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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### *Frederick Speaker Series to Present Dr. Temple Grandin in Two Sold-Out Engagements*

FREDERICK, Md., Thursday, January 4, 2018 — In response to record-breaking demand, Dr. Temple Grandin will take the stage at the Weinberg Center for the Arts on Thursday, January 18 at 3pm and 7:30pm to kick off the sixth annual Frederick Speaker Series. This is only the second time in its history that the Frederick Speaker Series has presented an encore engagement of the same speaker.

Tickets begin at \$25; both performances are currently sold out. For questions about existing ticket orders or to be placed on a waiting list, patrons may contact the Weinberg Center Box Office at 301.600.2828 or in person at 20 West Patrick Street.

A separately ticketed meet-and-greet reception will take place immediately following each of Grandin's presentations. These exclusive events provide a chance for fans to meet the speaker, take pictures, and obtain autographs. All of the proceeds from the meet-and-greet receptions benefit children's programs at Frederick County Public Libraries.

Dr. Temple Grandin was born in Boston, Massachusetts. Grandin's achievements are remarkable because she was an autistic child. At age two she had no speech and all the signs of severe autism. Fortunately, her mother defied the advice of the doctors and kept her out of an institution. Many hours of speech therapy and intensive teaching enabled Grandin to learn speech. As a teenager, life was hard, but mentoring by her high school science teacher and her aunt on her ranch in Arizona motivated Grandin to study and pursue a career as a scientist and livestock equipment designer.

Grandin obtained her B.A. at Franklin Pierce College in 1970. In 1974 she was employed as Livestock Editor for the Arizona Farmer Ranchman and also worked for Corral Industries on equipment design. In 1975 she earned her M.S. in Animal Science at Arizona State University for her work on the behavior of cattle in different squeeze chutes. Grandin was awarded her Ph.D in Animal Science from the University of Illinois in 1989.

She has done extensive work on the design of handling facilities. Half the cattle in the U.S. and Canada are handled in equipment she has designed for meat plants. Other professional activities include developing animal welfare guidelines for the meat industry and consulting with McDonalds, Wendy's International, Burger King, and other companies on animal welfare.

Following her Ph.D. research on the effect of environmental enrichment on the behavior of pigs, she has published several hundred industry publications, book chapters, and technical papers on animal handling, plus 63 refereed journal articles and ten books. She is a professor of animal sciences at Colorado State University, where she continues her research while teaching courses on livestock handling and facility design. Her book "Animals in Translation" was a New York Times bestseller

and her book “Livestock Handling and Transport” now has a third edition, which was published in 2007. Other popular books authored by Grandin include “Thinking in Pictures,” “Emergence Labeled Autistic,” “Animals Make us Human,” “Improving Animal Welfare: A Practical Approach,” and “The Way I See It.”

Grandin has received numerous awards, including the Meritorious Achievement Award from the Livestock Conservation Institute. She was named a Distinguished Alumni at Franklin Pierce College and received honorary doctorates from McGill University, University of Illinois, and Duke University. She has also won prestigious industry awards including the Richard L. Knowlton Award from Meat Marketing and Technology Magazine, the Industry Advancement Award from the American Meat Institute and the Beef Top 40 industry leaders, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from The National Cattlemen’s Beef Association.

Grandin is a past member of the board of directors of the Autism Society of America. She lectures to parents and teachers throughout the U.S. on her experiences with autism. Articles and interviews have appeared in the New York Times, People, Time, National Public Radio, 20/20, The View, and the BBC. She was also honored in TIME Magazine’s 2010 “The 100 Most Influential People in the World.” In 2011, Grandin was inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame. In 2012, Grandin was inducted into the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame. HBO has recently premiered a movie about Grandin’s early life and career in the livestock industry. The movie received seven Emmy awards, a Golden Globe, and a Peabody Award.

The 2018 Frederick Speaker Series will continue with journalist Ted Koppel, author Mitch Albom, actress and singer Rita Moreno, and actor and activist Mark Ruffalo. A complete listing of events scheduled for the 2018 Frederick Speaker Series can be found at [WeinbergCenter.org](http://WeinbergCenter.org).

### **ABOUT THE FREDERICK SPEAKER SERIES**

Since its inception in 2013, the Frederick Speaker Series has featured notable personalities such as Dr. Michio Kaku, Cal Ripken Jr., General Colin Powell, Tom Brokaw, Bill Nye, and George Takei.

This year’s series, event, and media sponsors include the Ausherman Family Foundation, The C. Burr Artz Trust, The Randall Family Charitable Trust Fund at The Community Foundation of Frederick County, Leidos Biomedical, the Delaplaine Foundation, PNC Bank, The Helen J. Serini Foundation, Graphcom, Frederick Magazine, and the Frederick News-Post. Presenting sponsors include the Weinberg Center for the Arts and Frederick County Public Libraries.

For further information about the 2018 Frederick Speaker Series, including speaker biographies, ticket availability, pricing, and the meet-and-greet receptions, please visit [WeinbergCenter.org](http://WeinbergCenter.org).

Photos available upon request.

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