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Ring in the Holiday Season with TAM's This Wonderful Life

Monmouth, Maine – This winter, Steve Murray's adaptation of Frank Capra's holiday classic, *It's a Wonderful Life*, returns to Theater at Monmouth. With its hilariously touching message of hope and love, *This Wonderful Life* reminds us of the power of perspective, family, and community just in time for the holiday season.

After his acclaimed performance in 2013, audience favorite Mike Anthony returns to reprise more than two-dozen iconic characters from the beloved film. "Mike Anthony... singlehandedly brings to life *all* of Capra's characters," says Carla Sullwold of *Talkin' Broadway*. "It is a virtuoso performance." Anthony embodies Clarence the Angel, Mary, Old Man Potter, and the rest of Bedford Falls' finest citizens, while also serving as narrator, offering amusing commentary on George Bailey's journey to discover that the actions of one person really can make a difference in the world. This humorous adaptation celebrates the warmth of the season and the belief that hard work, fair play, and love of one's family and community is truly its own "wonderful" reward.

Regarded as a holiday classic around the world, Frank Capra's 1946 film *It's a Wonderful Life* is based on Philip Van Doren Stern's 1939 short story *The Greatest Gift*. The film stars James Stewart as George Bailey, a man who has given up his dreams in order to help others, and whose imminent suicide on Christmas Eve brings about the intervention of his guardian angel, Clarence. Clarence shows George all the lives he has touched and how different life in his community would be had he never been born. *It's a Wonderful Life* was nominated for five Academy Awards and has been recognized by the American Film Institute as one of the 100 Best Films Ever Made.

This Wonderful Life features Mike Anthony as narrator and all the inhabitants of Bedford Falls and beyond; directed by Dawn McAndrews with set and lights by Jim Alexander, stage management by Kathleen Nation, and sound design by Rew Tippin. *This Wonderful Life* is sponsored by TexTech and Bangor Savings Bank.

Theater at Monmouth is a unique destination with something for everyone. In addition to group rates, we offer pre and/or post show discussions and tours of historic Cumston Hall. For an additional fee, we can assist you in planning catering in our Helen Melledy Hall. For more information call 207.933.9999 or email boxoffice@theateratmonmouth.org; we'll be happy to help you plan your groups' visit to Monmouth.

Performance calendar: PREVIEW 11/27 at 7:30 p.m.**; OPENING 11/28 at 7:30 p.m.; additional performance dates 11/29, 11/30, 12/4, 12/5, 12/6 at 7:30 p.m.; 11/29, 11/30, 12/6, 12/7 at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25. For calendar and reservations, please contact the TAM Box Office at 207.933.9999 or visit www.theateratmonmouth.org.

****Thanksgiving Night Performance, All Tickets \$10.**

Tickets for all other performances \$25.

Bring non-perishable food items to donate to Monmouth Food Pantry.

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Theater at Monmouth, founded in 1970, was named the Shakespearean Theater of Maine by the State Legislature in 1975. The theatre's mission is to present innovative approaches to Shakespeare and other classic plays through professional productions that enrich the lives of people throughout Maine. Since its founding, TAM has produced expertly crafted, engaging productions in its three-month Summer Repertory Season entertaining audiences from 36 states and through Education Tours annually reaching more than 15,000 students statewide.

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