

NEWS RELEASE

For interview requests, please contact Lisa Condit at 508.471.1767 or PR@TheHanoverTheatre.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shrewsbury's Siebels and Sankar are joined by Samarth and Shriram Shenoy, real life brothers who will play brothers in The Hanover Theatre's A Christmas Carol December 16-23



Worcester, Mass. (November 15, 2023) - The classic Charles Dickens' masterpiece, <u>A Christmas</u> <u>Carol</u>, returns to The Hanover Theatre mainstage this **December 16-23**, generously sponsored by Assumption University.

Shriram Shenoy is a student at Oak Middle School in Shrewsbury. He enjoys cross country, basketball, and karate. While he considers himself a "big sports person", he also enjoys musical theatre and most recentlly appeared onstage at his school. Shriram's favorite experience at The Hanover Theatre so far was seeing the national tour of *Percy Jackson*. He can't wait to share the big stage with his younger brother, Samarth.

Samarth Shenoy is a student at the Floral Street School in Shrewsbury who likes eating cake! He participates in a variety of activities including soccer, karate (blue belt), and art-colored pencils are his favorite medium so far. Playing the role of Tiny Tim will be his stage debut! Samarth has fond memories of seeing *Clifford* at The Hanover Theatre. He can't wait to share the big stage with his big brother, Shriram.

Sahana Sankar is currently a sophomore at Shrewsbury High School. She has studied Indian classical music since childhood under the tutelage of her mother and has been a performing artist ever since. Sahana has participated in and won many competitions as well as performed for many occasions. Her voice is featured on "Holidays at The Hanover Theatre Volume 1", the theatre's debut album, which was released just this summer. Apart from singing, she has a passion for acting. She attended an acting course from the New York Film Academy during the pandemic to help strengthen her skills. She also played the lead role of Littlest One in the production *Gossamer* (Shrewsbury Public High School).

Charlotte Siebels is also student at Oak Middle School in Shrewsbury. She is really excited to meet new people and perform onstage again. Charlotte last appeared in *A Christmas Carol* in 2019 playing the role of Fan. She has participated in the Youth Summer Program with The Hanover Theatre Conservatory for four years now (most recently in *Fiddler on the Roof*) and continues to take year round acting classes. This fall, Charlotte was in her school's production of *This is a Test*. When in school, she sings with Worcester Children's Chorus and the OMS Select Choir.

President and CEO of The Hanover Theatre, Troy Siebels directs New England's largest production of *A Christmas Carol* with timeless music, lavish costumes and spine-tingling special effects. The creative team includes music director/organist Timothy Evans, choreographer Ilyse Robbins, associate directors Steve Gagliastro* and Annie Kerins*, South Asian cultural consultant Alka Nayyar*, costume designer Gail Astrid Buckley, set designer Jim Kronzer, lighting designer Charlie Morrison, sound designer Nick Joyce and flying by On the Fly Productions. The stage management team includes Jane Siebels*, Melissa Daroff* and Abby Ray.

Be sure to get seated early to enjoy the pre-show concert featuring the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ, the largest and most versatile theatre pipe organ in New England, led by *A Christmas Carol* music director Timothy Evans.

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

<u>Tickets</u> for this holiday classic are on sale now for \$32, \$52 and \$62 depending on seat location. Discounts are available for Broadway subscribers. For more information, please contact the box office at **877.571.7469** or visit TheHanoverTheatre.org.

Saturday, December 16th 2023, 2 pm
Saturday, December 16th 2023, 7 pm
Sunday, December 17th 2023, 1pm (Sensory-Friendly)
Sunday, December 17th 2023, 6 pm (ASL interpretation & Audio Description available)
Wednesday, December 20th 2023, 7 pm
Friday, December 22nd 2023, 7 pm
Saturday, December 23rd 2023, 2 pm
Saturday, December 23rd 2023, 7 pm

Sensory Friendly Performance, Sunday, December 17, at 1:00 pm.

A sensory friendly performance is a specially adapted show, modified for adults and children who might benefit from a more relaxed environment.

<u>Tickets</u> start at \$16 and are half-price for this special performance made possible by the sponsorship of <u>UMass Memorial Health Care</u>, and <u>UMass Chan Medical School</u>.

Audio Description and ASL services available at the Sunday, December 17, 6:00 pm performance.

If you are using ASL services, please call the ticketing office at 877.571.7469 when you are ready to purchase tickets, to be placed in seats in front of the ASL interpreter.

Groups of 10 or more: Book your group early and save money!

Student Matinees: For information on student matinees, contact Kim Pheymannicie, Student Matinee Coordinator, at kpheymannicie@thehanovertheatre.org or **508.471.1765.**

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 (THT) and, on behalf of the Worcester Cultural Coalition (WCC), manages Worcester's BrickBox Theater at the

Jean McDonough Arts Center (JMAC). All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

###