

For Immediate Release

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THE ROSE THEATER RECEIVES \$7,500 GRANT FROM THE LINCOLN FINANCIAL FOUNDATION

(OMAHA, NE) The Rose Theater has been awarded a grant of \$7,500 from the Lincoln Financial Foundation for the Every Single Child Project, a program that endeavors to provide every elementary and middle school student in Omaha the opportunity to take part in at least one meaningful theatrical experience each year. Curriculum tie-ins and classroom relevance are strongly factored into the options provided for each grade level. The Rose works with more than 60 area schools serving more than 36,000 children through the program.

The Every Single Child (ESC) program helps teach theater skills that are aligned with the state curriculum standards. Students in participating schools experience the entire ESC curriculum by the time they finish elementary school.

Every Single Child is a free program for schools, underwritten by generous individuals and foundations such as the Lincoln Financial Foundation.

The Lincoln Financial Foundation awards grants to hundreds of nonprofits each year that empower and improve the lives of people in their communities. The organization focuses on assisting nonprofits offering human services, promoting financial wellness, and providing educational opportunities. The Lincoln Financial Foundation works with non-profit organizations that adhere to best practices and can point to proven outcomes.

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Lincoln Financial Foundation Awards Grant to The Rose Theater

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“We truly appreciate the support,” Rose Theater Artistic Director Matthew Gutschick says. “Grants like this one help us improve our community and enrich the lives of children through the arts. We couldn’t do this without them.”

For more information on The Rose Theater’s Every Single Child program, visit rosetheater.org/education/educators or email jackiek@rosetheater.org.

About The Rose

For more than 70 years, The Rose Theater has been providing Omaha-area families with the best in live theater and arts education. The Omaha Theater Company was one of the first in Omaha to offer classes in the theater arts, and today The Rose stands as a leading program and training ground for young artists interested in pursuing a career in theater.

Students enrolled in classes at The Rose learn from some of the best educators in the region. Rose teachers include professional actors, accomplished dancers, award-winning playwrights, highly-decorated directors, renowned choreographers and more. Rose classes encourage creativity and imagination while enriching the understanding and enjoyment of theater. Many classes offer performance opportunities, and all classes promote ensemble work and skill development. Dance, acting and voice classes emphasize technique and professionalism, giving students the tools they need to succeed in the classroom, their schools, in the community, and on stages around the world.

Onstage, The Rose is one of the largest and most accomplished children’s theaters in the nation, with a reputation for enriching the lives of children and families through top-quality professional productions. In 2016, *American Theatre* magazine named The Rose one of the 20 top children’s theaters in the United States.

The Rose is committed to making the arts accessible to all children, providing opportunities for thousands of children throughout the community to attend shows and participate in classes each year. Over the course of a year, approximately 70,000 people attend the public performances held at the theater, and nearly 30,000 students attend field trip shows annually.

The theater strives to introduce young people to a mix of both traditional favorites and ground-breaking original productions. A number of plays and musicals have made their world premiere on The Rose stage, including *Van Gogh & Me*, *The Meaning of Maggie*, *Pete the Cat: The Musical*, *Sherlock Holmes & the First Baker Street Irregular*, *Zen Ties*, *Leo Lionni’s Frederick*, *A Palette of Possibility*, *Thumbelina*, *Buffalo Bill’s Cowboy Band*, and *The Grocer’s Goblin & The Little Mermaid*.

We take pride knowing that The Rose is the place where children of all ages experience theater for the first time, and we are dedicated to helping them appreciate theater for a lifetime.

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