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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MR. DICKENS RETURNS!

*Great, Great Grandson of Charles Dickens to Perform in the Nextstage
on Sunday, December 4th.*

Rochester, N.Y., September 13, 2011– One of the last stops on Charles Dickens' final US tour in 1868 was Rochester, NY. Now his great, great grandson, Gerald Charles Dickens, returns to Rochester on **December 4th**, following in the footsteps of his forebear, for two different performances: *A Child's Journey with Dickens* and *Mr. Dickens is Coming!*

Last December, Gerald Dickens, the great, great grandson of Charles Dickens, made his Geva Theatre Center debut in a sell-out performance of *Mr. Dickens is Coming*, a delightful theatrical piece featuring scenes from the great author's works, diary extracts and observations from those who knew and worked with him. This season, Mr. Dickens will reprise that performance and introduce another one-man show - *A Child's Journey with Dickens*. In 1868 Charles Dickens travelled to the USA (and to Rochester). He was old, in poor health and in constant fear for his safety following a narrow escape in a rail disaster a few years earlier. At the heart of this show is a young girl's memory of meeting the great man on a train journey in New England, and Dickens' enchantment with both her boldness and innocence.

Gerald Charles Dickens is an actor and producer and resides in Oxford. He has appeared all over the world and has toured the US for the past thirteen Christmas seasons. He has appeared on the History Channel's "History's Lost and Found" discussing *A Christmas Carol* and has been interviewed on NBC's "Today Show," CBS's "This Morning," ABC's "Good Morning America" and PBS stations throughout the United States. *The New York Times* has described Gerald Dickens' performance as "a once in a lifetime brush with literary history."

His 2011 tour will take him to ten states across the country to perform *Mr. Dickens is Coming*, *A Child's Journey with Dickens* as well as other classic Dickens' tales. His performance is produced by **Byers' Choice Ltd.**, makers of the collectible Carolers® and Kindles® figurines, based in Chalfont, PA.

Following his performance, Mr. Dickens will be available to greet patrons and sign a selection of books and gifts available in the Geva Theatre Center Lobby.

A Child's Journey with Dickens and *Mr. Dickens is Coming* are wonderful treats for the Dickens' devotee and terrific companion pieces to Geva's production of *A Christmas Carol*.

Tickets for both performances go on sale to the general public on September 26. Geva Subscribers can purchase their tickets for these special events early, before the general public.

For further information, photographs or to arrange interviews, please contact:
Dawn Kellogg, Communications Manager, (585) 232 1366 x 3059

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

PERFORMANCE: *A Child's Journey with Dickens* - Sunday, December 4 @ 3pm
Mr. Dickens is Coming - Sunday, December 4 @ 7pm

TICKET PRICES: \$25.

RESERVATIONS: (585) 232 GEVA (4382), Website: www.gevatheatre.org

LOCATION: Geva Theatre Center, 75 Woodbury Blvd, Rochester, NY 14607

GEVA THEATRE CENTER

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre Center is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing professional theatre productions, programs and services of a national standard. As Rochester's leading professional theatre, Geva Theatre Center is the most attended regional theatre in New York State, and one of the 25 most attended in the country, attracting over 170,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students.

The 552-seat Elaine P. Wilson Mainstage offers a wide variety of shows, from musicals to American and world classics. The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Nextstage is home to Geva's own series of cutting-edge drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva Comedy Improv; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornet's Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. The Nextstage also hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995 the organization has been led by Artistic Director Mark Cuddy.

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