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The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center Unwraps A Stellar Lineup This December

AVENTURA, Fla. – Raucous comedy, acclaimed foreign films and holiday fare await audiences in December at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center.

After the first showing on Thursday, November 30, the award-winning Slow Burn Theatre Company continues to perform its rollicking production of ***Peter and the Starcatcher*** on **December 1 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, December 2 at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday December 3 at 2 p.m.** This wildly theatrical adaptation of Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson's bestselling novels won five Tony Awards® and upends the century-old story of how a sad orphan comes to be The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up (a.k.a. Peter Pan). From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, the show playfully explores the depths of greed and despair... and the bonds of friendship, duty and love. Tickets are \$45–\$49.

The Aventura Foreign Film Series continues with ***Frantz*** on **Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m.** Set in Germany and France in the immediate aftermath of World War I, François Ozon's award-winning film is a haunting tale of love and reconciliation. A young woman mourning the death of her fiancé encounters a mysterious Frenchman laying flowers on her beloved's grave. His presence is met with resistance by the small community, yet the two grow closer as she learns of his deep friendship to her lost love. Rated PG 13, the film is shown in French and German with English subtitles. The Aventura Foreign Film Series presented by the City of Aventura is hosted by Shelly Isaacs who introduces the film and leads a post-screening discussion. Tickets are \$12.

In this Smart Stage Matinee, the City of Aventura presents Arts Ballet Theatre's ***The Nutcracker*** in a special school day performance on **Friday, December 8, at 10:30 a.m.** This classic ballet tells a story of a spectacular Christmas Eve party and the magical events that take place late that night. With dancers of all ages, colorful costumes and breathtaking music, this beautiful 90-minute performance is a true holiday tradition and a wonderful introduction to the ballet. Tickets are \$10 with \$3 lap seats for infants 12-months or younger.

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida also performs ***The Nutcracker*** on **Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m.** to Tchaikovsky's popular score based on the tale of Ernest Hoffmann. From the fun of the party scene to the harrowing battle scene to the enchanting kingdom of the sweets, the engaging choreography entertains any age and serves as an introduction to ballet for young audiences. The critically

acclaimed performance is choreographed and directed by renowned Ballet Master Vladimir Issaev. Tickets are \$40.

As part of the Aventura Comedy Series, Black Box Productions presents **Sarge: The Chanukah Chutzpah Tour... "Kiss My Mezuzah"** on **Friday, December 22 and Saturday, December 23 at 8 p.m.** An entertainer who has performed worldwide to adoring audiences, Sarge delivers side splitting comedy, touching vocals and a stunning display of dexterity as a pianist. One of the highest energy, multi-talented acts in show business today, Sarge appears with his all-star band. Born in Miami Beach to a Jewish mother, but given up for adoption shortly after birth, Sarge has gone on to perform on some of the biggest stages in show business including Radio City Music Hall and Major League Baseball's All-Star Game. Tickets are \$39.50-\$44.50.

The Aventura Foreign Film Series screens ***To Life!*** on **Tuesday, December 26 at 7:30 p.m.** With Hannelore Elsner, the grande dame of German cinema, and versatile young star Max Riemelt, director Uwe Janson weaves a tale that effortlessly shifts between World War II, the post-war generation and today. Fate has taken its toll on the sarcastic, aging cabaret singer Ruth and the young but terminally ill Jonas. Yet despite their great age difference and their entirely opposite experiences in life, they form an intense bond and give each other a reason and purpose to live. Not rated, *To Life!* is shown in German with English subtitles. The Aventura Foreign Film Series presented by the City of Aventura is hosted by Shelly Isaacs who introduces the film and leads a post-screening discussion. Tickets are \$12.

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center. Buy tickets online at aventuracenter.org, by phone at 877.311.7469, or in person at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to each performance. For Group Sales, please call 954.660.6307.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts manages the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, a 14,864-square-foot, 330-seat waterfront complex that hosts performing arts, cultural and educational programming for all ages.

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is located at 3385 N.E. 188 Street in Aventura. Join the conversation on Twitter at #AventuraCenter, and follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/aventuracenter and Instagram at instagram.com/aventuracenter.

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