

PRESS RELEASE

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Grand Rapids Civic Theatre Reveals 2018/19 Surprise Musical

Public Tickets on Sale August 22, 2018 Season Subscriptions on Sale NOW!

Based on the songs of ABBA,

Composed by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus and Book by Catherine Johnson

When Grand Rapids Civic Theatre unveiled their lineup for the upcoming 2018/2019 season, there was a notable absence in the ensemble. One of their shows was deemed a "surprise musical" due to the production's licensing agreement with Civic Theatre. Several suspenseful months later, our guessing games can, at last, be put to rest...

Grand Rapids Civic Theatre proudly invites you to save the date for *Mamma Mia!*, coming February 23, 2019!

Over 54 million people all around the world have fallen in in love with the characters, the story and the music that make *Mamma Mia!* the ultimate feel-good show! A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you'll never forget!

Featuring Abba favorites, like *Dancing Queen, Knowing Me, Knowing You, Take a Chance On Me*, and the title hit, *Mamma Mia*, Executive and Artistic Director Bruce Tinker noted, "We were very fortunate to secure the rights to this show - but only if we agreed to withhold revealing the title until a later date this season. The chance to produce one of the most successful and entertaining musicals of recent history was too important to pass up".

Writer Catherine Johnson's sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. The timeless songs and storytelling of Swedish pop group ABBA propel this enchanting tale of love, laughter, and friendship, creating an unforgettable show. A large cast non-stop laughs, and explosive dance numbers combine to make *Mamma Mia!* a guaranteed smash hit.

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Civic Theatre expresses thanks to the following sponsors and partners:

Season Sponsors: The Beusse and Porter Family Foundation,

National Endowment for the Arts and Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

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For information on the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre or to purchase tickets: Call 616-222-6650 or visit www.GRCT.org.

The Grand Rapids Civic Theatre's mission: We are committed to enhance the cultural life of West Michigan by creating opportunities for people to enjoy live theatre performances using community artists, and to provide access to a comprehensive theatre arts education program for all ages.