

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Christmas Carol Celebrates Another Year at The Hanover Theatre



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Worcester, Mass. (June 28, 2016) Generously sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, New England's largest and most spectacular production of *A Christmas Carol* returns to The Hanover Theatre for another year of record-breaking performances. Adapted and directed by Troy Siebels, president and CEO of The Hanover Theatre, this Charles Dickens classic is a holiday family favorite. *A Christmas Carol* warms the hearts of audiences from the moment they walk in the door, charming over 19,000 patrons in 2015. *A Christmas Carol* is playing December 16-23, 2016.

A Christmas Carol tells the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, who is visited by the ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Future. This brilliant musical, set with dazzling effects, timeless music and colorful costumes, lighting and scenery, follows Scrooge through a series of strange and enchanting journeys on a quest to change his destiny and save his soul. "I'm anxious to get into rehearsals for this year's show," says Siebels, "We're exploring a couple of veteran actors in different roles this year, which I think is going to change the energy of the show in a great way."

The ninth annual production of *A Christmas Carol* is performed to the music of the Mighty Wurlitzer organ, New England's largest theatre pipe organ containing over 2,400 pipes. The organ offers audience members a unique sound, providing more breadth and variety to the production. A trademark of Siebels' production of *A Christmas Carol* is that he updates and innovates each year to keep the show fresh and audiences on their toes.

Many veteran actors are returning to reprise their roles in the 2016 production, including Jeremy Lawrence and Marc Geller as Ebenezer Scrooge and Jacob Marley, respectively. Both Lawrence

and Geller receive high praise for their performances and are sure to deliver beyond the audience's expectations. For his performance in the 2015 production, Geller won Broadway World's Best Actor in a Musical.

The Hanover Theatre is continuing to offer a sensory-friendly performance in partnership with the New England chapter of Autism Speaks, a unique theatre experience for individuals and families impacted by autism as well as families with young kids. The performance happens in a supportive, judgment-free environment where other accommodations of support are provided, including quiet areas and trained staff to assist with patrons' needs. This special performance takes place on Sunday, December 18 at 11 a.m. The Hanover Theatre is offering American Sign Language interpretation and audio description at the performance on Sunday December 18 at 4 p.m.

The Hanover Theatre is holding auditions for *A Christmas Carol* this September. Stay tuned for further information and concrete audition dates.

Tickets to *A Christmas Carol* start at \$28. Discounts are available to members of The Hanover Theatre and groups of 10 or more. **Tickets for students and children are 50% off.** Tickets are available online at TheHanoverTheatre.org, by phone at 877.571.SHOW (7469) or at The Hanover Theatre box office located at 2 Southbridge Street in downtown Worcester. A portion of the proceeds from the December 21 performance will benefit [Worcester Community Action Council](http://WorcesterCommunityActionCouncil.org).

Student matinees of *A Christmas Carol* are held on Friday, December 16 at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, December 20 at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, December 21 at 10 a.m. Please contact Meghan Montaner, director of education, at Meghan@thehanovertheatre.org or 508.471.1793 for more information.

About The Hanover Theatre

The Hanover Theatre continues to draw over 180,000 patrons annually with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits ("Les Misérables," "Jersey Boys"), comedians (Dave Chappelle, Jay Leno, Daniel Tosh), musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, Donny Osmond) and everything in between ("A Christmas Carol," Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Alton Brown). POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the Top Theatres in the World. After eight seasons, the award-winning, historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class performing arts venue, acting as a catalyst for the economic development of downtown Worcester. The Hanover Theatre's acquisition of 551 Main Street houses new function space, offices, rental space for a restaurant on the ground floor and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory for the Performing Arts on the lower level.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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