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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Baltimore Center Stage Announces New Restaurant Vendor: Flavor

Baltimore—February 22, 2017. Baltimore Center Stage is pleased to announce its new pre-show restaurant vendor will be Flavor. The Mount Vernon restaurant opened in mid-2015 on Centre Street, just a few blocks from the theater.

"As we reopen our theater doors to the community, we're thrilled to offer new dining options for our patrons," said Baltimore Center Stage Managing Director Michael Ross. "We chose Flavor as our dining partner because of its innovative creations and the fresh energy Julia and Vanna Belton will bring to the dining experience at Baltimore Center Stage."

Flavor at Baltimore Center Stage will serve lunch or dinner beginning two hours prior to each performance. Entrees, small plates, beer, wine and coffee will be served on the theater's second floor Mezzanine dining space. Small plates will be served at the first floor Sherman Café and Bar, along with a full bar managed by the theater. The brand new Nancy K. Roche Bar on the fourth floor will provide full bar service and light snacks.

Owned by Julia and Vanna Belton, Flavor specializes in American bistro fare. Executive Chef Julia Belton is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America and previously worked at Eleven Madison Park in New York City. She has also studied at Cornell's Business Hospitality School.

"As the owner and chef of a dynamic restaurant in Mount Vernon, it is beyond exciting to be embarking on this new partnership after the rebirth of Baltimore Center Stage," said Flavor Owner and Executive Chef Julia Belton. "Many people do not realize that food is an art form, even simple dishes. As the food service provider for Baltimore Center Stage, I want to ensure that the dining experience is as tantalizing as the shows. Together, Flavor and Baltimore Center Stage are going to provide an experience that guests will not soon forget."

"We take ordinary food and make it taste extraordinary," added Flavor Owner Vanna Belton.

Flavor at Baltimore Center Stage will begin operation on February 24 with the first Preview performance of *The White Snake*.

Baltimore Center Stage just completed a \$28 million renovation to its theater at 700 North Calvert Street and will hold its grand reopening celebration on March 3 with opening night of *The White Snake*.

KWAME KWEI-ARMAH, OBE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL ROSS MANAGING DIRECTOR

About Baltimore Center Stage

Baltimore Center Stage is a professional, nonprofit institution committed to entertaining, engaging and enriching audiences through bold, innovative and thought-provoking classical and contemporary theater.

Named the State Theater of Maryland in 1978, Baltimore Center Stage has steadily grown as a leader in the national regional theater scene. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Kwame Kwei-Armah OBE and Managing Director Michael Ross, Baltimore Center Stage is committed to creating and presenting a diverse array of world premieres and exhilarating interpretations of established works.

Baltimore Center Stage believes in access for all—creating a welcoming environment for everyone who enters its theater doors and, at the same time, striving to meet audiences where they are. In addition to its Mainstage, Off Center and Family Series productions in the historic Mount Vernon neighborhood, Baltimore Center Stage ignites conversations among a global audience through digital initiatives, which explore how technology and the arts intersect. The theater also nurtures the next generation of artists and theater-goers through the Young Playwrights Festival, Student Matinee Series and many other educational programs for students, families and professionals.

About Flavor

Flavor is an American bistro specializing in intimate portions and handcrafted cocktails. At Flavor, all of the food is prepared in the restaurant's from-scratch kitchen and sourced locally, as often as possible. At Flavor you don't have to choose just one entrée, our intimate portions allow you to try them all. <u>flavorbaltimore.com</u>