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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 8, 2017

## **The Cleveland Foundation Skating Rink Returns to Public Square this Winter**

*Free skate day presented by Cleveland Foundation to kick-off Winterfest*

**DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND** – Public Square will once again provide Greater Clevelanders the opportunity to enjoy outdoor ice skating this winter, as the Cleveland Foundation Skating Rink makes its return this month after an immensely successful 2016-17 season.

Ice skating will be free during [Downtown Cleveland Alliance's Winterfest](#) on November 25, thanks to the generous support of the Cleveland Foundation. Skaters can enjoy free ice skate rental and a 45-minute session on the ice between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. Tickets are required and will be available on a first come, first served basis at a kiosk next to the rink, near the Soldiers and Sailors Monument.

"We're proud to return to Winterfest to officially open the second year of the Cleveland Foundation Skating Rink," said Michael Murphy, Chief Marketing Officer, Cleveland Foundation. "Public Square is a terrific space to enjoy year-round, but especially during the winter and on the ice. We hope Greater Clevelanders will enjoy this free opportunity to kick-off the holiday season."

At Winterfest 2016, more than 1,900 Greater Clevelanders and visitors took advantage of the free skating session during Winterfest.

"Last year, the ice skating rink was a wonderful addition to Winterfest and helped people enjoy Public Square all season long," said Heather Holmes, Director of Marketing and Communications for Downtown Cleveland Alliance. "We're looking forward to another successful season and want to thank Cleveland Foundation for their generous support of this tremendous community asset."

The [rink](#) officially opens to the public on Friday, November 24, 2017 and will remain open through February 28, 2018. Skating is available for just \$10 per skater, including skate rental. Tickets are \$7 for those who bring their own skates. Tickets, including 10-packs offering a savings of \$25, are available at a

kiosk next to the Cleveland Foundation Skating Rink, near the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Proceeds from ticket sales will support future programming of events and activities in Public Square.

“The Cleveland Foundation Skating Rink provides that extra element of excitement in Public Square during the winter months,” said Sanaa E. Julien, CEO, Group Plan Commission Public Square Programming and Operations. “This type of activity and vibrancy is exactly what was envisioned as part of the transformation of Public Square for Clevelanders and visitors alike.”

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**About the Cleveland Foundation:** Established in 1914, the Cleveland Foundation is the world's first community foundation and one of the largest today, with assets of \$2.13 billion and 2016 grants of \$93.6 million. Through the generosity of donors, the foundation improves the lives of residents of Cuyahoga, Lake and Geauga counties by building community endowment, addressing needs through grantmaking and providing leadership on vital issues. The foundation tackles the community's priority areas – education and youth development, neighborhoods, health and human services, arts and culture and economic development – and responds to the community's needs.

For more information on the Cleveland Foundation, visit [www.ClevelandFoundation.org](http://www.ClevelandFoundation.org) and follow us on Facebook ([/ClevelandFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/ClevelandFoundation)), Twitter ([@CleveFoundation](https://twitter.com/CleveFoundation)) and Instagram ([@CleveFoundation](https://www.instagram.com/CleveFoundation)).

#### **Downtown Cleveland Alliance (DCA)**

[Downtown Cleveland Alliance](#) (DCA) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to building a dynamic downtown. By working with property owners and neighborhood based partners, DCA is able to provide economic development opportunities, business attraction and retention efforts, the Clean & Safe Ambassador Program as well as strategic marketing initiatives for Downtown Cleveland. In 2014, DCA unveiled Step Up Downtown, a vision and tactical plan that sets the course for the future of Downtown Cleveland. The five-year strategy is available to read [here](#).