

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Five Comedians. One Stage. Endless Possibilities.



Worcester, Mass. (April 13, 2017) When five favorites on the Boston comedy scene get together for one night, anything can happen. Don't miss a night of side-splitting laughter and great stand-up comedy when Lenny Clarke, Steve Sweeney, Christine Hurley, Orlando Baxter and Dan Smith bring the *Worcester Comedy Blowout* to The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, Friday, June 23 at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale now.

Lenny Clarke: Veteran Boston stand-up comedian Lenny Clarke has an oddly calibrated act. His material and his perspective is very much in an old-school Don Rickles vein, but his attitude is very much that of a quick-witted young comic. This contrast comes wrapped in a conversational, deceptively genial delivery, with just brief moments of clowning. Clarke is also unpredictable in a very good way on stage — you don't know where he's going to go next. It's never the same show twice. He's a unique and funny performer ... truly worth catching. — NYC Review

Steve Sweeney: Born in Charlestown, Steve Sweeney is a legendary Boston comedian known as a master of dialects and character voices. With his famous Boston accent and great insight into human nature, Steve is so thoroughly Bostonian that he merits his own stop on the MBTA Green Line.

Steve learned his craft at the world famous Ding Ho Comedy Club, where he performed with Lenny Clarke, Denis Leary, Jay Leno, and more. Well-rounded and seasoned, Steve has kept audiences laughing for years. He won his status, the old-fashioned way...he earned it!

He has been featured on major television shows including "David Letterman", "Evening at the Improv", "Comics Come Home", and "Comedy Central", and starred in his own Boston-based sitcom, "Park Street Under". Steve's trademark political satire has earned him top host spots on Boston radio stations 100.7FM WZLX (Sweeney's Neighborhood) and 95.9FM WATD (Jay Mohr and Opie & Anthony.) In addition, Steve is an elite Master of Ceremonies selected by many charitable and political organizations (of both parties, but separately, of course!)

Christine Hurley: Christine Hurley is a married mother of 5 kids that got her start in stand-up comedy on Nick-At-Nite's Search for America's Funniest Mom Contest. Since then, Christine has worked with Boston's best comedians and is highly sought after!!! She just performed at the TD Garden with Denis Leary, Jimmy Fallon, Louis CK, Ray Romano, Steven Wright and Steve Sweeney for the Cam Neeley Foundation's "Comics Come Home 21."

Orlando Baxter: Orlando Baxter exploded onto the Boston comedy scene in 2005, and quickly established himself as one of the areas hottest young comics. In 2007 Orlando was a finalist in NBC's 'Stand Up for Diversity Showcase'. His fresh perspective and unique relatability quickly solidified this high school teacher into a fan favorite. In 2010, he became a finalist in both the New York Comedy Contest and the Boston Comedy festival. And in 2012 he toured across the country with national headliner Jo Koy, as the opening act in the "Lights Out" tour. In 2014 Orlando made his second TV appearance on AXS TV's "Gotham Live." He was also a finalist at the prestigious Montreux Comedy festival in Switzerland. Orlando is a regular headliner at numerous comedy clubs throughout New England, and performs all over the country.

Dan Smith: Dan Smith started comedy while attending Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. After graduating, he entered and won The Funniest Comic in Boston contest sponsored by HBO. Soon after that, he picked up and moved to Los Angeles. Since then he's been a busy comedian. He's completed twenty one (and still counting) military comedy tours, performing for US and NATO troops in over 35 countries around the world including Bosnia, Kosovo, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Japan, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq. He's also opened for the incredible George Lopez at the Universal Amphitheater. Several independent film projects, as well as multiple television appearances are to his credit. These include 'Drew Carey', 'Talk Soup', 'Loco Comedy Jam', 'Star Search' and a comedy special on the Starz Network. Dan has also enjoyed success behind the camera. He's written and produced on several shows such as "Blind Date", "The 5th Wheel" and "Ex-Treme Dating". Also, he wrote jokes for Us Weekly Magazine for more than four years as a member of the Fashion Police.

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Tickets to the *Worcester Comedy Blowout* \$25 and \$35. Discounts are available to members of The Hanover Theatre and groups of 10 or more. 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.

About The Hanover Theatre

The Hanover Theatre continues to draw over 197,000 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 and Conservatory. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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