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Cider Mill Playhouse Offering Family-Friendly Shows

(Endicott, NY) With a new emphasis on growing tomorrow's theatre-makers and theatre-goers, Cider Mill Playhouse has several "family friendly" shows lined up. Some are professional productions with adult actors for any age audience, others feature young actors, and yet others provide a mix and are geared for a young audience but that the entire family can enjoy. All are priced at significant discounts from other professional productions produced at Cider Mill Playhouse, and there are some "early bird specials" available for the summer.

Now playing is the main stage, professional production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. A zany musical romp through 1922, it tells the story of young Millie and her journey to find a life and love in New York City. Equal to a rated G movie rating, it has been fully enjoyed by adult audiences and older children who love musical theatre (including big production numbers and fun characters) for the past two weekends. It continues to run through June 28 with performances on Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 3pm. The show runs for two and a half hours including a 15 minute intermission. Mention the code "MILLIE16420" when ordering at the box office when ordering and students 16 and under can attend for \$20 thanks to a grant from IBM. (Sorry, not applicable to previous purchases.)

Each summer for the past several years, the Cider Mill Playhouse has opened up its doors for students ages 7 – 17 to gain musical theatre skills and experience in a positive, supportive environment. Again under the attentive direction of Jan and Shannon DeAngelo, this year's show will be *Guys and Dolls, Jr* and is sponsored by M & T Bank. The adaptation is a one-hour, age-appropriate version of the well-known classic of the stage. And is appropriate not only for those on stage but young audience members. Performances for the public will be held July 11 and 12 at 3 and 7pm at the Cider Mill Playhouse. Tickets are \$10 for students 12 and under and \$15 for all others.

Next, CMP will launch its new "Fresh Cider Children's Series" with *James and the Giant Peach*, running October 9 – 11 at 7:30pm. This "theatre for young audiences" adaptation of the movie by Roald Dahl will combine adult professionals with strong young actor talent in a show the whole family can enjoy. When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion which results in a tremendous peach – and launches a journey of enormous proportions. Suddenly, James finds himself in the center of the gigantic peach among human-sized insects with equally oversized personalities. After the peach falls from the tree and rolls into the ocean, the group faces hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements. Thanks to James' quick wit and creative thinking, the residents learn to live and work together as a family. tells the adventure of James as he goes on a journey. Audition notices will be posted in July at www.cidermillplayhouse.org but tickets are already on sale for \$10 all seats, regardless of age.

There will also be two other children's shows in the series, held in March and May 2016. Now through August 31, the package of three shows can be purchased for \$25 per person, allowing a family of four to attend all three shows over the course of the school year for a total of just \$100. To get the special rate, just mention the "3 for \$25" offer when calling or visiting the box office. "We want families to be able to experience theatre together, with subject matters that children identify with but that adults can enjoy as well. All of these productions will be professionally produced locally—employing local talent as directors, designers, technicians, and actors and buying materials to create the shows from local businesses. While engaging a children's tour would be less work for us, we are excited to embark on this new work in a way that will also support our local theatre artists, young artists, and our local economy," explained Executive and Artistic Director Gail Belokur.

Tickets and information for all Cider Mill Playhouse shows are available online or at the box office. CALL 607-748-7363, VISIT 2 S. Nanticoke Ave, Endicott, or CLICK www.cidermillplayhouse.org. This 254-seat, cabaret-style playhouse is honored to receive season support from the New York State Council on the Arts and the Broome County Arts Council.

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