HANOVER THEATRE & CONSERVATORY

NEWS RELEASE

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please contact our press team at
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 2025 WYSH (Worcester Youth Speak Honestly) Project runs July 11-12 at the JMAC!

WYSH 2025 Cast and Co-Facilitator, Unity Mike Photography
Standing L-R: Dakota Brooks and Nalani Cardenas, 1st row is
Seated L-R: Lynna Nyguen, Diana Khong (Co-facilitator) and Leona Le.
Other participants (not pictured): Hailey Troy, Janee Bonilla, Aliyah Nsiah Lopez and Yuyu Aponte.

Worcester, Mass. (July 7, 2025) The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts is excited to announce *The WYSH (Worcester Youth Speak Honestly) Project* will be presented across three public performances at the BrickBox Theater in the Jean McDonough Arts Center (JMAC) **July 11-12, 2025.**

All performances are free and include a talkback with the cast after the show.
RSVP to reserve your seats today!

Now in its fifth year, *The WYSH Project*, culminates in an original piece of theatre devised by a group of young people who live and attend school in Worcester. This show is a unique platform for young people to speak honestly about their experiences, the struggles they face and their visions for creating a better future in Worcester and beyond. It uses personal stories, dramatized scenes, movement pieces, and more.

The WYSH (Worcester Youth Speak Honestly) Project will be performed at the BrickBox, part of the Jean McDonough Arts Center (JMAC), located at 20 Franklin Street.

Friday, July 11, 2025, 7pm
Saturday, July 12, 2025, 2pm
Saturday, July 12, 2025, 7pm

Co-facilitated by Sharon Hart and Diana Khong, *The WYSH Project* is a year-long program that includes creating an original piece of theatre, a tour of the show to Worcester Public High Schools, a scholarship to take classes in the conservatory and regular meetups throughout the year to see Broadway and others shows at The Hanover Theatre. This program is designed to give participants a public platform to share their stories and speak their truths. It offers young people a transformative experience that fosters leadership, creative agency, and an experience of community and belonging through the arts. The group meets for over 100 hours, using various arts-based activities to examine their lives as young people growing up in Worcester and to then transmute their experiences into a collaborative, ensemble theater piece.

Admission to this culminating performance is free. Please call The Hanover Theatre's box office at 877.571.7469 or visit TheHanoverTheatre.org to reserve your seats today!

The WYSH Project is supported in part by a grant from The Hanover Insurance Group, Worcester Arts Council, a local agency, which is supported by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency and the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

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.

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