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For Immediate Release



THE WAIT IS OVER!

**Broadway's Award-Winning Best Musical to Play
Robinson Performance Hall
Spring 2018**

(Little Rock, AR) (9/4/2016) Pride Rock comes to Little Rock! Celebrity Attractions is thrilled to announce the Arkansas premiere of **Disney's THE LION KING** at Robinson Performance Hall as part of **Celebrity Attractions' 2017-2018 Broadway Season**.

*"The Robinson renovation continues to pay dividends and increase the entertainment offerings in Central Arkansas, as evidenced by **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** anchoring the initial season, and now **THE LION KING** booked for our second season" states Gretchen Hall, President & CEO of the Little Rock Convention and Visitors' Bureau.*

Ed Payton, Celebrity Attractions' CEO adds *"**THE LION KING** is one of the biggest shows on Broadway. There is nothing else like it on the planet and we know Arkansans will be amazed by this landmark production!"*

The best way to secure your seats now to **Disney's THE LION KING** is to subscribe to Celebrity Attractions' 2016-2017 Season. Season Subscriber benefits include many advantages: the best seats at the lowest prices, the same great seats for every show, the ability to buy additional tickets to individual shows before the public, the option to exchange show tickets to another performance before the public on sale, and the opportunity to purchase tickets to any special add-on productions.

ABOUT THE LION KING

In its 19th year, **THE LION KING** continues ascendant as one of the most popular stage musicals in the world. Since its Broadway premiere on November 13, 1997, 23 global productions have been seen by

running 10 or more years. Translated into eight different languages (Japanese, German, Korean, French, Dutch, Spanish, Mandarin and Portuguese), productions of **THE LION KING** can currently be seen on Broadway; London's West End; Hamburg; Tokyo; Madrid; Mexico City; Shanghai and on tour across North America, for a total of eight productions running concurrently across the globe. Having played over 100 cities in 20 countries on every continent except Antarctica, **THE LION KING's** worldwide gross exceeds that of any film, Broadway show or other entertainment title in box office history.

THE LION KING won six 1998 Tony® Awards: Best Musical, Best Scenic Design (Richard Hudson), Best Costume Design (Julie Taymor), Best Lighting Design (Donald Holder), Best Choreography (Garth Fagan) and Best Direction of a Musical. **THE LION KING** has also earned more than 70 major arts awards including the 1998 NY Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, the 1999 Grammy® for Best Musical Show Album, the 1999 Evening Standard Award for Theatrical Event of the Year and the 1999 Laurence Olivier Awards for Best Choreography and Best Costume Design.

The show's director, costume designer and mask co-designer Julie Taymor continues to play an integral part in the show's ongoing success. The first woman to win a Tony Award for Direction of a Musical, Taymor has in recent years supervised new productions of the show around the world.

The Broadway score features Elton John and Tim Rice's music from *The Lion King* animated film along with three new songs by John and Rice; additional musical material by South African Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, Julie Taymor and Hans Zimmer; and music from "Rhythm of the Pride Lands," an album inspired by the original music in the film, written by Lebo M, Mark Mancina and Hans Zimmer. The resulting sound of **THE LION KING** is a fusion of Western popular music and the distinctive sounds and rhythms of Africa, ranging from the Academy Award®-winning song "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" to the haunting ballad "Shadowland."

The book has been adapted by Roger Allers, who co-directed *The Lion King* animated feature, and Irene Mecchi, who co-wrote the film's screenplay. Other members of the creative team include: Michael Curry, who designed the masks and puppets with Taymor, Steve Canyon Kennedy (sound design), Michael Ward (hair and makeup design), John Stefaniuk (associate director), Marey Griffith (associate choreographer), Clement Ishmael (music supervisor) and Doc Zorthian (production supervisor). Anne Quart serves as associate producer.

The Arkansas engagement of **Disney's THE LION KING** is presented by arrangement with Celebrity Attractions and is a subscription offering of **Celebrity Attractions' 2017-2018 Broadway Season**. **Celebrity Attractions' 2016-2017 Season** at Robinson Performance Hall features **ELF The Musical, Rodgers & Hammerstein's CINDERELLA, THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** and **RIVERDANCE-The 20th Anniversary World Tour**. Season tickets for the 2016-2017 are now on sale and are priced from \$114-\$345.

We are happy to have KATV and The Doubletree Hotel as sponsors of our 2016-17 Broadway Season. To learn more about becoming a Season Subscriber, or for more information on group tickets, visit www.CelebrityAttractions.com, call 501.244.8800 or visit the box office located at 300 S. Spring Street. Season tickets for the 2017-2018 Season will be available in Spring 2017 and individual tickets for **THE LION KING** will go on sale later that year. For more information on the production, visit www.CelebrityAttractions.com or LionKing.com.

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