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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **FORD'S THEATRE SOCIETY HOSTS SENSORY-FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE FOR *INTO THE WOODS***

**Saturday, May 11, at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Tickets Now On Sale**

Washington, D.C. – Ford's Theatre Society will host a **sensory-friendly performance** for *Into the Woods*, on **May 11, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.** This performance is designed for those with sensory sensitivities who might benefit from an adjusted theatrical environment, including those with autism.

**Theatrical adjustments for this performance of *Into the Woods* may include:** lessening of lighting focused on the audience; lower stage sound levels, especially for sudden or loud sounds; designated take-a-break spaces; allowances for audience talking, movement and use of tablets and smartphones for communication; as well as designated quiet areas. Printed materials to prepare attendees for their visit to Ford's Theatre and the performance itself will be made available to patrons.

### **Tickets to Sensory-Friendly Performance**

A limited number of tickets are available in order to allow ample space for patron movement needs. Tickets for the sensory-friendly performance range **\$25-\$30** and are available for purchase by calling the Box Office at (202) 347-4833, option 7. Ford's Theatre staff are trained to assist patrons in finding the best seating options for their needs. Tickets are refundable until the start of the performance on May 11.

In 2018, Ford's Theatre enlisted the support of consultants **Diane Nutting** and **Roger Ideishi** and piloted a Sensory-Friendly performance. This spring, Ford's Theatre staff take the lead for *Into the Woods*, creating preparatory materials for theatregoers and environment adjustments at Ford's, training the front-of-house team, cast and crew to welcome our audience for the sensory-friendly performance.

"We are thrilled to offer a sensory-friendly performance of the musical *Into the Woods*—about what comes after happily ever after in some of our most beloved fairy tales," said **Director of Visitor**

**Operations Allison Alonzy.** "This performance includes a more flexible and welcoming experience to those who may benefit from adjusted light and sounds levels as well as the opportunity for movement all while seeing a show at D.C.'s most historic theatre.

At Ford's, we aim to provide an experience where individuals and families can relax and just be who they are. The clever lyrics, enchanting score and humor used throughout Sondheim and Lapine's musical is perfect for teens and older audiences. We couldn't be more excited to welcome this audience to experience the show on May 11," Alonzy said.

Ford's Theatre added this sensory-friendly performance to other accessibility and outreach programs, including an **audio-described** performance (May 4, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.), **sign-interpreted** performances, a **captioned** performance, the **Free First Preview** program, **Generation Abe** nights for patrons younger than age 35, **Student Matinees** and more.

### ***Into the Woods***

**Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim; Book by James Lapine**

**Directed by Peter Flynn; Choreographed by Michael Bobbitt**

In this imaginative, darkly comical remix of beloved fairy tales, a baker and his wife set out to reverse a witch's curse in hopes of having a child of their own. The couple's quest takes them into the woods, where they encounter Little Red Ridinghood, Jack and his beanstalk, a cautious Cinderella, a sequestered Rapunzel and a couple of lovelorn princes. Stephen Sondheim's lush Tony-winning score and James Lapine's Tony-winning book conjure a world where "giants can be good and witches can be right."

### **Ford's Theatre Society**

Since reopening in 1968, more than a hundred years after President Abraham Lincoln's assassination, Ford's Theatre has celebrated Lincoln's legacy and explored the American experience through theatre and education. Now under the leadership of Director Paul R. Tetreault, Ford's Theatre has been recognized for the superior quality of its artistic programming. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and the nationally acclaimed *Big River* to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln* and *The Guard*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. For its accomplishments, the organization was honored in 2008 with the National Medal of Arts. For more information, visit [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org).

**#FordsWoods**

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