

THE WAIT IS OVER!

DISNEY'S THE LION KING
TO MAKE ITS LONG ANTICIPATED PREMIERE
IN SYRACUSE, NEW YORK IN 2011

**Broadway's Award-Winning Best Musical to Play Exclusive
4-Week Engagement at The Oncenter – Crouse-Hinds Theater
September 6 – October 2, 2011**

(Syracuse, New York) Thursday, April 7, 2011: Disney's **THE LION KING** will play an exclusive 4-week premiere engagement at the Crouse-Hinds Theater beginning Tuesday, September 6, 2011, with performances playing through Sunday, October 2, 2011. Opening night is set for Friday, September 9 at 8:00pm. Individual tickets for **THE LION KING** will go on sale to the general public on Saturday, May 14, 2011.

Beginning early 2011, subscribers to the Famous Artists Broadway Theater Series will have the first opportunity to purchase tickets to the production. Subscribers will see **THE LION KING** in a designated week of the engagement. Tickets will go on sale to the general public on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Reservations for groups of twenty (20) or more are now being accepted by calling (315) 424-8210. Ticket prices start as low as \$42. Additionally, Premium Ticket Packages are available which include a prime seat location, a commemorative souvenir program and an exclusive merchandise item.

The North American touring production of **THE LION KING** has been seen by over 12.7 million theatergoers and grossed over \$834 million to date. Having already played more than 60 cities across North America, **THE LION KING** now proudly makes its Syracuse premiere at the The Oncenter – Crouse-Hinds Theater. The current schedule is listed below. Visit LionKingtonTour.com

ABOUT THE LION KING

As it begins its 14th year **THE LION KING** remains ascendant, continuing to reign as a cultural phenomenon and one of the most popular stage musicals in the world. Since its 1997 Broadway premiere, 17 global productions have been seen by more than 54 million people, and grossed over \$4.2 billion to date. Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions (under the direction of Thomas Schumacher), **THE LION KING** is the eighth longest-running musical in Broadway history and one of only five productions in theatre history to play for ten years or more, both on Broadway and in the West End. Translated into five different languages (Japanese, German, Korean, French, Dutch), the show has been performed in 13 different countries on five continents. **THE LION KING** can currently be seen on Broadway (its flagship production), on stages across North America, and in Las Vegas, London's West End, Hamburg and Tokyo. In March of 2011, an all-new production will bow in Singapore.

THE LION KING won six 1998 Tony Awards®: Best Musical, Best Scenic Design (Richard Hudson), Best Costume Design (Julie Taymor), Best Lighting Design (Donald Holder), Best

Choreography (Garth Fagan) and Best Direction of a Musical, making Taymor the first woman in theatrical history bestowed with the honor. **THE LION KING** has also earned more than 70 major arts awards including the 1998 NY Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, the 1999 Grammy® for Best Musical Show Album, the 1999 Evening Standard Award for Theatrical Event of the Year and the 1999 Laurence Olivier Awards for Best Choreography and Best Costume Design.

On stage, Taymor's creative vision blends elements of African art and Broadway artisanship to depict anthropomorphic animal characters. Taymor, along with designer Michael Curry, has created hundreds of masks and puppets for **THE LION KING**. The book has been adapted by Roger Allers, who co-directed *The Lion King* animated feature, and Irene Mecchi, who co-wrote the film's screenplay. Other members of the creative team include: Steve Canyon Kennedy (sound design), Michael Ward (hair and makeup design), John Stefaniuk (associate director), Marey Griffith (associate choreographer), Clement Ishmael (music supervisor). Anne Quart serves as associate producer.

The Broadway score features Elton John and Tim Rice's music from *The Lion King* animated film along with three new songs by John and Rice; additional musical material by South African Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, Julie Taymor and Hans Zimmer; and music from "Rhythm of the Pride Lands," an album inspired by the original music in the film, written by Lebo M, Mark Mancina and Hans Zimmer. The resulting sound of **THE LION KING** is a fusion of Western popular music and the distinctive sounds and rhythms of Africa, ranging from the Academy® Award-winning song "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" to the haunting ballad "Shadowland."

For more information worldwide, visit, LionKing.com

NORTH AMERICAN TOUR SCHEDULE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2011:

Rochester – Auditorium Theatre
March 22 – April 17, 2011

Toronto – Princess of Wales Theatre
April 19 – June 12, 2011

Dayton – Schuster Center
June 14 – July 10, 2011

Ottawa - National Arts Center
July 14-August 7, 2011

Montreal – Place des Arts
August 9 – September 4, 2011

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Local Press Representative:

Deb Ricciardi/Tina Niles, NAC/Famous Artists

deb@nacentertainment.com/tina@nacentertainment.com

607.772.1391 phone

607.723.1211 fax