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ACCLAIMED SLOW BURN THEATRE COMPANY RETURNS TO AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER FOR THE 2015 THEATER SEASON

15 percent discount on tickets if purchased between September 16 – 30

AVENTURA – Critically acclaimed Slow Burn Theatre Company returns to Aventura Arts & Cultural Center for the 2015 theater season with two popular Broadway musicals, 2012's *Bonnie & Clyde* and stage and screen blockbuster *RENT*. Tickets go on sale on September 16 and there will be a 15 percent discount on tickets if purchased between September 16 – 30.

Slow Burn opens its Aventura season with *Bonnie & Clyde* (Feb. 12 – 15). Fueled with a score by award-winning composer Frank Wildhorn (*Jekyll & Hyde*), the 2012 Broadway production of *Bonnie & Clyde* was nominated for five Drama Desk Awards, three Outer Critics Circle Awards and two Tony Awards. This captivating stage production chronicles the infamous real-life crime duo Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, the most notorious couple of the twentieth century. The story begins in Depression-era Texas, where young Parker meets and falls madly in love with Barrow and together their fearless, shameless bank-robbing spree and electrifying love for one another captures the attention of the entire nation.

One of the longest-running musicals on Broadway, *RENT* (April 30 – May 3) was a runaway smash from opening night, garnering a slew of awards over its 12-year run off-and on Broadway, including a Tony Award for Best Musical. A Pulitzer Prize Award for Drama and Tony Awards for Book of a Musical and Original Score were presented posthumously to composer Jonathan Larson. Set in "Alphabet City" in New York City's East Village, *RENT* is loosely based on Puccini's *La Boehme* and follows a year in the life of a small group of impoverished artists struggling to create music and art, and survive love, friendship and life under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. The wildly popular score, including "Seasons of Love," "La Vie Boehme," "Without You" and "Tango Maureen," draws audiences into the young bohemians' emotional struggles, dreams, conflicts and triumphs.

Last year's collaboration between the City of Aventura and Slow Burn Theatre Company enabled the company, for the first time, to become eligible for consideration for the Carbonell Awards for theatrical excellence. The company's production of *next to normal*

garnered more Carbonell nominations than any other South Florida production during the 2013-14 season, for which Slow Burn Theatre Artistic Director Patrick Fitzwater received the award for Best Director of a Musical.

Slow Burn Theatre Company also has gained the attention of theater critics. Bill Hirschman from *Florida Theater On Stage* wrote, "The consistent quality of their large-scale productions has produced an enthusiastic word of mouth among audiences who regularly sell out productions they likely have never heard about or seen."

Tickets, group discounts and scheduling information for all performances are available through the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center's call center at (877) 311-7469 or online at www.aventuracenter.org. Tickets also can be purchased at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to each performance.

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse, Aventura Arts & Cultural Center and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at www.BrowardCenter.org, www.ParkerPlayhouse.com, www.aventuracenter.org, <a href="https

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts manages the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, a 14,864-square-foot, 326-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.

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