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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Don't miss the historic reading of  
*HAMILTON*  
by Mary P. Hamlin & George Arliss**

**September 11, 2017, Rochester, N.Y.** In celebration of Geva's production of Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*, on **Monday, September 25 at 7pm**, Geva will present a one-night only reading of **Broadway's first *Hamilton***, penned 100 years ago by West Bloomfield native Mary P. Hamlin and star of stage and screen George Arliss. The reading will feature *In the Heights* cast members and is underwritten by Mary Hamlin's grandson, George Hamlin IV, Chairman of Canandaigua National Bank and Trust and his wife, Mary.

**Torn from the pages of our history books, *Hamilton* tells the story of a country struggling to define itself in its newly won independence. War hero Alexander Hamilton has a plan to create a strong centralized government, but he's opposed by powerful, popular men who will stop at nothing to destroy him, and they'd be happy to destroy the Washington administration at the same time. Who will win this battle of wills, waged long before the rules of engagement in American politics have even been considered?**

*Hamilton* had its Broadway premiere at the Knickerbocker Theatre on September 17, 1917 and ran for two months. It received positive reviews including this from the *New York Post*: "Congratulations are due to Mary Hamlin and George Arliss upon the cordial public reception accorded to their play *Hamilton*, upon the occasion of its first production in this city ... The piece is a welcome and, in some respects, notable addition to the small body of genuine American drama. ... it is a real play with real men and women in it, containing an appeal not only to popular taste, but to the attention of the intelligent theatergoer." *Hamilton* was made into a Warner Brothers film in 1931 starring Arliss in the title role.

**Tickets for this very special event are free but there is a deposit (refundable) of \$10 for every ticket ordered.**

**To reserve tickets, patrons may call the box office at  
(585) 232-4382.**

Due to the popularity of this event, patrons are limited to 2 tickets.

### 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.

**\*ENDS\***