

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***\$1.5 Million Matching Gift Campaign for The Hanover Theatre
Repertory is Announced***



AN INITIATIVE OF
HANOVER THEATRE
& CONSERVATORY

Worcester, Mass. (October 7th, 2022)

Long story short: vital cities have vital downtowns, and vital downtowns have great professional theatre.

That was the message at last night's reception hosted by Lisa McDonough, Chair of the Board of Directors of The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts (THTC). An audience of over 100 guests gathered for a private performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, staged in the BrickBox Theater by The Hanover Theatre Repertory (THT Rep), a new initiative of THTC that produces theatrical events made in and for Worcester, with a focus on classics, modern classics and classics-inspired works. THT Rep fills a void that has existed since the closing of Worcester Foothills Theatre in 2007.

Prior to the private performance, a \$1.5 million challenge grant from the McDonough Foundation was announced to support THT Rep, which made its first big splash last summer when its production of *Julius Caesar* played free and open to the public on the Worcester Common.

All gifts up to \$1.5 million will be matched dollar for dollar, up until December 31, 2023.

“Our family is incredibly proud to have funded the Jean McDonough Arts Center (JMAC), which serves as home to The BrickBox Theater,” explained the McDonough family. “It’s only logical that we would now support THT Rep in its efforts to animate the BrickBox with professional plays.”

Adds Troy Siebels, President and CEO of THTC, “THT Rep and the BrickBox are the perfect complement to the mainstage at The Hanover Theatre. While the mainstage brings Broadway musicals and other large-scale performances to our downtown, THT Rep and the BrickBox are perfect for the intimate staging of dramatic plays. We are incredibly grateful to the McDonough family for their support.”

To learn more, please visit TheHanoverTheatre.org/support/thtrep-challenge-grant/.

THT Rep’s production of *Macbeth* runs through October 15, 2022. To cultivate community and equity, THT Rep offers an innovative tiered ticket pricing model that lets patrons choose what they pay based on what they may be able to afford. Tickets from \$8-\$110 are available at TheHanoverTheatre.org/Macbeth.

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About The Hanover Theatre Repertory

The mission of THT Rep is to engage, entertain and energize audiences with dynamic theatrical events made in and for Worcester, with a focus on classics, modern classics and classics-inspired works.

Born in response to the pandemic, The Hanover Theatre Repertory established itself as a new initiative of The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts with its 2020-2021 offerings: The Edgar Allan Poe Double Header, A Christmas Carol: Reimagined and Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar, which played free and open to the public on the Worcester Common.

In addition to *Macbeth*, THT Rep’s 2022-2023 lineup includes a limited-run remount of The Edgar Allan Poe Double Header, a staged reading of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller featuring an all-female cast, and a party-performance called *The Marvelous Party*, inspired by Noël Coward’s poem of the same name. Learn more at www.TheHanoverTheatre.org/THTRep.

About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts

Since opening in 2008, The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than two million guests with Broadway musicals, comedy headliners, music, dance and more. POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the top theatres in the world. 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.

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. Established in 2016, 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. Students receive access to master classes with national touring artists and gain professional experience from performance opportunities with THT Rep and on The Hanover Theatre's world-class stage. THTC believes in access to arts education for all and provides financial aid for those in need. 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.

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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