stephanie Caffera**, Secretary; and **Maggie Symington**, **Theresa Conroy**, **Josh Stubbe**, **Joanna Grosodonia** (Immediate Past Chair) and **Faheem Masood** as Vice-Presidents.

Renewing their three-year terms as Trustees are **Peggy Boucher** (Community Volunteer), **Barbara Bruning** (retired, Weight Watchers Leader and Service Education Software Consultant), **Faheem Masood** (President and COO, ESL Federal Credit Union) and **Jean Gordon Ryon** (Community Volunteer), **Josh Stubbe** (Special Assistant Public Defender, Monroe County Public Defender’s Office) and **Maggie Symington** (retired, MetLife).

Elected as New Trustees are **Dr. Edie Bieber** (Dr. of Obstetrics/Gynecology); **Gloria Culver** (Dean of the University of Rochester’s School of Arts & Sciences); **Mary Anne Fox** (retired, Executive Director, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation); **Barbara LaVerdi** (Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Assistant Secretary, Constellation Brands, Inc.); and **Matt Squires** (Vice President, Manning Squires Hennig Co.).

Outgoing trustees **Dawn Lipson** and **Malcolm Spaul**, who reached the end of their nine-year terms, were recognized for their extraordinary generosity of time and resources to Geva Theatre Center.

In his annual “State of the Art” address at the Annual Meeting, **Mark Cuddy** commented, “You know, people always ask me how I define Excellence for Geva, given that we are in a smaller market than a lot of our colleagues across the country. I answer that excellence comes from what we can control in Rochester: how great our staff is, how great our facility is, and how great we can make the relationship between our audience

and our art. We will never be the biggest regional theatre with the biggest budget, but we can provide the best experience for our artists and audiences.”

Geva enjoyed a very successful 2016-2017 season, culminating with *Million Dollar Quartet* - the most successful musical ever produced by Geva, seen by over 21,500 people. As comparable theatres around the country see a noticeable decrease in subscription numbers, Geva sees continuous growth in that area and now boasts approximately 11,000 subscribers. Subscriptions are selling briskly for the upcoming 45th Season. The organization’s fiscal year ends July 31, and audited financial results for the 2016-2017 Season will be available in November.

**For further information or photographs, please contact:
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GEVA THEATRE CENTER

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre Center is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing professional theatre productions, programs and services of a national standard. As Rochester’s leading professional theatre, 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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