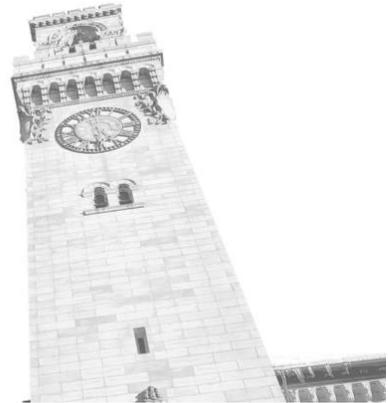




SHAKESPEARE'S
JULIUS CAESAR



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Hanover Theatre Repertory to offer
Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* as gift to the community**

Worcester, Mass. (February 12, 2021) The Hanover Theater Repertory (THT Rep), a new initiative committed to engaging, entertaining and energizing Worcester audiences with dynamic theatrical events, is proud to partner with the City of Worcester to present William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Performances will be offered free and open to the public on the Worcester Common Friday, August 6 through Sunday, August 22, with preview performances starting Tuesday, August 3.

"This production is our gift to the community, a way of saying 'thank you' for the extraordinary level of support we've been shown throughout the pandemic," said Troy Siebels, president and CEO of The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts. "We are grateful for the opportunity to work with the city to safely bring live theatre back to downtown."

Shakespeare's timely tragedy is equal parts political drama and civil war epic, and chronicles the battle for the soul of a republic. Specially adapted and directed by THT Rep's artistic director, Livy Scanlon, this *Julius Caesar* will run approximately 90 minutes with intermission and feature immersive, energetic, socially distanced staging. Togas and crowd participation will be encouraged, as audiences will have the opportunity to boo and cheer along with the action. Seating will be available in the Worcester Common Oval on a first-come-first-serve basis, while those who arrive later can bring their own lawn chairs or join the fun from a park bench.

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As with past THT Rep productions, COVID-19 safety precautions will be enforced at *Julius Caesar* and performances will follow state guidelines.

“It is critically important to keep people connected to the arts, and COVID-19 has forced us to reimagine how to do that,” City Manager Edward M. Augustus, Jr. said. “Staging *Julius Caesar* outside will once again allow audiences to safely enjoy live theatre and stay connected to the city’s vibrant arts scene. We are excited to partner with THT Rep to help bring this production to life.”

THT Rep has a proven track record of following safety protocols at recent performances including *Edgar Allan Poe Double Header* in October and *A Christmas Carol Reimagined* in December, both of which were approved by the health and safety teams at Actors’ Equity Association.

In order to hire professional theatre artists, meet all costs and offer performances free and open to the public, THT Rep’s production of *Julius Caesar* relies on generous underwriting from individual and institutional sponsors, including presenting sponsors [Assumption University](#) and [BayState Savings Bank](#).

“Live theatre is incredibly expensive to produce, even more so when it’s staged outside,” explained Scanlon. “Though it may sound like a lot, we’re mounting this *Julius Caesar* on an incredibly lean budget of only \$200,000, which means paying the professionals on the show little more than the minimum wage.”

“We will be seeking to raise the dollars we need in the coming weeks,” Siebels said. “Our generous supporters will enable us to offer these performances to audiences at no cost and to build toward a future where we can support local theatre professionals with the higher wages we need to attract them to stay in Worcester.”

For information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Senior Sales Manager Diane Pieciak at diane@thehanovertheatre.org or call 508.930.2424.

To learn more about THT Rep’s *Julius Caesar*, visit TheHanoverTheatre.org/juliuscaesar or call 877.571.SHOW (7469), or to register for a safe, socially distanced audition this month, visit TheHanoverTheatre.org/thtrepauditions.

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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.

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