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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRESS CIRCLE MEMBERS HONORED WITH SPECIAL EVENING AS THANKS FROM THE KRAVIS CENTER
Annual Dress Circle members feted for their generosity and continued support

(West Palm Beach, Fla.) Dress Circle members were honored at a special Dinner Dance on December 11, 2017 at the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts.

Sponsored by Nancy DeMatteis & The DeMatteis Family Foundation and UBS Private Wealth Management, the special evening included a cocktail reception, followed by dinner by Catering by The Breakers at the Kravis Center and live music from Marcia Mitchell Music.

During the dinner, Judith Mitchell, CEO of the Kravis Center, welcomed and thanked the Dress Circle members saying, "Because of your generosity, last season we exceeded our annual fundraising goal of \$5.8 million. With your ongoing support, we will continue to have something for everyone for many more years to come. Not only are you our most generous donors, but you are also our most loyal donors. For the past five years, the average renewal rate for donors giving \$1000 or more to the Center has been 83 percent— twice the national average, which helped us become one of the premier performing arts centers in the country."

The Center, now in its 26th season, is a cultural icon and a leading force in the social and artistic fabric of our community. This season, the 10th anniversary of *Kravis On Broadway* is being celebrated, having provided more than 500 performances with ticket sales of nearly \$60 million. Ms. Mitchell announced the remaining productions for the season, as well as the two signature fundraising events: the Gala "Night of Stars" A Broadway Celebration! on January 12th and the 11th Annual Palm Beach Wine Auction, on February 1st. She then introduced Michael Bracci, Kravis Center Board Chairman.

Recognizing that last year's 25th Anniversary Season was a success, Mr. Bracci thanked Ms. Mitchell, who started at the Center in 1989 as the Development Director, became the CEO in 1992 and has a dedicated staff of 121 employees, half with 10 years or more tenure. He noted that over 10 million have attended more than 13,000 performances since doors opened in 1992, adding half a billion dollars to the local economy. He then recognized Board members and Life Trustees in attendance, as well as West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio.

Ms. DeMatteis was recognized for her sponsorship of this event as well as her sponsorship of the *S*T*A*R* (Students and Teachers Arts Resource) *Series* which gives tens of thousands of children access to top quality programs each year. UBS Private Wealth Management, represented by Eileen Berman, Managing Director, thanked the Dress Circle donors for their generous contributions and continued support of the Kravis Center. UBS Wealth Management is a Founder member and Ms. Berman is the Corporate Partners Executive Committee Chair.

Dress Circle members are donors who support the Center by contributing \$1,000 or more annually. Membership benefits include priority seating based on membership level, special ticketing privileges, including ticket exchange, invitation to the annual Dress Circle recognition event, 15 percent discount on

all purchases made at the Kravis Center Gift Shop, listing in Kravis Center *Playbill* and *Ovations* magazines and acknowledgement of support on the Dress Circle Wall of Honor.

The Kravis Center is a not-for-profit performing arts center whose mission is to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County by presenting a diverse schedule of national and international artists and companies of the highest quality, by offering comprehensive arts education programs, by providing a Palm Beach County home for local and regional arts organizations to showcase their work and by providing an economic catalyst and community leadership in West Palm Beach, supporting efforts to increase travel and tourism to Palm Beach County.

For more information on becoming a member of the Kravis Center call 561-651-4320 or visit kravis.org/membership. For general information about Kravis Center performances, please visit the Center's official website at kravis.org or call the box office at 561-832-7469 (561-832-SHOW). Follow the Kravis Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Photos by CAPEHART

Photo Ids:

- 1 Eileen Berman and Jay Bauer
- 2 Mike Bracci, Judy Mitchell
- 3 Rona Forstadt, Diane Bergner
- 4 Richard and Sandy Bornstein
- 5 Albert Berger and Carol Auerbach
- 6 Martie and Bob Sachs
- 7 Jill and Bill Wachter
- 8 Joan and Tom Dye
- 9 Phil and Joan Gassman
- 10 Brian and Heather Lowenthal
- 11 Russ and Kristin Bissett
- 12 James Satovsky and Gail Meyer
- 13 Arlene and Harvey Cherner
- 14 Christine and John Howard
- 15 Ken and Janet Schur
- 16 Barbara and Hal Danenberg
- 17 Nina Grody, Rachel Grody