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December 5, 2019

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Cape Fear Regional Theatre Announces Receipt of Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc.
Grants to Support Building Upgrades**

Fayetteville, NC —November 8, 2019—Cape Fear Regional Theatre (CFRT) is pleased to announce the receipt of a grant from Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc. in support of an infrastructure upgrade project next summer.

CFRT was awarded \$17872.00 from Cumberland Community Foundation, Inc. Community Grants program. Along with other funding from individuals, foundations, and the theater itself, part of the stage rigging system will be upgraded, increasing both the artistic capacity and safety of use in the theatre.

When CFRT moved into the old Haymount movie theater in the 1980s, part of this transformation was the successful installation of a fly system: a series of rope lines, blocks, counterweights, and related devices within a theater that enables a stage crew to quickly, quietly, and safely "fly" components such as curtains, lights, scenery, stage effects and, on occasion, people.

In its time, the current fly system was the best of its kind. However, significant advances have been made in technical theatre since then and updating the existing rigging system is necessary to continue providing local audiences with high-quality professional theatre productions that inspire dialogue, promote empathy, and create a sense of belonging. Modernizing the theatre's rigging system will have an immediate and lasting impact on CFRT and the local community. "It can be quite challenging to raise money for capital expenditures that are behind the scenes. We are so thankful to the Cumberland Community Foundation for their continued support. We would not be half the institution we are without them," Mary Kate Burke, Artistic Director.

Since 1962, CFRT is committed to presenting an annual series of plays, performances and special events that, in addition to entertaining, will enlighten, inspire, and educate performers and audiences. CFRT strives to tell the stories that resonate with all members of this dynamic diverse community and be a place for the entire community to come together to laugh harder, think deeper, share experiences, and grow as a community.

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