



Media Contact:
Ashley Bodul, Geffen Playhouse
ashleyb@geffenplayhouse.org
310.966.2405

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA RAISES FUNDS FOR PUERTO RICO'S HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORTS AT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE & HISPANIC FEDERATION UNIDOS FUNDRAISER

HOSTED BY JENNIFER GARNER, TODAY'S EVENT FEATURED LIN-MANUEL IN CONVERSATION WITH KPCC'S JOHN HORN

THE DISCUSSION IS AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 29 ON THE GEFFEN'S PODCAST, "Geffen Playhouse Unscripted"

LOS ANGELES (November 15, 2017) – Tony, Grammy, Emmy Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer/lyricist/playwright/actor Lin-Manuel Miranda, in partnership with the Geffen Playhouse and Hispanic Federation UNIDOS, appeared at the Los Angeles theater today to raise funds for Puerto Rico's Hurricane Maria relief efforts.

The fundraiser brought the stories of Puerto Rico's devastation and resilience to Los Angeles through an intimate conversation with Lin-Manuel and KPCC radio host John Horn, hosted by Emmy Award-nominated actress Jennifer Garner.

The conversation will be available to the public beginning November 29 on the Geffen's podcast, *Geffen Playhouse Unscripted*. The recording of this event is made possible with support from Oprah Winfrey, Entertainment Industry Foundation, Endeavor Foundation, Katie McGrath & J.J. Abrams Family, Audi of America and Loretta & Victor Kaufman. *Geffen Playhouse Unscripted* delivers an untapped, unscripted side of the theater and provides unprecedented access to the most compelling creative voices of today. It is available free-of-charge at GeffenPlayhouse.org, PodcastOne.com, the PodcastOne app and iTunes.

Since the hurricane, the Miranda family has worked tirelessly on Puerto Rico relief and advocacy. The family has raised money for immediate needs on the island and formed ongoing collaborations with local community-based organizations and municipalities through Hispanic Federation UNIDOS, which exclusively funds the island's recovery efforts. Lin-Manuel, whose parents are from Puerto Rico, wrote and produced the single "Almost Like Praying," which was released October 6 and quickly rose to #1 on iTunes in 17 countries, with 100% of its proceeds going to the UNIDOS campaign. The Mirandas are committed to long-term transparent, efficient and sustainable solutions for supporting Puerto Rico.

“As the holidays approach, please don’t forget Puerto Rico and consider what your family can do to help our fellow Americans,” said Lin-Manuel Miranda. “First, join me this Sunday, November 19 in Washington, D.C., to amplify the voices of the Puerto Rican people and make our government accountable. Second, follow and donate to the Hispanic Federation who are working tirelessly to deliver aid and tangible solutions. Third, call your congress men and women and let them know that you need them to support the rebuilding of Puerto Rico now. Thank you.”

Donations can be made by visiting <http://hispanicfederation.org/unidos>

Last week, Lin-Manuel announced he would return to the role of Alexander Hamilton for a limited three-week run on the island in January 2019.

Today’s fundraiser was sponsored by Loretta & Victor Kaufman and Oprah Winfrey, and hosted by the David Geffen Foundation, Jodi & Howard Tenenbaum, Adi & Jerry Greenberg, Miranda & Brett Tollman, Kimberly Steward, Josh Godfrey, K Period Media, The Walt Disney Company, Audi of America, Shonda Rhimes and Lyn & Norman Lear.

The event also launched the Geffen’s new program, *Unscripted Live*, produced by Loretta Kaufman and Pamela Robinson. The series of live conversations will explore the art and craft of theatrical storytelling with leading artists and media personalities.

###

ABOUT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the not-for-profit organization continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates and is currently helmed by Executive Director Gil Cates, Jr., Artistic Director Matt Shakman and Board Chair Howard Tenenbaum. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains extensive education and community engagement programs, designed to involve underserved young people and the community at large in the arts. www.geffenplayhouse.org

ABOUT THE HISPANIC FEDERATION

Hispanic Federation is the premier Latino nonprofit membership and grants-making organization staffed by and based in diasporic Puerto Rican and Latino communities in the U.S. Founded in 1990, HF provides grants and assistance to more than 100 Latino community-based member agencies serving millions of individuals. Using a social justice lens, HF advocates and provides services in the following areas: economic empowerment, civic engagement,

immigration, nonprofit capacity-building, education, health and environment. HF has offices in Florida, Connecticut, and Washington, D.C. Its headquarters is in New York City. Learn more about the Hispanic Federation and its Puerto Rico relief efforts here. For more information about the Hispanic Federation, visit, www.hispanicfederation.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Ashley Bodul, Geffen Playhouse
ashleyb@geffenplayhouse.org
310.966.2405