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For immediate release, please: Friday, January 12, 2018

Catch the Fever: An Evening with Fabrizio and the Fever Send Children to BTG PLAYS! Summer Camp through the Richie duPont Scholarship Fund

**Pittsfield, MA** – Berkshire Theatre Group presents *Catch the Fever: An Evening with Fabrizio and the Fever* at The Colonial Theatre on Friday, May 18 at 7pm. All proceeds go towards sending children to BTG PLAYS! Summer Camp through the Richie duPont Scholarship Fund. Special Guests include Berkshire County's Got Talent Winner, Madelyn Gardner (with Pinedrop) and Carl Wockner.

The Richie duPont Award was established in 2005 in memory of a talented young actor who performed in two of Berkshire Theatre Group's Main Stage productions. This fund provides camp scholarships so children can pursue their dreams of being on stage.

Fabrizio and the Fever is led by Berkshire native, musician, label-owner, music activist, producer, award-winning songwriter, booking agent and actor, Michael Fabrizio. After moving to Nashville, Fabrizio started Fabrizio and the Fever, showcasing some of the top players in music city, including Warner Brothers sound engineer and songwriter Mark Lonsway (backing vocals and acoustic guitar), super shredder Matt Zehr (electric guitar), the suave style of Berklee Music grad Christine Moad (bass) and the time keeper of the group Fabrizio's long-time friend Steve Wolfe (drums). The band has opened for national and international acts from all genres including Sleeper Agent,

Boston, Trigger Hippie, Robert Randolph, Craig Morgan, Jessica Andrews, John Carter Cash, Raelyn Nelson, Lewis Brice and more. Their songs have been heard on dozens of radio stations across the country including Nashville's premier radio station with listeners worldwide, Lightning 100.1. FnF has placed four songs on LA's popular podcast "This Life" with Dr. Drew and also boasts numerous notable performances nationwide.

Berkshire County's Got Talent winner, Madelyn Gardner, will be joined by Brattleboro based folk-grass group, Pinedrop. The four-piece Americana band consists of Derek Sensale (guitar), Dan Bisson (upright bass), Nick Paar (mandolin) and Charlie Peckar (fiddle).

Australian singer/songwriter and guitarist, Carl Wockner was named the first Australian artist to win Top Honors at the International Acoustic Music Awards in 2015, and his album *Crayon Days* received an Independent Music Award-nomination for Best Adult Contemporary Album in 2016. It was following this success that Wockner relocated to Nashville, TN.

Tickets to the *Catch the Fever: An Evening with Fabrizio and the Fever* are \$15 and \$25. VIP tickets are \$50, which include premium seating, 6pm pre-show reception in the Garage with complimentary refreshments, Fabrizio and the Fever meet and greet and signed event poster. Contact the Colonial Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield by calling 413-997-4444, or online at www.berkshiretheatregroup.org. The Ticket Office is open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 10am-2pm, or on any performance day from 10am until curtain.

## **About Berkshire Theatre Group**

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG). Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Every year, BTG produces and presents performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through our Educational Program, serves over 13,000 Berkshire County schoolchildren annually. BTG's celebrated stages reflect the history of the American theatre; they represent a priceless cultural resource for the community.