



THE KIMMEL CENTER
ACADEMY OF MUSIC
MERRIAM THEATER

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Find happiness in humor with @PaulaPoundstone at the @KimmelCenter 1/11. More info @kimmelcenter.org

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**QUEEN OF COMEDY PAULA POUNDSTONE
MAKES HER KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS DEBUT
WITH SIDESPLITTING STAND-UP SHOW
JANUARY 11, 2018**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, November 27, 2017) – Fresh off the release of her hilarious new book, *The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness*, comedic genius **Paula Poundstone** comes to the Merriam Theater on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. Known for her razor sharp spontaneous wit and smart, observational humor, this convivial show will give audience members something to laugh about for months to come.

“Paula Poundstone is not only a brilliant and hilarious voice, but also a fantastic name added to the Kimmel Center’s comedy season,” said Anne Ewers, President & CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “We strive to deliver diverse programming to our Philadelphia community, and are thrilled to host Poundstone’s debut performance on our Cultural Campus.”

Poundstone can be heard regularly on NPR’s #1 show, the weekly comedy news quiz *Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!* When asked about Paula, *Wait, Wait* host Peter Sagal replied, "Paula Poundstone is the funniest human being I have ever known. Everything she does, thinks, or says is hilarious. She is made of funny. If you chopped her into bits, each piece would be hilarious. (But don't.) Air becomes funny having been breathed by her.”

A star of several HBO specials and her own series on ABC and HBO, Poundstone voiced the character “Forgetter Paula” in the Academy Award-winning feature film *Inside Out*. She was the first woman to share the dais with the President and perform standup comedy at the White House Correspondents Dinner. She won an American Comedy Award for Best Female Standup Comic and is included in innumerable lists, documentaries, and literary compendiums noting influential standup comedians of our time. She has released three performance CDs, her most recent, *North by Northwest* – a double-live CD-set (HighBridge Audio).

Paula added another medium to her impressive repertoire on July 8, 2017 when she launched her new weekly podcast – *Live from the Poundstone Institute*. Joined by a live and lively audience, and her Chief of Research and fellow *Wait, Wait* Panelist, Adam Felber, Poundstone takes on the research studies that are so odd they just beg for someone to stand up and say “wait, what?!” The podcast is produced in association with NPR station KPCC and distributed by NPR.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: **Mike Birbiglia’s *The New One*** (November 17-18, 2017, Merriam Theater), **John Mulaney: *Kid Gorgeous*** (December 1-2, 2017, Academy of Music), **The Second City: *Look Both Ways Before Talking*** (January 19-20, 2018, Perelman Theater), and ***Something Rotten!*** (February 27-March 4, 2018, Academy of Music).

PAULA POUNDSTONE

Merriam Theater

January 11, 2018, 8:00 p.m.

Tickets:

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$30.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at www.kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See www.kimmelcenter.org for more information.

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center’s mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region’s most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America’s Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center’s 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit kimmelcenter.org.

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