HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brendon Fox returns to direct The Hanover Theatre Conservatory's Youth Acting Company in Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale February 21-23!

Photo Caption: **Back Row (L-R):** Claudia Rufo, Amanda Buszkiewicz, Emma Jones, Benjamin Miller, Ava Guckian, Aidan O'Brien, Andrew Smith, Devon Thomson, Maxwell Caraballo

Middle Row (L-R): Zander Ramey, Wyatt Muise, Isabella Rossi, Mateo Luna Ortegon, Natalie Cusimano

Front: Ellie Stoddard

Worcester, Mass. (February 6, 2025) The Youth Acting Company at The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts will be performing William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* at the BrickBox Theater in a new adaptation directed by Brendon Fox **February 21-23**.

Tickets are on sale now!

The Winter's Tale is a captivating parable of betrayals, renewed hope, and the transformative power of time and love. King Leontes of Sicilia (Aidan O'Brien of Clinton) falsely accuses his wife, Hermione (Ava Guckian of Northborough), of infidelity with his best friend, the King of

Bohemia (Maxwell Caraballo of Worcester). Inflamed by jealousy and convinced that he is right, Leontes' torment causes a storm of loss that only the next generation can heal.

This lesser-known Shakespeare fable was recently described by director, Brendon Fox as **"an amazing mix of humor, love, and second chances."** Fox returns to the theatre after previously directing Shakespeare productions with the Youth Acting Company and The Hanover Theatre Repertory last spring.

Recently named the Artistic Director of Peterborough Players in New Hampshire, Brendon Fox is a director, teacher, adapter and producer who has worked nationally and internationally at prominent regional theaters, universities and training programs, including Prague Shakespeare Company, The Julliard School, Cleveland Play House, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Long Wharf Theater, Portland Center Stage, the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, and Worcester State University.

The cast includes select local teen actors from all over central Massachusetts, including Ellie Stoddard (Worcester) as Mamillius, Mateo Luna Ortegon (Worcester) as Archidamus/Villager, Astrid Bidwell (Worcester) as Autolycus, joining Natalie Cusimano (Boylston) as Camillo, Andrew Smith (Sutton) as Antigonus/Time, Maya Harrington (Hudson) as Emelia, Devon Thomson (Hopedale) as Shepherd, Amanda Buszkiewicz (Westminster) as Perdita, Zander Ramey (Fitchburg) as Shepherd's Son. Additional cast members include Isabella Rossi (Holden) as Paulina and Wyatt Muise (Holden) as Florizel, Emma Jones (Northboro), Claudio Rufo (Plainville), and Benjamin Miller (Grafton) in multiple roles throughout the show.

Tickets are on sale now!

These performances will be held in Worcester's BrickBox Theater in the Jean McDonough Arts Center at 20 Franklin Street, Worcester. Tickets are $25. Seating is general admission. Please contact the box office at 877.571.7469 or visit TheHanoverTheatre.org for additional information.

About the Youth Acting Company
YAC is a conservatory program for students ages 14-19. This program gives young, capable actors performance opportunities to expand their horizons as they work with a variety of directors and performance genres over the course of one season. Students are selected to participate on an annual basis. Invitations are sent each August.

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 Berklee College of Music, Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Boston University, Emerson College, Hartt School at the University of Hartford, Hofstra University, Marymount Manhattan College, Northwestern University, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, 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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