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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Updated: 2018 Frederick Speaker Series Lineup Announced

FREDERICK, Md., July 27, 2017 — Now entering its sixth year, the celebrated Frederick Speaker Series has developed a strong reputation for bringing world-class innovators and leaders into the Frederick community. The 2018 lineup will include Dr. Temple Grandin, Ted Koppel, Mitch Albom, and Rita Moreno. All series events are held at the Weinberg Center for the Arts.

Tickets for all four speakers will go on sale to Weinberg Center members on Thursday, August 10 at 10am. Tickets will go on sale to the general public on Thursday, August 17 at 10am. Tickets may be purchased online at FrederickSpeakerSeries.org, by calling the Weinberg Center Box Office at 301-600-2828, or in person at 20 W. Patrick Street. For more information about becoming a Weinberg Center member and gaining early access to tickets, please visit WeinbergCenter.org/Membership.

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

Dr. Temple Grandin | January 18, 2018 at 7:30pm

Diagnosed with autism as a child, Dr. Temple Grandin did not speak until she was nearly four years old. Fortunately, her mother defied the advice of the doctors and kept her out of an institution. Though life was hard, her formative years gave way to studies in animal science and a career in the livestock industry. Today, half of the cattle in the United States are handled in facilities she designed. She has consulted with organizations like McDonald's on animal welfare guidelines, and has received numerous prestigious awards, in addition to a 2011 TIME Magazine "100 Most Influential People" designation. She has authored multiple bestselling books, including "The Way I See It" and "Thinking in Pictures." In 2010, an Emmy and Golden Globe award-winning HBO movie was made about her life and career. A past board member for the Autism Society of America, she travels the globe lecturing to parents and teachers on her experiences with autism. Now, Dr. Grandin takes the stage to share her story of perseverance and the power of "differently-abled brains."

Ted Koppel | February 22, 2018 at 7:30pm

With a career that spans over half a century, Ted Koppel is recognized around the world as one of the most trusted and revered voices on current events and issues of global importance. A member of the Broadcasting Hall of Fame, Koppel's iconic career spans both radio and television and includes every major professional recognition, including eight

George Peabody Awards, 11 duPont-Columbia Awards (television's equivalent of the Pulitzer) and 42 Emmys. He is best known for his role as anchor and managing editor of ABC News' "Nightline," which defined excellence in television news reporting, interviewing, and analysis over the past 35 years. Today, Koppel serves as a news analyst for NPR and a contributing columnist for The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Wall Street Journal, and is a Senior Contributor to "The CBS Sunday Morning Show." His New York Times bestseller "Lights Out" examines a threat unique to our time: cyber-catastrophe. With his trademark wisdom, wit, and warmth, Koppel takes the stage to share his observations on the state of the U.S. and the world, providing unmatched analysis of the important foreign policy and political headlines of the day — and, of course, the people behind the scenes.

Mitch Albom | March 15, 2018 at 7:30pm

Mitch Albom is an internationally-renowned and best-selling author, journalist, screenwriter, playwright, radio and television broadcaster, and musician. From "Tuesdays with Morrie" to "The Five People You Meet in Heaven," his books have collectively sold more than 35 million copies worldwide, have been published in 45 languages, and have been made into Emmy award-winning television movies. A columnist for The Detroit Free Press since 1985 and a panelist on ESPN's "The Sports Reporters," Albom has been named the #1 Sports Columnist in the Nation by the Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE) thirteen times. In June 2010 he received the APSE Red Smith Award for lifetime achievement, and in June 2013 he was inducted into the Sportswriters Hall of Fame. Now, this gifted writer weaves personal stories and anecdotes with a captivating message about the potential in all of us for a giving, meaningful life.

Rita Moreno | April 6, 2018 at 7:30pm

Octogenarian Rita Moreno remains one of the busiest actresses, singers, and dancers in show business. With star-making turns in "West Side Story," "The Ritz," and "The Electric Company" under her belt, the entertainment icon belongs to an elite group of only eight living performers to have won all four of the industry's most prestigious awards: the Oscar, Emmy, Tony, and GRAMMY®. A Kennedy Center honoree for lifetime contributions to American culture and a recipient of the coveted Presidential Medal of Freedom, Moreno represents the intersection of selfless service and professional achievement. Appearing in Frederick for the first time, the feisty entertainer brings a sense of humor and wealth of personal stories to the stage, exploring the value of diversity, the power of language, and getting older without getting old.

Frederick Speaker Series committee chair Lisa Ausherman said, "We are delighted to present the 2018 Frederick Speaker Series. This season will offer four iconic speakers, who will offer perspectives on some very relevant issues and interests for today. Our speaker topics range from animal welfare and living with autism, cyber security issues in America, to sports and journalism, as well as a passionate entertainment professional who overcame racial issues in America. We look forward to seeing you in January!"

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, Bryan Stevenson, George Takei, Bill Nye, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

This year's series, event, and media sponsors include the Ausherman Family Foundation, C. Burr Artz Trust, Frederick County Bank, Leidos, The Randall Family, The Delaplaine Foundation, PNC Bank, The Kiplinger 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 Frederick Speaker Series, including speaker biographies, ticket availability, pricing, and the meet-and-greet receptions, please visit FrederickSpeakerSeries.org.

ABOUT THE WEINBERG CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Weinberg Center for the Arts is one of the region's premier performing arts presenters, offering film, music, dance, theater, and family-focused programming. Located in the historic Tivoli movie theater in downtown Frederick, Md., the Weinberg Center strives to ensure that the arts remain accessible and affordable to local and regional audiences alike. Weinberg Center events are made possible with major support from the City of Frederick, the Maryland State Arts Council, Plamondon Hospitality Partners, and other corporate and individual donors.

Photos available upon request.

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