

Media Contact: Casey Blake, 480-644-6620, casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com

For immediate release: March 9, 2016

NETworks presents DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST The smash hit Broadway musical plays Mesa Arts Center March 28-30, 2016

Disney's Beauty and the Beast, the award-winning worldwide smash hit Broadway musical, is coming to Mesa as part of the Broadway on Center series. Produced by NETworks Presentations, this elaborate theatrical production will come to life on stage at Mesa Arts Center on March 28, 29 and 30 at 7:30 p.m. For information on the production, visit **www.BeautyAndTheBeastOnTour.com.**

Disney's Beauty and the Beast features the Academy Award®-winning score with music by Alan Menken and lyrics by the late Howard Ashman, with additional songs composed by Alan Menken and lyrics by Tim Rice. The book is written by Linda Woolverton.

The original creators of the Broadway production have reunited for this new touring production. The play is directed by Rob Roth and choreographed by Matt West, with Costume Design by Ann Hould-Ward (Tony Award® winner for her work on *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*), Lighting Design by Natasha Katz (five-time Tony Award® winner), Scenic Design by Stanley A. Meyer, Sound Design by John Petrafesa Jr. and Music Supervision by Michael Kosarin.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast is the classic story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped in a spell placed by an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

Based on the 1991 Academy Award®-winning animated feature film and celebrating 21 years since its Broadway premiere in 1994, **Disney's Beauty and the Beast** is the ninth longest running musical in Broadway history that has become an international sensation seen by over 3 million people worldwide in 22 countries, and translated into 9 different



languages. This production launched in February 2010 and has been seen by nearly 3 million people while playing over 1,750 performances in all 50 United States and 8 Canadian Provinces.

Performances run from March 28 to 30, 2016. Tickets are available at Mesa Arts Center's Box Office, at mesaartscenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500. For additional information, visit www.BeautyAndTheBeastOnTour.com.

###

For additional information, photographs and to arrange interviews, please contact Casey Blake at casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com or 480-644-6620.

About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest multidisciplinary arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries in the MCA Museum, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment, performances and festivals, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.

NETworks Presentations LLC (*Producer*), from its inception nearly 20 years ago, has been an industry leading producer and manager of touring musical theatre productions and remains committed to delivering quality entertainment to audiences worldwide. Having toured over 60 productions extensively throughout North America, NETworks is now expanding its tours into many international markets including South America, Greece, Italy, Turkey and South East Asia. Current touring productions include Cameron Mackintosh's *The Phantom of the Opera*, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* domestic and international productions, *Dirty Dancing*, *Blue Man Group*, *Elf the Musical* and coming soon *Bullets Over Broadway*, *Once the Musical* and an international tour of *Shrek The Musical*.