FSCJ Artist Series presents Broadway in Jacksonville

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Jacksonville's Major Presenter of National and International Touring Attractions July 31, 2014 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Sarah Roy, Publicist – FSCJ Artist Series
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www.artistseriesjax.org – The Official Website for Broadway in Jacksonville

ANNIE AND DIRTY DANCING TO BE FEATURED ON LIFETIME® TELEVISION'S "THE BALANCING ACT®:



Six Part Miniseries Will Take Viewers Behind-the-Scenes of Some of the Most Beloved Broadway Musicals

JACKSONVILLE, FL – **Broadway Across America** has announced that **Annie** and **Dirty Dancing** will be featured on Lifetime® Television's award-winning morning show "The Balancing Act®" as part of the six part series "Broadway Balances America."

Annie (October 21-26, 2014) and Dirty Dancing (December 9-14, 2014) are being presented at the Times-Union Center as part of the FSCJ Artist Series' 2014-2015 Broadway in Jacksonville Season, sponsored by Chase. Four-show season ticket packages, which also include The Book of Mormon (February 3-8, 2015) and I Love Lucy® Live On Stage (March 17-22, 2015), start at \$129 and are available at www.artistseriesjax.org, (904) 442-2929, or the FSCJ Artist Series Box Office at 501 W. State Street, #109, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

The Annie "Broadway Balances America" segment will air on "The Balancing Act®" on Aug. 12 & 19, and the Dirty Dancing segment will air on September 9 & 16. Other segments include Pippin on October 29 & November 5, Disney's Newsies on November 6 & 13, and Motown the Musical on November 8 & 25.

"Broadway Balances America" will provide exclusive behind-the-scenes excerpts and interviews with **Annie's** and **Dirty Dancing's** casts, creative, and crews, even experiencing what it's like to dance in their shoes.

Host Olga Villaverde had the time of her life when she traveled to Orlando and danced with "Johnny Castle," the star of **Dirty Dancing**. She even learned the iconic leap that stole people's hearts in the original movie classic. Balancing Act correspondent Amber Milt hit the boards on Broadway for a unique look at **Motown The Musical**, **Disney's Newsies**, **Annie**, and **Pippin**.

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FSCJ Artist Series is a member of The Broadway League Amber Milt goes backstage for a "Supreme" transformation at **Motown The Musical,** which tells the behind-the-hits story of Motown founder Berry Gordy and the launch of legendary girl group The Supremes, The Jackson Five and more. **Disney's Newsies**, the smash-hit, crowd-pleasing new musical, tells the true and captivating story of the 1899 newsboys' strike and a band of underdogs who fight for what's right while staying true to themselves. The segment focuses on Disney's new national campaign, the "Get Up and Go!" program, which promotes fun ways for kids to lead more active and healthier lifestyles through **Newsies**' Tony Award® winning choreography and music. The **Annie** segment puts a spotlight on young kids (and their parents) going through the audition process to show what it takes to play one of Broadway's most cherished roles in the iconic musical about everyone's favorite orphan. **Pippin** takes us into a captivating world of aerial acrobatics and temptation in this brand new Tony Award® winning production in which a young prince must decide whether he should risk it all in a blaze of glory or choose a simpler path as he searches for the meaning of life.

"We are really excited to partner with Broadway Across America so together we can take our viewers behind-the-scenes of the most popular Broadway shows now touring all across the country and meet some of the actors, directors and choreographers who bring it all to life. Also, with 'the Arts' being taken out of so many school curriculums it's great that Broadway Classroom® provides students an opportunity to connect with the art community. We're thrilled that Broadway Across America shares our passion for helping empower adults and kids alike and to instill and cultivate an appreciation for the Arts," said Dr. Thomas C. Deters, President and CEO, O2 Media™, producers of The Balancing Act.

"Broadway musicals are not just the New York art form; they are the great American art form. We thank our network of local theater partners nationwide and The Balancing Act for helping us share Broadway with that wider audience across the country," said Lauren Reid, CEO Theater Division, Broadway Across America.

The final segment takes viewers into Broadway Classroom® where students are introduced to all elements of the Broadway industry in collaboration with performers and industry professionals. Classes range from Broadway 101, an introduction to Broadway, to Musical Theatre Song and Movement, a master class where students learn the music, choreography and staging from a current Broadway musical.

To learn more about the Broadway Balances America series, please visit: www.broadwaybalancesamerica.com

About Broadway Across America

BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA is part of the Key Brand Entertainment family of companies, which includes Broadway.com and is operated by John Gore (Owner & CEO). BAA is the foremost presenter of first-class touring musicals and plays in North America, operating in 40 markets. As a leading Broadway producer, BAA is dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse theatre. Current/upcoming productions include Beautiful, Bullets Over Broadway, Million Dollar Quartet and Pippin. Past productions include Hairspray, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Memphis, Promises, Promises and The Producers. Broadway.com is the premier theater website for news, exclusive content and ticket sales. For more information please visit BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com and Broadway.com.

About The Balancing Act® on Lifetime Television

Now in its 7th year, The Balancing Act® continues to empower women in all aspects of their lives. The mission at The Balancing Act® is simple -- the show strives to help today's modern woman balance it all by bringing them exceptional solutions to everyday problems.

Entertaining, educational and trusted by women, viewers can watch America's premier morning show The Balancing Act® weekday mornings on Lifetime television at 7 am (ET/PT). For additional information or to view a segment visit: www.thebalancingact.com

About the FSCI Artist Series

The FSCJ Artist Series is Jacksonville's major presenter of national and international touring productions. Celebrating its 49th season in 2014-2015, the FSCJ Artist Series enhances the entertainment scene in Northeast Florida with Broadway productions, concerts, ballets, operas, dance productions, school performances, and variety shows. Serving as a fundraising arm of Florida State College Foundation, Inc., (501-c3), the FSCJ Artist Series supports the Scholarship Fund, which supports talented performing arts students attending Florida State College at Jacksonville. www.artistseriesjax.org

Please contact Sarah Roy at <u>saroy@fscj.edu</u> or (904) 442-2933 for show information for Annie and Dirty Dancing.

Please contact the FSCJ Artist Series Box Office at info@artistseriesjax.org or (904) 442-2929 to purchase four-show season ticket packages for the FSCJ Artist Series' 2014-2015 Broadway in Jacksonville Season, sponsored by Chase, which start at \$129. The Broadway Season includes Annie (October 21-26, 2014), Dirty Dancing (December 9-14, 2014), The Book of Mormon (February 3-8, 2015), and I Love Lucy® Live On Stage (March 17-22, 2015).

To order by phone with Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover, call the FSCJ Artist Series Box Office at:

(904) 442-2929

(toll-free outside of Jacksonville 1-888-860-BWAY)
Tickets are also available online with Instant Seat Selection by visiting
the FSCJ Artist Series Website at:

www.artistseriesjax.org

The FSCJ Artist Series has been recognized by the State of Florida as a Major Cultural Institution and receives funding from the State of Florida, through the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council.

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