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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Back by Popular Demand for a Limited Run! Geva Theatre Center reprises last season's sold out hit, ***MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET***

Rochester, N.Y., May 30, 2017 – As last season's closer, Geva Theatre Center's production of ***Million Dollar Quartet*** was a complete sell-out and was extended for an additional week. By popular demand, the show is back for a limited run, special production in the Elaine P. Wilson Stage from **June 14 to July 8**. With a book by **Floyd Mutrux** and **Colin Escott**, based on an original concept by **Floyd Mutrux** and inspired by the music of **Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis** and **Carl Perkins**, *Million Dollar Quartet* is directed by **Hunter Foster**.

On **December 4, 1956**, four young musicians got together at **Sun Records** in **Memphis** for what would become one of the greatest jam sessions ever. Put on your blue suede shoes and join **Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash** and **Carl Perkins** for the recording session of a lifetime. Loaded with classic rock 'n roll hits such as "Great Balls of Fire," "Sixteen Tons," "I Walk the Line," "Hound Dog" and many more.

Created by film producer, writer and screenwriter **Floyd Mutrux**, with a book by **Mutrux** and rock 'n' roll historian **Colin Escott**, the worldwide phenomenon that is *Million Dollar Quartet* premiered at Florida Seaside Music Theatre in 2006. Following productions at the Village Theatre in Washington State and a limited run at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago, it transferred to Chicago's Apollo Theatre 2008. It celebrated its 2500th performance there in September 2014. The show closed on January 2016 and is ranked as the third-longest running show, in terms of calendar span, in Chicago Theatre history. In 2010 it opened at Broadway's Nederlander Theatre where it ran for over a year and was nominated for three Tony Awards including Best Musical and Best Book of a Musical. The Off-Broadway production opened in 2012 and ran for a year at New World Stages. The West End production of *Million Dollar Quartet* opened in February 2011 and ran at the Noel Coward Theatre for nearly a year. The show has toured the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the UK. "Sun Records," an eight-part TV series based on *Million Dollar Quartet*, aired on CMT/Viacom in February and April of 2017.

Returning to the roles which they created on the Geva stage last season are **Taylor Gray** (National Tour of *Million Dollar Quartet*) as **Jerry Lee Lewis**; **James Ludwig** (Original Broadway cast of *Monty Python's Spamalot*)

and *Little Shop of Horrors*) as Sam Phillips; **Trent Rowland** (*Million Dollar Quartet* at Casa Mañana and the feature film *Carol* with Cate Blanchett) as Elvis Presley and **Aaron Staebell** (Geva productions of *In the Heights*, *Little Shop of Horrors*) as Fluke. Making their Geva Theatre Center debuts are **Chris Damiano** (Chicago, Gateway Theatre and Casa Manana productions of *Million Dollar Quartet*) as Johnny Cash; **Sarah Ellis** (1st National Tour of *A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder*) as Dyanne; and **Sam Sherwood** (*New York Productions of Woody Sez* at Irish Repertory Theatre and *Fancy: A Country Musical*) as Carl Perkins. **James David Larson**, last seen in Geva's production of *The Other Josh Cohen*, will appear as Brother Jay.

Hunter Foster returns to Geva to direct this production. In addition to last season's *Million Dollar Quartet*, he also directed *The Other Josh Cohen* earlier this season. He is an Artistic Associate at the Bucks County Playhouse where he has directed *Company*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *The Buddy Holly Story*, *National Pastime*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (2013, 2014 and 2016), *Summer of '42*, *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Clue on Stage*. Other directing credits include *Cabaret*, *My Fair Lady* (Cape Playhouse), *Grease* (North Carolina Theatre), *Monty Python's Spamalot* (Casa Mañana) and he has directed productions of *Million Dollar Quartet* for the Ogunquit Playhouse, Gateway Playhouse and the Westchester Broadway Theatre. As an actor, Mr. Foster has appeared in Geva productions of *Monty Python's Spamalot* and *Sylvia* and is a Tony Award nominee for his performance in the revival of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Other Broadway credits include Sam Phillips in the original cast of *Million Dollar Quartet*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Hands on a Hardbody*, *The Producers*, *Urinetown*, *Les Misérables*, *Footloose* and many more.

The design team includes **Adam Koch** (scenic design), **Casey McNamara** (costume design), **Kirk Bookman** (lighting design) and **Ian Hildreth** (sound design). Music Directors are **John Michael Presney** and **Chris Damiano**.

Million Dollar Quartet is produced with support from Associate Producer **O'Connell Electric Company**; and Media Sponsor **News10NBC**.

***Million Dollar Quartet* begins performances on June 14 and runs in the Wilson Stage through July 8.**

For more photos, or to arrange interviews, please contact Dawn Kellogg, Communications Manager, (585) 420-2059 or email: dkellogg@gevatheatre.org.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

PREVIEWS: Thursday, June 14 @ 7:30pm
Friday, June 15 @ 8pm
Saturday, June 16 @ 2pm (Open Captioned Performance)

OPENING NIGHT: Saturday, June 16 @ 8pm

PERFORMANCES: Sunday, June 17 @ 2pm & 7pm
Tuesday, June 19 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday, June 20 @ 7:30pm
Thursday, June 21 @ 7:30pm
Friday, June 22 @ 8pm
Saturday, June 23 @ 3pm & 8:00pm
Sunday, June 24 @ 2pm & 7pm
Tuesday, June 26 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday, June 27 @ 7:30pm
Thursday, June 28 @ 7:30pm
Friday, June 29 @ 8pm
Saturday, June 30 @ 3pm & 8:00pm
Sunday, July 1 @ 2pm (Audio Described performance) & 7pm (Opened Captioned Perf)
Tuesday, July 3 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday, July 4 @ 2pm
Thursday, July 5 @ 7:30pm (ASL Interpreted Performance)
Friday, July 6 @ 8pm
Saturday, July 7 @ 3pm & 8:00pm
Sunday, July 8 @ 2pm and 7pm

TICKET PRICES: Start at \$34

RESERVATIONS: (585) 232 GEVA (4382), Website: www.gevatheatre.org

LOCATION: Geva Theatre Center, 75 Woodbury Blvd, Rochester, NY 14607

*Open captioning is provided with support from Hearing Loss Association of America – Rochester Chapter.

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 516-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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