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Photos and interviews available upon request

Cider Mill Playhouse Announces 2017-2018 Seasons

Endicott, NY: Cider Mill Playhouse is thrilled to announce the titles of the 2017-18 season, which includes three mega-hit comedies and two must-see musicals. As previously announced, Cider Mill Playhouse is excited to produce the season at the Union-Endicott High School which boasts recently upgraded lighting and sound, a house that accessibility-friendly and comfortable seating. The partnership allows the Playhouse to continue supporting business and tourism in Endicott while fundraising for and developing its permanent home.

The Mainstage Season starts off strong with COMEDY OF TENORS, a new comedy by Ken Ludwig. Audiences have previously enjoyed Ludwig's LEND ME A TENOR and BASKERVILLE: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY at the Playhouse. Similar to LEND ME A TENOR, COMEDY OF TENORS boasts not one but *four* tenors and includes the role of Henry Saunders. It's 1930s Paris and the stage is set for the concert of the century – as long as producer Saunders can keep Italian superstar Tito Merelli and his hot-blooded wife Maria from causing runaway chaos. Prepare for an uproarious ride full of mistaken identities, bedroom hijinks, and madcap delight. The show runs September 14 – 24, 2017.

The second production in the season is another new title just recently released to regional theaters and the Playhouse is proud to produce the regional premier. The Tony Award winning musical, MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET, is set on December 4, 1956, when an extraordinary twist of fate brought Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Elvis Presley together at Sun Records in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions ever. This jukebox musical, with book by Floyd Mutrux and Colin Escott, features hit songs like "Blue Suede Shoes," "Fever," "Walk the Line" and more! The show runs January 11 - 21, 2018.

Cider Mill Playhouse is known for popular throwback titles, and the third production in the season will be a hit comedy by the master of farce himself: Neil Simon. The play, RUMORS, takes place at a large, tastefully appointed townhouse in Sneden's Landing, where the Deputy Mayor of New York has just shot himself. With friends gathering for their tenth wedding anniversary, the host lies bleeding in the other room and his wife is nowhere in sight. His lawyer, Ken and wife Chris must get "the story" straight before the other guests arrive. As the confusions and miscommunications mount, the evening spins off into hilarity! A hilarious reminder of how rumors and keeping up appearances can cause all sorts of mayhem. The show runs April 12 - 22, 2018.

The fourth production, and second musical, in the season is one of Broadway's greatest musical farces: A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM! This nonstop laugh-fest focuses revolves around Pseudolus, a crafty slave, who struggles to win the hand of a beautiful, but slow-witted, courtesan named Philia for his young master, Hero, in exchange for his freedom. This unforgettable, hysterical musical allows a terrific ensemble of comedic actors to shine – "something for everyone, a comedy tonight!" The show runs May 31 – June 10, 2018.

The Playhouse brings the season to a close with something new and refreshing for audiences: SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE. Based on the popular movie, this stage adaptation has only been released within the past six months and is restricted to professional licenses; the Playhouse is pleased to boast another regional premiere. Young Will Shakespeare has writer's block; the deadline for his new play is fast approaching but he's in desperate need of inspiration. That is, until he finds his muse – Viola. Against a bustling background of mistaken identity, ruthless scheming and backstage theatrics, Will's love for Viola quickly blossoms and inspires him to write his greatest masterpiece. The show runs August 9th- 19th, 2018.

The Playhouse will also continue to produce the annual Holiday Show, along with the Fresh Cider Series for Young Audiences productions. These titles and the performance venues will be announced at a later date. The Holiday show, however, will run from December 7 to 17 and is part of the season subscription.

Subscriptions for the season are now on sale. Forms are available at the box office, located at 2 Nanticoke Ave, Endicott, and open Wednesdays through Fridays, noon to 6pm and Saturdays, noon to 4pm. Forms can also be downloaded from the website: www.cidermillplayhouse.org, or mailed by request. The box office may be reached by phone at (607) 748-7363.

Tickets are also available for the 2016-17 season which runs through August 19, 2017. Titles include: *A Year with Frog & Toad* (April 28 – 30), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (June 1 – 18), *Lion King Jr* (July 1 & 2), *Aida* (July 8 & 9), and *Pump Boys & Dinettes* (August 3 – 19).

Additional Information:

Cider Mill Playhouse production and programming information is available online at www.cidermillplayhouse.org. We are currently located at 2 Nanticoke Avenue, Endicott, NY; our mailing address is PO Box 482, Endicott, NY 13761. We are a 501c3 charitable organization.

CMP is the longest running professional theatre company in Broome County and the five counties known as New York State's Southern Tier, operating under the Small Professional Theatre Level 5 contract with Actors' Equity Association. The Playhouse receives annual support from the New York State Council on the Arts and the United Cultural Fund as administered by the Broome County Arts Council. CMP is also currently the recipient of significant support by the Virginia and Conrad Klee Foundation for capacity building and our capital project to secure a new, permanent home. Donations are welcome, and at this time will be matched dollar for dollar by the Klee Foundation.

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