

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The Hanover Theatre Repertory's *A Christmas Carol Reimagined* keeps the ghost light on**



**Worcester, Mass. (Updated December 9, 2020)** As audiences eagerly await the reopening of The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts' main stage, the organization will continue to deliver programming through The Hanover Theatre Repertory (THT Rep). On the heels of its debut production, "Edgar Allan Poe Double Header," THT Rep next offers *A Christmas Carol Reimagined*, a filmed theatrical production available for digital streaming December 11-31.

"This story, and our tradition of bringing it to audiences, feels particularly urgent this year," explained President and CEO Troy Siebels, who has directed the spectacular and beloved *A Christmas Carol* for the last 12 years in the organization's 2,300-seat house on Main Street. "COVID has demanded that we reinvent and re-evaluate all things, including all things performing arts. *A Christmas Carol* is no exception."

In a compelling departure from his main stage production, Siebels' 2020 adaptation features a small group of actors exploring the dark stage of a theater that has been shuttered due to a pandemic. Dusty scenic pieces and discarded playbills litter the space. The ghost light, however, remains illuminated. Inspired, the actors discover the forgotten treasures that have

been left behind, using what they find to bring Scrooge's story to life in a whole new way.

"With its commitment to create dynamic theatrical events focused on classics, THT Rep makes for the perfect vehicle to deliver *A Christmas Carol Reimagined*," said Olivia Scanlon, artistic director of THT Rep. "With its raw, spare aesthetic, the BrickBox makes for the perfect space to strip the story down, literally and metaphorically, to its bare essentials. We are asking ourselves, in a whole new way: 'Why this story, at this moment, for this audience?'"

Cast member Taavon Gamble (Actor 1/Bob Cratchit) added, "I'm so excited to be involved. I think this story resonates more than ever today because we all can relate to Scrooge's isolation from others and his journey to becoming part of society again. I love this version Troy has reimagined. It puts the emphasis squarely on the storytelling, creating a playground for actors to just run with."

Rather than perform for live audiences, *A Christmas Carol Reimagined* will be filmed, then offered for digital streaming to be enjoyed remotely, as well as through safe, socially-distant screenings at the Worcester BrickBox Theater at the Jean McDonough Arts Center, which has its own projector and screen much like an independent movie theatre.

With *A Christmas Carol Reimagined*, THT Rep introduces a tiered ticketing system that allows patrons to choose what they pay based on the honor system and radically transparent insights into the costs associated with creating the work. For *A Christmas Carol Reimagined*, digital access and tickets to the screenings will range from \$5-\$100. Subsidized tickets are made possible by co-sponsors [Assumption University](#), [Bartholomew & Company, Inc.](#), [The Club at Rockland Trust](#), [Country Bank](#) and [Cornerstone Bank](#), and supporting co-sponsors [Worcester Academy](#) and [Worcester State University](#). For more information and tickets, visit [TheHanoverTheatre.org](#) or call the box office at 877.571.SHOW (7469).

The Hanover Theatre is also proud to present *A Christmas Carol Reimagined* as a virtual student matinee. Generously sponsored by [UniBank](#), this virtual option is suggested for grades 6-8 and includes additional resources for educators such as a Teacher Resource Guide, exclusive behind-the-scenes video content, a live Q&A session on Zoom with the cast and more. For more information on this and other virtual student matinees, please visit [TheHanoverTheatre.org/student-matinee](#).

### **Press Materials**

For information about the cast, crew and creative team, [click here for bios](#) and [here for photos](#) from the set on the day of filming.

**About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts** The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than 2 million patrons with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits ("Jersey Boys," "Kinky Boots," "Something Rotten!"), comedians (Dave Chappelle, Jay Leno, Jerry Seinfeld), musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John

Legend, Tony Bennett) and everything in between (“A Christmas Carol,” Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Alton Brown, Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson). POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the Top Theatres in the World. After 12 seasons, the award-winning, historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class performing arts venue and catalyst for the economic development 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 and, on behalf of the Worcester Cultural Coalition, manages Worcester’s new BrickBox Theater at the Jean McDonough Arts Center. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

### **About The Hanover Theatre Repertory**

A new initiative of The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts, The Hanover Theatre Repertory is committed to engaging, entertaining and energizing a diverse audience with dynamic theatrical events made in and for Worcester's BrickBox Theater, with a focus on classics, modern classics and classics-inspired works. Learn more at [TheHanoverTheatre.org/THTRep](http://TheHanoverTheatre.org/THTRep).



### **About the Jean McDonough Arts Center**

The Worcester BrickBox Theater at The Jean McDonough Arts Center is an initiative of The Worcester Cultural Coalition operated in partnership with The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts. Learn more at [www.jmacworchester.org](http://www.jmacworchester.org) and on social media @jmacworchester.



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