

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 14, 2018

Media Contact:
Gina Hyams, PR Consultant
413.629.3175
ginahyams@gmail.com

High-resolution photographs are available for download at
<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

Mahaiwe Action-Packed June Schedule
Concerts by Melissa Etheridge, Ani DiFranco, Aimee Mann, The Wailers, Marin
Mazzie and Jason Danieley, and Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo

Great Barrington, Mass.— In June, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present concerts by Melissa Etheridge, Ani DiFranco, Aimee Mann, The Wailers, Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley, and Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo, as well as an HD broadcast of the Bolshoi Ballet's *Coppelia* and a film screening of *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.

“This June line-up is one of the biggest and most exciting rosters we’ve had within such a short span of time—from female music icons to reggae legends to our Broadway star neighbors, as well as the popular appeal of *Priscilla* and graceful ballet from Moscow,” says Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. “Our non-stop, year-round season is even more non-stop this summer!”

Melissa Etheridge will rock the house on Sunday, June 10 at 7:00pm. Known for her confessional lyrics and raspy, smoky vocals, Etheridge has remained one of North America’s favorite female artists for more than two decades. Her chart-topping singles include “Bring Me Some Water,” “No Souvenirs,” “Ain’t It Heavy,” “I’m the Only One,” “Come to My Window,” and “I Want to Come Over.” In addition to her two Grammy Awards, she has won an Academy Award for “Best Original Song,” a Juno Award for “International Entertainer of the Year,” and ASCAP’s “Songwriter of the Year” Award. Tickets are \$71 to \$146.

Ani DiFranco will perform on Sunday, June 17 at 7:00pm. With the release of her latest album *Binary*, DiFranco returns to the road backed by her band mates Todd Sickafoose (bass) and Terence Higgins (drums) on the “Rise Up” tour. She is a songwriter, vocalist and guitarist perpetually on the move. From the raw “folk punk” of her early albums through the jazz/funk grooves she created during her years touring with a five-piece band to the twists and turns of her current work as a solo artist, DiFranco’s restless creativity continually leads her and her listeners into ever more exciting territory. Folk rock singer-songwriter Haley Heynderickx will be the opening act. Tickets are \$30 to \$80.

Singer-songwriter **Aimee Mann** will make her Mahaiwe debut on Friday, June 22 at 8:00pm. She recently won the Grammy Award for Best Folk Album for her album, *Mental Illness*, and NPR named her one of the world's top 10 greatest living songwriters. She started out in the 1980s as the bassist and vocalist for the band ‘Til Tuesday, which had a big hit with “Voices Carry.” Her solo career began in 1993 with the album *Whatever* and made a name for herself through her independent success and the founding of her record label, SuperEgo Records. In addition to her solo albums, she has appeared on many film soundtracks, most notably the song score for Paul Thomas Anderson’s *Magnolia*, with “Save Me” landing her Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations for Best Original Song. **Jonathan Coulton** will be the opening act. Tickets are \$30 to \$70.

Reggae band **The Wailers** will perform on Saturday, June 23 at 8:00pm. From 1973 to 1980, Bob Marley and The Wailers recorded, toured, and performed worldwide, selling more than 250 million recordings. Since 1981, original band members bassist Aston “Familyman” Barrett and guitarists Junior Marvin and Donald Kinsey have carried on the mission to “keep The Wailers together,” as Marley requested. Their intention is to keep Marley alive through the music. The band now includes Aston Barrett, Jr. on drums, singers Joshua David Barrett and Shema McGregor, Owen “Dreadie” Reid on guitar/bass, Noel Davey on keyboards, and live engineer Dennis Thompson, the man responsible for The Wailers sound in stadiums, clubs, and studios throughout the ‘70s. Tickets are \$30 to \$70.

Together and individually, Broadway's golden couple, **Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley**, have delighted audiences with their glorious voices, moving interpretations, and comic timing. They will perform *Broadway and Beyond* on Sunday, June 24 at 7:00pm, performing songs they introduced on Broadway, in roles they originated, in *Ragtime, Passion, Kiss Me Kate* (revival, of course), *The Full Monty, Curtains*, and *The Visit*, as well as popular standards from the Great American Songbook. In addition to their theater work, the duo have made many TV appearances and performed in cabarets, concert halls, and with symphonies around the world. They are part-time Berkshire region residents. Tickets are \$39 to \$69.

The Mahaiwe will host an acoustic evening with **Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo** on Monday, June 25 at 8:00pm. During their nearly four-decade career, the couple has won an unprecedented four consecutive Grammy awards, as well as three American Music awards. Their undeniable chemistry, Benatar's mezzo-soprano vocal range, and Giraldo's trailblazing work as a producer, guitarist, and songwriter created some of rock's most memorable hits. These include "Promises in the Dark," "Hell is For Children," "We Live For Love," "Love Is A Battlefield," "Hit Me with Your Best Shot," and "We Belong." Their rock and roll love affair has endured for 38 years and they continue to tour every year. This is a unique opportunity to hear the duo perform stripped down, acoustic versions of their songs in an intimate setting. Tickets are \$71 to \$141.

On Thursday, June 7 at 7:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (1984). Two drag performers and a transgender woman travel across the desert to perform their unique style of cabaret. Hugo Weaving and Guy Pearce star in this Australian comedy-drama hit by Stephan Elliott. The Mahaiwe has partnered with Only in My Dreams Events to enrich the night with a movie-themed treat. Sponsored by Buchwald, tickets are \$8 (general admission).

Bolshoi Ballet in HD will broadcast *Coppélia* on Saturday, June 16 at 1:00pm. The Bolshoi's unique version of this ballet, choreographed by Sergei Vikharev, is a

fascinating reconstruction of the original 19th century choreography by Marius Petipa and Enrico Cecchetti of this ebullient comedy involving a feisty heroine, a boyish fiancé with a wandering eye, and an old dollmaker. Jacob's Pillow Scholar-in-residence Brian Schaefer will give a pre-show talk 20 minutes before the broadcast. Tickets, including the pre-show talk, are \$17, with \$10 tickets available for young people ages 21 and under.

The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4:00pm and three hours before show times. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org or call 413.528.0100.

About the Mahaiwe

Located in downtown Great Barrington, Massachusetts, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center is the year-round presenter of world-class music, dance, theater, classic films, Live in HD broadcasts, and arts education programs for the southern Berkshires and neighboring regions. The intimate jewel box of a theater opened in 1905. Since 2005, the performing arts center has hosted over 1,500 events and welcomed over half a million people through its doors. More than 20,000 students from 68 different schools have benefited from the Mahaiwe's school-time performances and residencies. For more information, see www.mahaiwe.org.

About the Berkshires

Less than three hours from New York City and Boston, the Berkshires offers culture and adventure year-round. The surrounding mountains provide plenty of opportunity for outdoor excursions in all seasons while world class culture and entertainment, along with a deeply rooted food culture and an array of lodging options amidst picturesque towns, set this region apart. For more information, visit berkshires.org.

###