

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory Receives \$1 Million Gift for Scholarships



Worcester, Mass. (December 21, 2021)

The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts announced today that it has received a transformational gift from an anonymous donor to support scholarships for students from Worcester County. The gift, the largest single contribution that the organization has received from an individual donor in its history, will significantly increase access to arts education, training, and performance opportunities for young people.

“A gift of this magnitude is truly game changing for our organization and, more importantly, life changing for the thousands of students who will benefit over the years” said Meghan Montaner, the President of The Hanover Theatre’s Conservatory and Education Division. “I feel incredibly blessed to be able to do this work and to have it recognized in this way is humbling. I am certain that this generous gift will be the reason for so many young people to find their passion and their place in the world through the arts. “

The gift will be directed to a newly established endowment at the Greater Worcester Community Foundation supporting scholarships for young people studying theatre, dance, music, and technical theatre at the

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Conservatory. The donors have a strong belief in the transformative power of the performing arts and wanted their gift to allow more families in the area to take advantage of the conservatory's high-quality classes, programs and performances.

"The Hanover Theatre Conservatory is a dynamic, creative jewel that offers performing opportunities to youth and adults in Central Massachusetts" say the donors. "Because we admire the energy and leadership that Meghan Montaner has brought to this organization, we hope our gift will raise awareness of the availability of the Conservatory's broad learning opportunities and performance events available to the Greater Worcester community."

Scholarships will be made available on a rolling basis through an online application process on the conservatory's website. A new semester of performing arts classes for youth and adults will start January 17. Those seeking financial assistance for the coming semester should submit an application no later than Wednesday, January 5.

The online scholarship application can be found at TheHanoverTheatre.org/conservatory/tuition-payments/. For more information about The Hanover Theatre Conservatory and its programs that make the arts accessible to young people, visit TheHanoverTheatre.org/conservatory/outreach/. To make a donation, please visit TheHanoverTheatre.org/support/membership-individual-giving/.

About The Hanover Theatre Conservatory

The Hanover Theatre Conservatory provides performance opportunities, classes, and individual instruction in theatre, dance, and technical theatre and design to more than 500 young people and adults from across central Massachusetts each year. The Conservatory's engagement initiatives reach 16,000 students in the community each year through student matinees and school-based programming. Established in 2013, the Conservatory cultivates individual attention, ignites creativity and inspires confidence through arts education led by outstanding teaching artists. The state-of-the-art facility includes classrooms, rehearsal and teaching studios, and tech and costume labs for advanced education in stage craft and design. In addition to the permanent faculty, Conservatory students have access to workshops and master classes with guest artists from national touring productions. The Conservatory offers need-based scholarships to ensure access to arts education regardless of financial means. Many Conservatory students have continued their pursuit of the arts at institutions such as Emerson College, Boston University, NYU, Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Berklee College of Music, Hofstra, Hartt School at the University of Hartford, Marymount Manhattan College, Syracuse University and more.

Since opening in 2008, The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than two million guests with Broadway musicals, comedy headliners, music, dance, and more. The award-winning historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class center for the performing arts, a venue for local cultural and civic organizations, and a catalyst for the revitalization of downtown Worcester. The Hanover Theatre's facilities at 551 Main Street house function spaces, offices and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory.

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

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