

## Inspiring performance.

**News Release** 

1501 Euclid Avenue Suite 200 Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2108 tel 216-771-4444 playhousesquare.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2, 2018 Stephanie Keefer, Marketing & PR Manager Playhouse Square 216.640.8654 / <u>stephanie@playhousesquare.org</u>



## Casting Announced for Disney's *Aladdin* The Hit Broadway Musical

## Cleveland's Limited Premiere Engagement Plays Wednesday, May 2 to Sunday, May 27 at Playhouse Square

Cleveland, Ohio Monday, April 2, 2018 – Casting has been announced for the Cleveland engagement of **Disney's** *Aladdin*. The hit Broadway musical will begin performances in **CLEVELAND** at the KeyBank State Theatre as part of the KeyBank Broadway Series on Wednesday, May 2 for a limited engagement through <u>Sunday, May 27</u>. The press opening night is Friday, May 4 at 7:30PM. Tickets to all performances are on sale now at the Playhouse Square Ticket Office (1519 Euclid Avenue in downtown Cleveland), online at playhousesquare.org or by calling 216-241-6000.

The production features **Clinton Greenspan** (Aladdin), **Michael James Scott** (Genie), **Isabelle McCalla** (Jasmine), **Jonathan Weir** (Jafar), **Jay Paranada** (Iago), **Jerald Vincent** (Sultan), **Zach Bencal** (Babkak), **Philippe Arroyo** (Omar), **Jed Feder** (Kassim), **Korie Lee Blossey** (Standby Genie & Sultan), **Ellis C. Dawson III** (Standby Genie & Babkak) and **Adam Stevenson** (Standby Jafar & Sultan).

Rounding out the cast are Mary Antonini, Michael Bullard, Michael Callahan, Gary Cooper, Cornelius Davis, Bobby Daye, Lissa deGuzman, Mathew deGuzman, Olivia Donalson, Michael Everett, Karlee Ferreira, Adrienne Howard, Albert Jennings, Kenway Hon Wai K. Kua, Jason Scott MacDonald, Pierre Marais, Angelina Mullins, Celina Nightengale, Jaz Sealey, Charles South, Cassidy Stoner, Annie Wallace and Michelle West.

In Cleveland, *Aladdin* will play Tuesdays through Fridays at 7:30PM, Saturdays at 1:30 and 7:30PM and Sundays at 1:00 and 6:30PM. There will also be 1:30PM matinees on Thursday, May 3, and Thursday, May 24. VIP Ticket Packages, which include prime seat locations, a commemorative souvenir program and an exclusive merchandise item, are also available. Tickets are available at the Playhouse Square Ticket Office (1519 Euclid Avenue in downtown Cleveland), online at playhousesquare.org or by calling 216-241-6000. Group orders of 15 or more may be placed by calling 216-640-8600.

*Aladdin* opened on Broadway at the New Amsterdam Theatre to critical acclaim on March 20, 2014 and quickly established itself as one of the biggest new blockbusters in recent years, breaking 12 New Amsterdam Theatre house records and welcoming over seven million people worldwide. Its global footprint has expanded to include productions in Tokyo, Hamburg, London and Melbourne, in addition to the two U.S. productions.

## About Aladdin

Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions, the show features music by Tony Award and eighttime Oscar<sup>®</sup> winner **Alan Menken** (*Beauty and the Beast, Newsies, Sister Act*), lyrics by twotime Oscar winner **Howard Ashman** (*Beauty and the Beast, The Little Mermaid*), three-time Tony Award and three-time Oscar winner **Tim Rice** (*Evita, Aida*) and four-time Tony Award nominee **Chad Beguelin** (*The Wedding Singer*), with a book by Beguelin, and is directed and choreographed by Tony Award winner **Casey Nicholaw** (*The Book of Mormon*).

*Aladdin*, adapted from the Academy Award®-winning animated Disney film and centuries-old folktales including "One Thousand and One Nights," is brought to fresh theatrical life in this bold new musical. Aladdin's journey sweeps audiences into an exotic world of daring adventure, classic comedy and timeless romance. This new production features a full score, including the five cherished songs from the Academy Award-winning soundtrack and more written especially for the stage.

The animated film *Aladdin* was released by Disney in 1992 and was a critical and box office smash, becoming the highest-grossing film of the year.

The film won the Oscar for Best Original Score and introduced the hit song "A Whole New World," which won the second of the film's two Academy Awards as Best Original Song. The Peabo Bryson/Regina Belle recording of the tune soared to #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

*Aladdin* is designed by seven-time Tony-winning scenic designer **Bob Crowley**, six-time Tonywinning lighting designer **Natasha Katz**, two-time Tony-winning costume designer **Gregg Barnes** and sound designer **Ken Travis**. The production team also includes illusion designer **Jim Steinmeyer**, hair designer **Josh Marquette** and makeup designer **Milagros Medina-Cerdeira**. The music team is headed by music supervisor and music director **Michael Kosarin**, who also created the vocal and incidental music arrangements, joined by orchestrator **Danny Troob** and dance music arranger **Glen Kelly**.

For more information, visit <u>AladdinTheMusical.com/tour</u>, Facebook.com/Aladdin and Twitter.com/Aladdin.

# # #

Production photos are available for use with this release, please contact Stephanie Keefer at <a href="mailto:stephanie@playhousesquare.org">stephanie@playhousesquare.org</a> for download instructions.

Follow Playhouse Square on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @playhousesquare #playhousesquare #BWYinCLE

The largest performing arts center in the country outside of New York, the not-for-profit Playhouse Square is Northeast Ohio's destination for Broadway and more great entertainment. Playhouse Square is a champion of arts education and downtown Cleveland, and proud to be the home of Cleveland Play House, Cleveland State University Department of Theatre and Dance, DANCECleveland, Great Lakes Theater and Tri-C Jazz Fest.