

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mary C. DeFeudis Pledging \$150,000 to The Hanover Theatre's New Performing Arts School



Worcester, Mass. (December 1, 2015) The Hanover Theatre is proud to broadcast that, at the annual meeting on Monday, November 16, honorary director of the board Mary C. DeFeudis announced her commitment of \$150,000 to the theatre's new performing arts school. The Hanover Theatre is thankful for her generosity and will name the school's largest space the Mary C. DeFeudis Performance Studio. "In buying 551 Main Street," says DeFeudis, "we are making another leap of faith that the Worcester community will continue its unwavering support and help us create a space for learning that is geared towards all ages and socioeconomic groups."

The rehearsal and performance studio is approximately the size of the theatre's stage to facilitate rehearsals, as well as small recitals, performances and classes. It can be divided into two smaller studios by a moveable partition wall, each with a sprung hardwood floor suitable for dance, and a full wall of mirrors and ballet barres. This is a key element to the theatre's new performing arts school. More information will be announced in the spring of 2016. "This will be a world class performance school that will build confidence and bring joy to the young and old while enhancing the theatre experience," adds DeFeudis.

The theatre still needs to raise \$1.5 million to complete the renovation of 551 Main Street and is seeking naming contributors for other spaces in the building. "Join me," urges DeFeudis, "as we continue to make the stars come out at night here in downtown Worcester." For more information about the project, please visit its [page](#) on The Hanover Theatre's website.

About The Hanover Theatre

The Hanover Theatre continues to draw over 170,000 patrons annually with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits (“Les Misérables,” “Jersey Boys,” “Camelot”); comedians (Dave Chappelle, Jay Leno, Daniel Tosh); musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John Legend); and everything in between (“A Christmas Carol,” Maya Angelou, Rudy Giuliani, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre). Consistently ranked by POLLSTAR as one of the Top Theatres in the World, the theatre opened in March of 2008 following a \$32 million historic renovation. Over the last seven seasons, the theatre has established its place as a world-class performing arts venue, acting as a catalyst for the economic development of downtown Worcester. In the spring of 2015, the theatre finalized the purchase of a vacant, three-floor former office building with street-level retail space at 551 Main Street. The building will ultimately house office space for theatre administration, function areas, a restaurant on the ground floor and an educational space on the lower level. The building is set to open in 2016.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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