On October 1, the Kravis Center welcomed nearly 4,000 people who came to celebrate the kickoff of the Center’s 25th Anniversary Season. Community Salute Day, a special event to thank the public for their continued support, featured free admission to more than 30 performances, an array of entertainment by local performing arts organizations, ticket giveaways, prize drawings, backstage tours and more. The evening concluded with a special reception in honor of the Kravis Center’s Annual Friends Members.

Board Member John Jenkins remembers when there was nothing like this community gathering place for entertainment. “What I have seen in the years I’ve been associated with the Center is its intense effort to go out of its way to increase the diversity of programs and have something for everyone.”

Indeed, throughout the day and evening, everyone from teens to grandparents enjoyed the entertainment by local choral groups, concert bands, theater companies and dance ensembles like the dazzling Junkanoo Sensation.

Looking forward to the future, Life Trustee John Howard said, “It’s a blessing that the Center is here and ready for the next generation. It is such a wonderful experience for kids in our community to have a performing arts center where they can be introduced to various artists and organizations.”

John and his wife, Christine, enjoyed hearing their granddaughter sing with the Young Singers of the Palm Beaches in a program that featured the Kravis Center’s Marshall & Ogletree digital organ, The George W. Mergens Memorial Organ, a gift to the Center from Alex W. Dreyfoos.

How perfect for the celebration night to conclude in the concert hall of the first performing arts center in the world to feature a permanent installation of a digital organ!
As we celebrate the start of 2017, our 25th anniversary season is in full swing! There is no doubt that over the past quarter century, the Kravis Center has truly changed the cultural landscape of Palm Beach County. Today the Center is a cultural beacon that draws audiences from near and far to experience a variety of world-class entertainment, and is recognized as a community leader for educational events for children and students of all ages. Over the decades we have remained true to our mission “to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County.”

Many of you reading this newsletter remember when the Kravis Center first opened its doors in 1992. Your generous gifts of time, talent and money helped build our state-of-the-art cultural complex, and your annual donations support a portion of our operating budget not covered by ticket sales or other earned income.

Going forward, our commitment to artistic excellence and sound fiscal policy continues to be the hallmark upon which we serve as a cultural and economic catalyst in our community. The establishment of a strong Endowment Fund has ensured that what many worked so passionately to build will thrive and remain vibrant for decades to come. A well-funded endowment creates a predictable source of future income to make certain that future generations will experience the joy of attending world-class entertainment and participate in innovative arts education programs.

We encourage you to consult your financial and legal advisors or speak with a member of our development staff about the special benefits to you and your family when you choose to make an endowment gift to the Kravis Center through your will or trust.

As always, we appreciate your thoughtful consideration and continued support.

Judith A. Mitchell
Chief Executive Officer

Members of the Kravis Center Development Department continue to bring its informative “Show on the Road” to professional wealth advisors. Now in its seventh season, the well-received visual presentation highlights the Center’s 25-year history as a catalyst for economic, cultural and educational partnerships with business community leaders.

This past fall, Diane Bergner, J.D., Senior Director of Development; Julie Hetherington, Development Officer and Sponsorship Manager; and Margaret May Damen CFP®, CLU®, ChFC®, CAP®, Planned Giving and Endowment Officer, spoke to professional advisors at PNC Wealth Management about meaningful ways to partner with the Center to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County.
Honoring members for their current or deferred gift to the Endowment Fund.

Prior to the Kravis On Broadway matinee performance of The Phantom of the Opera.

For more information, call 561.651.4230.

Save the Date!
March 29, 2017
Helen K. Persson Society Luncheon

Get Organized Today
Ease the Burden on Your Family

Did You Know?
The Kravis Center is a timeless expression of excellence in a community that consistently gives generously to the annual campaigns and supports the endowment effort to ensure that their cultural icon remains a community treasure well-loved by everyone for future generations to enjoy.

If you already have the documents needed to ensure that your wishes will be taken care of after your lifetime, it’s time to get organized. The following estate planning documents should be kept together to make taking care of your final affairs as stress-free as possible for your loved ones.

Keep these documents in a safe place, such as a safe-deposit box. Just make sure your family is aware of their location and where to find the key.

• A copy of your will or living trust (your original will should be kept with your estate planning attorney)
• Documents to help beneficiaries locate all assets passing to them, such as deeds of property, life insurance policies, where you have bank accounts and copies of account statements
• The names and addresses of:
  - Your executor and trustee
  - Your financial advisor
  - Your tax preparer
  - The individual you named as the attorney-in-fact in your power of attorney
  - The law firm that drafted your will or trust and the name of the specific attorney
• Beneficiary designation forms for your retirement account, along with year-end statements and a listing of where you have accounts and what types

Share Your Story
We all have a set of values and beliefs that guide our lives. As you prepare for the future, make sure your loved ones are aware of those principles by creating a legacy letter. Our complimentary guide 7 Questions to Help Build Your Legacy can help you get started. Request your copy using the enclosed reply card.
The Kravis Center is a living monument to the creative power of thousands of hours of planning and personal commitment by a very diverse community. It is a modern miracle and an ongoing tribute to an enlightened community that rallied to raise the money for the Center.

Five decades ago, my vision was for Palm Beach County to change from being just one of the great resort areas to truly one of the cultural centers in our country. Today, the Kravis Center stands at the gateway to a thriving downtown West Palm Beach community. It continues to be a source of inspiration for the beauty and enrichment of the arts, always building on great traditions as a steward for the future. This is the culmination of a dream for me, and it has really come out even better than I imagined.

People count on the Center to be here to continue to grow and serve the community. I believe that what so many so passionately worked to build, we must now fervently preserve through our commitment to build the Endowment Fund. I have provided for the Center in my estate planning; I hope you will join me. ■

Alexander W. Dreyfoos
Founding Chairman of the Kravis Center