HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY

NEWS RELEASE

For interview requests,
please contact our press team at
PR@TheHanoverTheatre.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Born to Hand Jive, The Hanover Theatre Conservatory's Youth Acting Company Perform Grease at the BrickBox June 20-22!

Rehearsal Photos of *Grease* with The Hanover Theatre's Youth Acting Company

Worcester, Mass. (June 6, 2025) The Youth Acting Company at The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., a Concord Theatricals Company, will be performing the iconic musical, Grease **June 20-22**. **Tickets are on sale now!**

Navigating teen love and friendship at a turning point in American pop culture, this musical adaptation features the irresistible songs by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, "You're The One That I Want," "We Go Together," "Greased Lightnin'" and many more from the hit movie and Broadway musical.

Grease debuted Off-Broadway on February 14, 1972 at the Eden Theatre in New York City. The show transferred to Broadway's Broadhurst Theatre, and later to the Royale Theatre, closing on April 13, 1980 after a record-breaking 3,388 performances. The film adaptation of *Grease* premiered in 1978 and became the highest-grossing movie musical of all time.

This production of *Grease* is directed by Meghan Montaner, president of the conservatory & education division at The Hanover Theatre, who shared, **"*Grease* isn't just the cotton candy musical we all remember, it is a coming-of-age story that isn't so different from today. Whether you were born in 1940 or 2010, the teen years are a period of self-discovery, maturity, and navigating the relentless pressure of pop culture and the media."** Montaner's cast is comprised of 16 local teen actors from all over central Massachusetts.

Class of 1959 Rydell High School seniors, bad boy Danny, will be played by Aidan O'Brien of Clinton, opposite new girl Sandy, who will be played by Ava Guckian of Northborough.

Additional Burger Palace boys will be played by Devon Thomson (Hopedale), Maxwell Caraballo (Worcester), Wyatt Muise (Holden), and Zander Ramey (Fitchburg). While Maya Harrington (Hudson), Astrid Bidwell (Worcester), Claudia Rufo (Plainville), and Emma Jones (Northborough) will wear the jackets of the Pink Ladies.

Natalie Cusimano (Boylston), Amanda Buszkiewicz (Westminster), Andrew Smith (Sutton), Benjamin Miller (Grafton), and Isabella Rossi (Holden) complete the cast along with Mateo Luna Ortegon (Worcester) who plays both Vince Fontaine and Teen Angel.

Inspired by the music of Buddy Holly, Little Richard and Elvis Presley, *Grease* is the high-energy, electrifyin' musical that will make you want to get up and shout, "A-wop-bop-a-loo-bop A-wop-bam-boom!"

Tickets to *Grease* are $25. Seating is general admission. These performances will be held in Worcester's BrickBox Theater in the Jean McDonough Arts Center at 20 Franklin Street, Worcester. 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. The organization also operates the Jean McDonough Arts Center and provides free public programming for the Francis R. Carroll Plaza and the outdoor Bank of America Stage, located directly in front of The Hanover Theatre. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

###