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### **Teen Acting Intensive at Playhouse Accepting Students through August 7th**

(Endicott, NY) Teens who wish to challenge themselves in the world of professional theatre training have an opportunity to register for their upcoming "Teen Acting Intensive," being held Monday through Friday, August 10 – 14 from 10am – 4pm. There will be a free public showcase of their scene work on Friday, August 14 at 6pm.

Teaching this cycle of the workshop will be Binghamton native Josh Sedelmeyer, who has appeared on the CMP stage (*Spamalot*, *Into the Woods*, *Stage Kiss*), recently directed *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and is an Artistic Associate of the theatre company. Joining him as co-instructor is Danny Lindgren, a member of Actors' Equity Association who recently appeared in the male lead role of "Jimmy" in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

Sedelmeyer and Lindgren will facilitate the students' process by offering techniques, movement exercises and other tools to free their intuitive creativity in a supportive environment. Students can expect to work monologues and scenes, and begin to build (or effectively expand) their audition books with pieces that showcase their strength.

"The workshop helped me develop skills I had never had before, despite being involved in theatre from a young age," shared recent workshop participant Josh Mertens. Since participating in the workshop last February, Mertens was cast in Cider Mill Playhouse's production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. "While completing our workshops does not guarantee future casting, we do look to those who have had this type of training and who have proven they have the skills, focus and discipline to commit to a professional production's demands," states CMP Executive & Artistic Director Gail Belokur.

Included in the workshop, CMP will offer the next session of its "Stage Crew 101" training. This session provides a basic understanding of the different artistic and production positions in professional theatre, backstage etiquette and baseline crisis management knowledge. Upon completion, participants will identify areas of interest and be considered to work backstage on future CMP productions as part of the "Fresh Cider Academy." The program allows those who continue on in this capacity to be paired with professional mentors as they expand their theatre production and employment skills, as well as attend performances.

Both the acting and stage crew aspects of the workshop will be taught to professional standards. "Our mission includes engaging the next generation of theatre makers, and the response to this workshop has been overwhelmingly positive," explains Belokur. "The students involved are learning not only theatre-specific skills from their professional mentors, but also key employment and life skills."

Registration for the teen acting intensive is limited to twelve participants. The workshop is open to all students grades 9 – 12 and those entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade if they have participated in CMP's summer children's workshop or have other evidence of being able to engage in an acting intensive of this nature. Anyone interested in either workshop may register online via the website at [www.cidermillplayhouse.org](http://www.cidermillplayhouse.org) or by calling (607) 748-7363, Ext 304.

Cider Mill Playhouse operates under the Guest Artist Tier II Actors' Equity Association contract and is honored to receive season support from the New York State Council on the Arts and the United Cultural Fund as administered by the Broome County Arts Council.

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