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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Interviews and photo available upon request

TICKETS: \$26 - \$32 through the Cider Mill Playhouse Box Office (Wed-Fri, Noon - 6pm, Sat, Noon-4pm) CALL at 607-748-7363, VISIT at 2 S. Nanticoke Ave, Endicott, NY, or CLICK www.cidermillplayhouse.org

This show is supported by sponsors IBM and Wegman's

Lend Me a Tenor Promises Laughter to Fight Off Winter Blues

Endicott, NY. A bit tired of Old Man Winter? Cider Mill Playhouse offers up the warmth of laughter with its production of *Lend Me a Tenor*, a Tony-award winning farce by Ken Ludwig. Tickets are available now for the show, which runs January 22 through February 8 with a 7:30pm curtain on Thursdays through Saturdays and a 3pm matinee on Sunday afternoons. Patrons can also convert their single tickets to a multiple-show discount package for the remainder of the Cider Mill Playhouse season anytime now through March 11th.

Representative of CMP's continued commitment to providing professional work for area artists, the production is under the able direction of local director **Carol Hanscom** and features a cast comprised completely of local actors. The story unfolds in a world created by scenic and lighting designer **Tyler M. Perry** (*Into the Woods*, *One Slight Hitch* and recent recipient of the Norma Fire Emerging Artist Award), sound designer **Alex Dietz-Kest** (*One Slight Hitch*, *A Christmas Carol*), and costume designer **Rhiannon Randall** (an Ithaca College student making her CMP debut). Artistic Associate **Santino DeAngelo** serves as the production's music supervisor.

Lend Me a Tenor is a masterful farce, complete with six doors to facilitate near misses and missed opportunities while actors come and go in attempts to salvage a special evening gone awry. General manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company, Saunders (**Tom Kremer**), is primed to welcome world famous Tito Morelli (**Ted Nappi**), the greatest tenor of his generation, to appear for one night only as Otello. The star (admirably referenced as "Il Stupendo") and his wife Maria (**Maria Manzano-Johnson**) arrive late and, through a hilarious series of mishaps, is given a double dose of tranquilizers. Passed out and mistaken for dead, Saunders convinces his assistant Max (**Andrew Simek**) to get into costume and fool the audience into thinking he's "Il Stupendo." Max succeeds admirably, using the opportunity to successfully woo Saunders lovely daughter Maggie (**Emily Goodell**). But the when the star comes to there are soon two

Otellos running around - seeking or avoiding the others including a starstruck Bellhop (**Brenden Gregory**), an alluring soprano, Diana (**Zarina Latypova**) and the delightfully clueless Chair of the Opera Guild, Julia (**Dori May Ganisin**). A sensation on Broadway and in London's West End, this madcap, screwball comedy is guaranteed to leave audiences teary-eyed with laughter.

Tickets for all Cider Mill Playhouse shows are available at the Box Office (CALL 607-748-7363, VISIT 2 S. Nanticoke Ave, Endicott, or CLICK www.cidermillplayhouse.org). *Lend Me a Tenor* is sponsored by IBM and Wegman's. Cider Mill Playhouse is the Broome County area's longest-running professional theatre company. This 254 seat, cabaret-style playhouse enjoys season support by the New York State Council on the Arts and the Broome County Arts Council.

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