

For Immediate Release
October 4, 2017

**ASOLO REP PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THAT
CHARLES & MARGERY BARANCIK FOUNDATION
WILL PROVIDE KEY SUPPORT FOR THE
2017-18 SEASON AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES;
ASOLO REP RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT FROM BARANCIK FOUNDATION**

(SARASOTA, October 4, 2017) — Asolo Repertory Theatre proudly announces that Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation will provide key support for the theatre's 2017-18 season and its partnership with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. The Barancik Foundation's \$100,000 grant will support Asolo Rep's mainstage 2017-18 season, which kicks off in November with the Tony Award-winning masterpiece *EVITA*, its Youth Access to the Arts student matinee series, the fall 2017 Shakespeare Tour of *JULIUS CAESAR*, which will reach an estimated 15,000 students and patrons throughout the state of Florida, and more.

"Asolo Rep's high-quality productions, talented and professional staff, plus an engaged audience makes it a theatre worth experiencing and supporting," said Teri A Hansen, Barancik Foundation President and CEO. "We are pleased to continue our wonderful partnership with Asolo Rep."

The grant will support Asolo Rep's 2017-18 season, from the artists and elements that shine on stage, to the skilled artisans and technical team who make the productions run like clockwork behind the scenes. These craftspeople and designers create and build every component of Asolo Rep's world class production: the sets, props, costumes, and more.

The grant will also support the theatre's award-winning Youth Access to the Arts programs, which bring theatre to local schools and also provide students with the opportunity to see productions at Asolo Rep. This season, local students will attend Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *EVITA*, and *SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE*, the acclaimed stage adaptation of the Academy Award-winning film. Through these programs, many students will experience the power and magic of live theatre for the first time as a result of the Barancik Foundation's generosity and commitment to exposing local youth to the arts.

The grant also helps to underwrite the cost of the annual six-week London training program for the second-year FSU/Asolo Conservatory class. After their London training, the students become the acting company for the Shakespeare production that Asolo Rep and the FSU/Asolo Conservatory tour in the fall, and they then join the mainstage company for the season.

"Chuck and Margie Barancik, and now Barancik Foundation, have been tremendous champions and supporters of Asolo Rep for nearly a decade," said Linda DiGabriele, Managing Director of Asolo Rep. "We could not be more grateful for their heartfelt generosity and steadfast support of our mission to inspire a passion for the arts in our audience members of all ages."

For more information about Asolo Rep and its 2017-18 season, visit www.asolorep.org.

About Asolo Repertory Theatre

Now in its 59th season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 15 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and ground-breaking education and outreach programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

About Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation

The Charles and Margery Barancik family has long believed in the power of philanthropy to shape our world and enrich the lives of all people. It was the expression of this belief that led them in 2014 to establish the Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation—a private, family foundation located in Sarasota, Florida. The Barancik Foundation creates initiatives and awards grants in Sarasota and beyond in the areas of education, humanitarian causes, arts and culture, the environment, and medical (research/resources). For further information, please contact Kelly Romanoff at KRomanoff@BarancikFoundation.org.

###

Media Contact:

Sasha Goodrich
Public Relations Manager
941-351-9010 ext. 4800
sasha_goodrich@asolo.org