

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **New England's Most Spectacular Production of A Christmas Carol Returns to The Hanover Theatre** Including an All-New Autism-Friendly Performance This Year



**Worcester, MA (November 19, 2015)** Celebrate the holiday season at The Hanover Theatre with New England's largest and most spectacular production of *A Christmas Carol*, December 18-27, 2015. Adapted and directed by Troy Siebels, president & CEO of The Hanover Theatre, this Charles Dickens classic has quickly become a family holiday tradition, warming the hearts of many throughout central New England. Theatregoers will be embraced by a warm, inviting experience from the moment they walk in the door.

Generously sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and MassLive, the eighth annual production of *A Christmas Carol* will be 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 it is tweaked and revised each year to keep the show young and fresh. "The production has been such an audience pleaser that it is a continuous challenge to try to find new things to improve from year to year," said Siebels, "We do have a few new things up our sleeve for 2015!"

Many veteran actors will be returning to reprise their roles in the 2015 production. Most notable are Jeremy Lawrence and Marc Geller, who will portray Ebenezer Scrooge and Jacob Marley respectively. Both Lawrence and Geller have received high praise from critics for their past performances from critics and are sure to deliver highlight moments in this year's show.

The Hanover Theatre is proud to partner with the New England Chapter of Autism Speaks, Theatre Development Fund, HMEA's Autism Resource Central and VSA Massachusetts to offer

an Autism-friendly performance. This performance of *A Christmas Carol* is intended as a unique theatre experience for individuals and families impacted by autism. The performance will happen in a supportive and judgment-free environment. Other accommodations of support will be provided, including a quiet area if individuals and families need a break from the experience as well as trained staff and volunteers to assist with patrons' needs. We encourage all those impacted by autism to join us. To take a look at the performance guide, click [here](#).

This special performance will take place on Tuesday, December 22 at 6pm. For information about other accessibility performances for *A Christmas Carol*, please visit the [show page](#).

To check out interviews with the cast and production staff, as well as find out special behind-the-scenes information, check out The Hanover Theatre's [blog](#).

Tickets to *A Christmas Carol* are \$28, \$42 and \$52, depending on seating location. 10% discounts are available for members, groups of 10 or more, corporate partners, seniors, Woo Pass holders and AAA members. **Kids and students are 50% off.** Please call the box office at 877.571.SHOW (7469) or visit [TheHanoverTheatre.org](http://TheHanoverTheatre.org) for more information.

Student matinees are available December 18, 21 and 22 at 10am. Please contact Kelly Rourke, education assistant, at [krouke@thehanovertheatre.org](mailto:krouke@thehanovertheatre.org) or 508.471.1765 for more information.

### **About The Hanover Theatre**

The Hanover Theatre continues to draw over 170,000 patrons annually with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits ("Les Misérables," "Mary Poppins," "Jersey Boys"); comedians (Steve Martin, Jay Leno, Daniel Tosh); musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, Diana Ross); and everything in between ("A Christmas Carol," Maya Angelou, Rudy Giuliani, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre). Ranked by POLLSTAR as one of the Top 50 Theatres in the World, the theatre opened in March of 2008 following a \$32 million historic renovation. Over the last seven seasons, the theatre has established its place as a world-class performing arts venue, acting as a catalyst for the economic development of downtown Worcester. In 2015 the theatre finalized the purchase of a vacant, three-floor former office building with street-level retail space at 551 Main Street. The building will ultimately house office space for theatre administration, function areas, a restaurant on the ground floor and an educational space on the lower level. The building is set to open in 2016. For more information, visit [www.TheHanoverTheatre.org](http://www.TheHanoverTheatre.org).

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.