



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 12, 2016

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**Broadway Center Honors Civic Leadership
With The Lehrer – Lucien Leadership Commons at Theater on the Square
As Part of Tacoma’s Historic Theater District Centennial Campaign**

TACOMA, WASH.— As part of Tacoma’s Historic Theater District Centennial Campaign, the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts announces a new permanent exhibit to honor Civic Leadership in our community. This dynamic tribute shines the spotlight on two women whose tremendous vision and service changed the course of Tacoma’s Historic Theater District: Babe Lehrer and Dawn Lucien and will be named in their honor, The Lehrer – Lucien Leadership Commons. The new exhibit will renovate what is now the Theater on the Square Lobby to provide opportunities for learning about the civic leaders who have built our region into the strong and vibrant community it is today.

“The Broadway Center is excited to bring our story-telling expertise to this important endeavor. The Lehrer – Lucien Leadership Commons will be a place to teach students and the public about the importance of leadership and civic engagement by providing an ongoing convening space for civic meetings, and hosting an annual event to celebrate continued civic leadership,” commented Broadway Center’s Executive Director David Fischer.

Tacoma’s Historic Theater District is a direct beneficiary of Civic Leadership. In 1979, a time when many historic theaters around the country were being torn down, a group of valiant women with brooms pushed open the doors of the then shuttered Roxy Theater and launched their visionary campaign to save what is today’s Pantages Theater. Among their passionate team was Dawn Lucien, the first Board President of the Broadway Center who engaged a young U.S. Congressman Norm Dicks, U.S. Senator Warren “Maggie” Magnusen, Tacoma’s City Council, and a dedicated group of citizens that worked together to save the theater and launch the Public-Private partnership that is now the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts. Later, Babe Lehrer lead the campaign to save the Rialto Theater and became one of the longest serving Trustees in Broadway Center history. There are many more stories to tell about the service and impact that both Babe Lehrer and Dawn Lucien have delivered across our community. Soon, The Lehrer – Lucien Leadership Commons will provide a home to share their stories and the stories of so many civic leaders.

“The Civic Leadership exhibit is a wonderful tribute to two of our community’s leading dreamers who helped make Tacoma the great city that it is. These two women are stunning examples of the impact individuals can have on our collective experience, both how we work together now, and what we imagine our future to be. This exhibit will honor Babe and Dawn, as well as many others that have dreamt and continue to dream big for our community,” said U.S. Congressman Derek Kilmer.

The Centennial Campaign will raise \$24.5 million to revitalize, refurbish, and update the iconic Pantages Theater and Theater on the Square – as well as create a fund to support access, education, and diverse programs. Approximately \$18 million has been secured and/or is in process; the next phase will seek to raise the remaining \$6.5 million through private philanthropy, community investment and naming opportunities. This final phase of fundraising for the Centennial Campaign launched last month and will continue through 2019.

For more information about the Centennial Campaign contact Stacey Guadnola, Centennial Fund Director at 253.591.5524.

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