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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carolina Chocolate Drops and “Nashville” Star Rhiannon Giddens to Perform in Frederick

FREDERICK, Md., Monday, September 11, 2017 — Acclaimed singer-songwriter, banjo player, and fiddler Rhiannon Giddens will return to the Weinberg Center for the Arts on Sunday, October 1 in celebration of her latest release, “Freedom Highway.” Co-founder of the GRAMMY®-award winning Carolina Chocolate Drops and a fan favorite on CMT’s “Nashville,” Giddens will combine original, traditional, and civil rights-era songs in a musical exploration of history.

The performance is scheduled for 7:30pm. A pre-show lecture exploring the importance of music in African American history will be offered beginning at 6:30pm, courtesy of Dr. Terry Scott, a professor with Hood College’s M.A. Humanities program.

Tickets begin at \$25.50 and may be purchased online at WeinbergCenter.org, by calling the Box Office at 301.600.2828, or in person at 20 West Patrick St. Discounts are available for students, children, military, and seniors.

Singer-songwriter Rhiannon Giddens is the co-founder of the GRAMMY® award-winning Carolina Chocolate Drops, in which she also plays banjo and fiddle. Her GRAMMY®-nominated solo debut album, “Tomorrow is My Turn,” launched a solo career that has showcased her prodigious voice and fierce spirit. Her latest album, “Freedom Highway,” was released in February. Giddens is the recipient of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for Singer of the Year and the Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Bluegrass and Banjo (2016). Giddens’ recent televised performances include “The Late Show,” “Austin City Limits,” “Later...with Jools Holland,” and both of CBS’s weekend shows. She performed for President Barack Obama and the First Lady in a White House tribute to gospel, along with Aretha Franklin and Emmylou Harris. Giddens has also received acclaim for her duet with country superstar Eric Church on his powerful anti-racism song “Kill a Word,” which spent multiple weeks in the top 15 on country radio. The two have performed the song on “The Tonight Show” and the CMA Awards, among other programs. Giddens, who studied opera at Oberlin, made her acting debut with a recurring role on the television drama “Nashville,” which debuted on CMT in January. She plays the role of Hanna Lee “Hallie” Jordan, a young social worker with a phenomenal voice.

A complete listing of artists and performers scheduled for the 2017-2018 season can be found at WeinbergCenter.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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