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Jealousy, Forgiveness, and Miracles in Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* at TAM

Monmouth, Maine – Season 46 continues at Theater at Monmouth with William Shakespeare's timeless classic, *The Winter's Tale*, opening Friday, July 9 at 7:30 p.m. This enchanting tale explores the evils of jealousy and the power of forgiveness. Filled with mature wisdom infused with youthful optimism, Shakespeare's penultimate play instructs us to love and forgive no matter what trespasses may befall us. *The Winter's Tale* begins with a terrible mistake, embraces lighthearted romance, and ends with a miracle.

The Winter's Tale asks much of us as audience," director and Producing Artistic Director Dawn McAndrews said. "It is not merely complex in the ways you might expect—like language and structure—but also in the emotional journey of the families at its heart. In the end, it is the power to heal from within that saves the characters from themselves. It is in our capacity to forgive that there is hope and, ultimately, a small miracle."

In a jealous rage, King Leontes of Sicilia accuses his wife Hermione of infidelity with his dearest friend King Polixenes. After condemning his wife and banishing his newborn daughter, Leontes receives news from an oracle that he will live without an heir until what is lost is found. The baby girl is named Perdita and left on the Bohemian coast where she is raised by a shepherd. Sixteen years pass, and Perdita and Polixenes' son Florizel meet and fall in love. Fleeing King Polixenes' wrath the two lovers set sail for Sicilia. All world's collide in Sicilia where the repentant king is all too ready for a miracle.

The Winter's Tale features Janis Stevens as Paulina/ Dorcas; Jordan Coughtry as Leontes; Nisi Sturgis as Hermione/ Mopsa; Josh Carpenter as Polixenes; Michael Dolan as Mamillius; Mark S. Cartier as Camillo; Anna Doyle as Emilia/ Perdita; Bill Van Horn as Antigonus/ Shepherd; Andy Blaustein as Third Lord/ Clown; Leighton Samuels as First Lord /Florizel; Alan Estes as Servant /Lord; John Logan as Gaoler/ Mariner, and Jacob Sherburne as Second Lord/ Autolycus. Set design by Judy Gailen, costumes by Angelina Herin, lights by Stephen Jones, and sound by Rew Tippin.

Performance Calendar: PREVIEW 7/9 at 7:30 p.m.; OPENING 7/10 at 7:30 p.m.; additional performance dates 7/18, 7/22, 8/12, at 7:30 p.m.; 8/2, 8/5, 8/18, 8/23 at 1:00 p.m.; 7/26 at 7:00 p.m. with post-show talk-back. Ticket prices range from \$10-\$30, Under 30 Rush Tickets are available for every performance. Discounts available for groups of 10 or more. For calendar and reservations, please contact the TAM Box Office at 207.933.9999 or visit www.theateratmonmouth.org.

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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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