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April 2020

***“To Cancel, or not to Cancel, that is the Question:
Whether ‘tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The coughs and fevers of Coronavirus,
Or to shut our doors against a sea of spittle
And by our closing, end them.”***

We want to extend our sincerest gratitude for the outpouring of support we’ve received over the past few months. We know many of you will be disappointed in the news but due to the continued threat of COVID-19, the TAM board has decided to postpone the 2020 season. On April 28, Governor Mills announced the four stages of the plan for re-opening Maine businesses. Unfortunately, theaters and other arts organizations didn’t make the list.

Because TAM’s process is so dependent on the presence of many workers from outside of the community, we cannot in good conscience put our company, audiences, and our community at risk for increasing the spread of COVID-19. We feel at this time that it is our civic duty to limit the chances of more people being exposed by bringing down the curtain on the 2020 season.

We want to make it very clear that this is not a cancellation. Our current plan is to mount this *(R)evolutionary Season* in 2021. Thanks to an outstanding group of artists, technicians, and administrators, this coming summer was on its way to being one of our strongest yet; and while we are disappointed that we won’t get to bring it to you this year, we look forward to coming back stronger than ever in 2021.

Theaters across the country have shuttered, and many artists find themselves suddenly unemployed. It is essential that Maine’s only Classical Repertory Theater does not collapse. In order to ensure our future, we must consider both community health and fiscal health. By making the difficult choice to postpone productions this summer, we are ensuring that we will survive until next year and thrive in the summers to come.

Our Box Office staff will contact patrons directly in the coming week about how to process reservations for Season 51. And be on the look-out for special programming and virtual events from TAM this summer.

Thank you again for your concern and for making an investment in the arts in our community by supporting Theater at Monmouth. Know that this is not a curtain call. This is only an intermission. And we will be back for the next act.

We can’t wait to see you again when the lights come up.

Be well,

Dawn McAndrews
Producing Artistic Director