

NEWS RELEASE

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ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY WILL PUT TUCSON RUN OF THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA McBRIDE ON HIATUS AFTER OPENING NIGHT

All Education Programming, Special Events in Tucson, Phoenix
Also Will Pause Until End of March

Arizona Theatre Company's Tucson run of *The Legend of Georgia McBride* will be put on hiatus after tonight's opening-night production at the Temple of Music & Art. All education programming and special events in Tucson and Phoenix also will pause until the end of the month when a determination will be made as to how best to proceed, said Artistic Director Sean Daniels and Managing Director Designee Geri Wright.

"We will continue to monitor federal, state and local health authorities for direction on the remaining shows in both Tucson and Phoenix," Wright said. "The well-being and safety of our community, audience and staff are most important to us. We feel at this critical moment we must do our part to help control the spread of the COVID-19 virus."

"This was not an easy decision," she said. "Regardless of the financial ramifications, it is the right thing to do at this time. Make no mistake, every arts organization in our position will suffer from the loss of income."

Wright encouraged season subscribers, ticket buyers, donors and friends to "Subscribe. Support. Contribute. We are all in this together."

Daniels said that "we hope to create digital recording of *The Legend of Georgia McBride* to be available to ticketed patrons at a later date" and asked ticket holders "to rally around us in our time of need and consider making a <u>contribution</u>, <u>donating</u> your tickets or transferring them to a future production."

"These are challenging times," Daniels said. "We will forever believe in the power of bringing people together to tell timeless stories, to make you laugh out loud or to provide those thought-provoking conversations. We will do that once again as soon as it is prudent."

For more information, visit www.arizonatheatre.org.

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About Arizona Theatre Company:

Under new leadership, and now celebrating its 53rd Season, Arizona Theatre Company is truly "The State Theatre." Our company boasts the largest subscriber base of any performing arts organization in Arizona, with more than 130,000 people each year attending performances at the historic Temple of Music and Art in Tucson, and the elegant Herberger Theater Center in downtown Phoenix.

Each season of high quality productions reflects the rich variety of world theatre – from classic to contemporary plays, from musicals to new works – audiences enjoy the rich emotional experience and joy that can only be captured through live theatre. ATC is the preeminent professional theatre in the state of Arizona. Under the direction of Artistic Director Sean Daniels, Managing Director Billy Russo, and Managing Director Designee, Geri Wright, ATC operates in two cities – unlike any other League of Resident Theaters (LORT) company in the country.

ATC shares the passion of the theatre through a wide array of outreach programs, educational opportunities, access initiatives, and community events. With more than 800 Education & Engagement activities through the schools and summer programs, ATC focuses on teaching Arizona's youth about the creative power of dramatic literature and how it can enrich their own lives in multiple ways

ATC reaches far beyond the metropolitan areas of Tucson and Phoenix, enriching the theatre learning experience for current and future audiences.