

#### NEWS RELEASE

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

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Worcester's Chris Bardizbanian to play Young Scrooge in The Hanover Theatre's A Christmas Carol coming 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 <u>Assumption University</u>.

Chris Bardizbanian is a 5th grader at West Tatnuck Elementary in Worcester. He is excited to make his debut on The Hanover Theatre's stage. He has performed a few skits with the Armenian youth art program, and Worcester Public School's summer art camp. He enjoys playing soccer and being a ninja at Ultimate Obstacles. Additionally, Chris plays the piano and is learning the trumpet this year. He is often recognized for his empathy, respect, and compassion

for others at school. He would like to thank his family and teachers for their support, and the directors of the show for this opportunity. He hopes you enjoy the show.

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 16<sup>th</sup> 2023, 2 pm
Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 2023, 7 pm
Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2023, 1pm (Sensory-Friendly)
Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2023, 6 pm (ASL interpretation & Audio Description available)
Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> 2023, 7 pm
Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023, 7 pm
Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023, 2 pm
Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:kpheymannicie@thehanovertheatre.org">kpheymannicie@thehanovertheatre.org</a> 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.

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