HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY

NEWS RELEASE

For interview requests, please contact Annie Kerins, PR Manager, at akerins@thehanovertheatre.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Killingly Based Ballerina, Stella Seney, Kicks Off Thanksgiving Weekend as Clara in The Nutcracker at The Hanover Theatre!

Photo Credit: Mike Nyman Photography, Stella Seney

Worcester, Mass (October 15, 2024) Fifteen-year-old ballerina, Stella Seney of Killingly, Conn. will grace the stage as Clara in *The Nutcracker* at The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts, generously sponsored by Berkshire Bank on **November 29 – December 1, 2024.**

Seney will be joined by dancer Olivia St. Laurent who is also a student in the Killingly Public School System.

Featuring live music from The Hanover Theatre Nutcracker Orchestra conducted by Eric Culver, this production of *The Nutcracker* will enchant you with dazzling lighting and scenery by Broadway designers, brilliant dancing and vibrant costumes.

Tickets are on sale now!

November 29, 2024 at 2 pm
November 29, 2024 at 7 pm
November 30, 2024 at 2 pm
November 30, 2024 at 7 pm
December 1, 2024 at 1 pm

The Nutcracker is a two-act ballet by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky first performed in Russia in December 1892 and based on the stories of E.T.A. Hoffmann and Alexandre Dumas. The story revolves around Clara, a young girl who receives a nutcracker doll as a Christmas gift and then enters a fantastical world where the Nutcracker and other characters come to life.

Stella Seney is eager to play the role of Clara on The Hanover Theater's main stage. She will share the stage with professional dancers on a beautifully designed set, a lifelong dream come true for this young performer. Seney currently attends Killingly High School, where she is an honor student pursuing a career pathway in criminal justice and law. Alongside her academic pursuits, Seney is a passionate and competitive dancer, skilled in all genres of dance. She trains at Taylor Studios and assists in teaching dance to younger students. She is a full-time student at The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts and is also a member of the Youth Ballet Company where she is in the junior company division.

Join Seney and the Nutcracker for a special meet-and-greet tea party on **November 3**! *Cookies and Tea with Clara* is an enchanting event, where children are whisked off for a magical hour of dancing, storytelling, eating cookies and sipping tea. Learn more at TheHanoverTheatre.org!

Tickets to see in *The Nutcracker* on **November 29 – December 1** range from $39 to $59 depending on seat location, performance and availability. Discounts are available for Broadway subscribers. Please contact the box office at 877.571.7469 or visit TheHanoverTheatre.org for more information.

Discounts are also available for groups of 10 or more. To learn more about group rates call 508.471.1689 or email groupsales@thehanovertheatre.org.

About the Youth Ballet Company

The Hanover Conservatory's Youth Ballet Company is known for its commitment to artistic excellence and dedication to nurturing the next generation of dancers. Under the guidance of Director of Dance, Jennifer Agbay, the company aims to inspire and empower young

dancers to reach their full potential while creating and fostering a supportive and collaborative environment.

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 (THTC) provides performance opportunities, classes, and individual instruction in theatre, dance and technical theatre and design to more than 600 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 The Hanover Theatre Repertory (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 University, Hartt School at the University of Hartford, Marymount Manhattan College, Syracuse University and more.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, which 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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