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VICTORIA THEATRE ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2007-2008 JPMORGAN CHASE BROADWAY SERIES

**SEASON HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE RECENT BROADWAY HITS
MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT AND *DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS***

(Dayton, OH) – January 23, 2007 – Victoria Theatre Association has announced the lineup for next season's Broadway Series, which includes the recent Broadway smash hits *Monty Python's Spamalot* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, as well as the return of *BLAST!* and *Chicago*. The nostalgic Broadway hit *Say Goodnight Gracie* and a brand new production of the classic musical *Shenandoah* round out the 2007-2008 series lineup.

Victoria Theatre Association has also announced the return of *Mamma Mia!* as a special Star Attraction during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

“This promises to be another exciting season, with a great mix of new shows, including the Broadway hit *Spamalot*, which won the 2005 Tony® for Best Musical,” says Victoria Theatre Association President & CEO Dione Kennedy. “We’ve also been able to bring several audience favorites, including the immensely popular *Mamma Mia!*, back to Dayton for return engagements.”

Victoria Theatre Association is also pleased to announce that JPMorgan Chase will be the title sponsor of the series next season.

“JPMorgan Chase has been an active supporter of our organization for many years, and this new commitment will help ensure that we are able to continue bringing top-quality Broadway entertainment to Dayton,” says Kennedy.

media release

The 2007-2008 JPMorgan Chase Broadway Series opens with ***Dirty Rotten Scoundrels***, **September 25 – 30, 2007**, at the Schuster Center. It's been called "ONE OF THE LIVELIEST, FUNNIEST, BEST-PERFORMED MUSICALS IN YEARS!" (*New York Post*). Based on the popular movie and set on the glorious, glamorous Riviera, ***Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*** is a delicious comedy that follows two con artists as they take on the lifestyles of the rich and *shameless* - and end up with a lot more than they bargain for in the process.

The series returns to the Victoria Theatre with ***Say Goodnight Gracie***, **October 30 – November 11, 2007**, a fascinating one-man tour through an American century with the perfect comical guide, the wry and charming George Burns. See the world through the eyes a real "character," one who savored each day of his long life – from his impoverished youth to his career in Vaudeville, from his marriage to Gracie Allen to their rise to success on the stage, screen, radio and TV – and, of course, his "second time around" film career in the 1970s.

The hit musical ***Chicago*** returns to Dayton, **January 29 – February 3, 2008**, at the Schuster Center. This razzle-dazzle tale of sin and celebrity has been one of Broadway's most popular musicals. The recipient of six Tony[®] Awards, two Olivier Awards, a Grammy and thousands of standing ovations, ***Chicago*** is the sensation that just keeps getting bigger and bigger.

BLAST! also returns to Dayton next season, **February 19 – March 2, 2008**, at the Victoria Theatre. This spectacular performance event – which was the first Broadway Series presentation at the Schuster Center in 2003 – is "music in motion," ranging from classical to the blues, jazz to rock and roll, and beyond, performed in dizzyingly theatrical style by the top young brass, percussion and visual performers from across the country. If you thought ***BLAST!*** was spectacular at the Schuster Center, wait until you see it in the intimate surroundings of the Victoria Theatre!

The Broadway smash hit ***Monty Python's Spamalot***, winner of the 2005 Tony[®] Award for Best Musical, comes to the Schuster Center **April 22 – 27, 2008**. ***Spamalot*** is the outrageous new musical comedy "lovingly ripped off from" the film classic *Monty Python and The Holy Grail*. Directed by Tony Award-winner Mike Nichols, with a book by Monty Python's Eric Idle and music and lyrics by the Grammy Award-winning team of Idle and John Du Prez, ***Spamalot*** tells the tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, as they embark on their quest for the Holy Grail. Flying cows, killer rabbits, taunting Frenchmen and show-stopping musical numbers are just a few of the reasons audiences everywhere are "eating up" ***Spamalot***.

The season wraps up with a new production of ***Shenandoah*** by The Human Race Theatre Company, **May 6 – 18, 2008**, at the Victoria Theatre. Dealing with one family's struggle to stay out of the Civil War, ***Shenandoah*** is a piece of inspirational musical theatre whose time has come once again. This musical overflows with memories and emotions, strong characters and history-making events, gorgeous songs and exhilarating moments. Based on the 1965 film, ***Shenandoah*** debuted on Broadway in 1975 and garnered six Tony[®] Award nominations.

In addition to the six-show JPMorgan Chase Broadway Series lineup, Victoria Theatre Association has announced the first of next season's Star Attractions, *Mamma Mia!*. The popular musical, featuring the music of ABBA, returns to the Schuster Center for a special limited engagement, **November 20 – 25, 2007**.

Season subscriptions are **on sale now** for the JPMorgan Chase Broadway Series. Subscriptions may be purchased through Ticket Center Stage, either at the Schuster Center box office in downtown Dayton or by phone, at (937) 228-3630 or toll free (888) 228-3630. Ticket Center Stage hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, noon - 4 p.m., and two hours prior to each performance. Individual tickets for all Victoria Theatre Association presentations may be purchased online at **www.ticketcenterstage.com**.

For more information about Victoria Theatre Association, visit **www.victoriatheatre.com**.

Victoria Theatre Association is one of Dayton's premier arts organizations, presenting the Fifth Third Bank Broadway Series, the Chase Young at Heart Family Series, the Michelob Ultra Cool Films series, Star Attractions, and the Discovery series, which features curriculum-enhanced live theatre productions for school children. Victoria Theatre Association is proud of its alliance with the Dayton Opera Association and its collaboration on The Loft Series 1 with The Human Race Theatre Company.

In addition to the performances it presents, Victoria Theatre Association also manages the historic Victoria Theatre, the Benjamin and Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center, and the Metropolitan Arts Center, which houses The Loft Theatre. Victoria Theatre Association receives funding from a variety of diverse public, corporate, individual and private sources, including the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District and the Ohio Arts Council. The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program or organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.