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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Baltimore Center Stage to Present the World Premiere of
SOUL The Stax Musical
May 3 – June 10, 2018**

Baltimore Center Stage has announced the final play of the 2017/18 season. *SOUL The Stax Musical* is a world premiere which tells the story of Memphis, Tennessee based Stax Records, its impact on the American cultural landscape, and the launch of iconic artists who created the foundation of what we know today as soul and rhythm & blues music. Directed by Kwame Kwei-Armah and produced in association with Stuart Benjamin and Concord Music, *SOUL The Stax Musical* will feature the music of such legendary acts as Otis Redding, The Staple Singers, Isaac Hayes and others. *SOUL The Stax Musical* celebrates how music played a role in bringing Americans together during the early years of the Civil Rights Movement, and continues to bring generations together, from those who remember the early days of R&B, to those who have discovered the phenomenal impact of Stax Records and its artists through recent interpretations of their iconic catalog. A full cast and creative team announcement will follow.

What: ***SOUL The Stax Musical***
Book by Matthew Benjamin
Directed by Kwame Kwei-Armah
Produced in association with Stuart Benjamin and Concord Music
Choreography by Chase Brock

When: **Performances Begin May 3, 2018**

Where: **Baltimore Center Stage**
700 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202



Members of the media are advised to contact Robyn Murphy, Public Relations Manager, at rmurphy@centerstage.org to secure interviews and arrange coverage.

SOUL The Stax Musical is supported in part by PNC Bank and Miles & Stockbridge. Center Stage's Season Sponsor is M&T Bank and the season is also made possible by The Shubert Foundation and the Baltimore County Commission on Arts and Sciences.

About Baltimore Center Stage

Baltimore Center Stage is a theater committed to artistic excellence. We engage, enrich, and broaden the perspectives of diverse audiences through entertaining and thought-provoking work and educational programs. Named the State Theater of Maryland in 1978, Baltimore Center Stage has steadily grown as a leader in the national regional theater scene. Under Executive 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 doors and, at the same time, striving to meet audiences where they are. In addition to Mainstage and Third Space productions in the historic Mount Vernon neighborhood, Baltimore Center Stage ignites conversations across Baltimore and beyond through the Mobile Unit, which brings high-quality theater to economically, culturally and geographically diverse communities. The theater also nurtures the next generation of artists and theatergoers through the Young Playwrights Festival, Student Matinee Series, and many other educational programs for students, families, and educators.