

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2014

Media Contact:
Gina Hyams, PR Consultant
413.464.2851
ginahyams@gmail.com

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

Mahaiwe Announces New Shows

Bernadette Peters, Buddy Guy, Natalie Merchant, Joshua Redman, and more

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center Executive Director Beryl Jolly announced additions to the 2014 season today. Highlights include concerts by bluesman Buddy Guy, jazzmen The Bad Plus and Joshua Redman, and pop singer-songwriter Natalie Merchant. Jolly also announced that the fall Mahaiwe 2014 Gala will honor Jane Iredale and feature a performance by Broadway legend Bernadette Peters.

“I continue to be excited by the quality and diversity of talents we’re bringing to the Mahaiwe stage. Our 2014 season will celebrate legendary stars from the blues to Broadway in our intimate space for an unparalleled experience,” said Jolly. “We’re very happy that our audiences have been responding so strongly to this range of programming.”

In addition, Jolly announced a screening of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, an encore broadcast of the London’s National Theatre in HD production of *War Horse*, and public tickets for the previously-announced school matinee concert by the Martha Redbone Roots Project.

Music

Mahaiwe audience favorite **Natalie Merchant** and her band will perform on Saturday, July 5 at 8:00pm. Over her 30-year career, Merchant has earned a distinguished place

among America's most respected recording artists with a reputation for being a prolific songwriter with a compelling artistic vision and a unique and captivating performance style. She began her musical career as the lead vocalist and lyricist of the pop music band 10,000 Maniacs and released two platinum and four gold records with the group. She has also collaborated both on stage and in the studio with a wide range of artists, including Philip Glass, Wynton Marsalis, David Byrne, The Chieftains, Mavis Staples, REM, Daniel Lanois, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Tracy Chapman, Dan Zanes, Billy Bragg, and Wilco. Tickets are \$40 to \$90.

Rock and Roll Hall-of-famer, six-time Grammy winner, and guitar hero to Jimi Hendrix, blues pioneer **Buddy Guy** will perform on Friday, July 11 at 8:00pm. With nearly 50 years in the music industry, Guy continues to captivate audiences worldwide with his versatility and lively performances. Armed with more than 50 albums and recent recordings with next-generation stars such as Keith Urban and Gary Clark Jr., the Louisiana native has proved a true journeyman since the halcyon days of Chess Records. His long list of achievements includes dozens of awards, among them the Presidential National Medal of Arts and Kennedy Center Honors for lifetime contribution to American culture. The bluesman recently released *Rhythm & Blues*—the first double-set album of his career, which includes smooth melodies and intoxicating beats. Tickets are \$30 to \$95.

On Friday, August 8 at 8:00pm, the Mahaiwe will present a double bill featuring artists who are shaping the contemporary jazz scene. **The Bad Plus** (Reid Anderson, Ethan Iverson, and David King) has been a major force in jazz for a decade, redefining the classic piano trio sound for the 21st century. The trio will be joined by **Joshua Redman**, a giant of modern jazz saxophone playing. Redman's intense and fiery tenor sax meshes with The Bad Plus's skewed takes on standards, modern rock anthems, and their own compositions. Tickets are \$29 to \$79.

Mahaiwe 2014 Gala

The Mahaiwe 2014 Gala will honor Jane Iredale and feature a performance by Broadway legend **Bernadette Peters** on Sunday, October 12. Time and ticket prices to be announced. Peters will perform a rich selection of Broadway songs from her extensive songbook, including standards, Rodgers & Hammerstein, and Stephen Sondheim to name a few. She recently starred on Broadway in the Stephen Sondheim and James Goldman critically acclaimed production of *Follies*. Prior to that, she starred opposite Elaine Stritch in the Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler Tony Award-winning masterpiece, *A Little Night Music*. She received both the Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit musical *Song and Dance* and went on to earn a Tony Award, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Award for her starring role as Annie Oakley in the Tony-Award winning revival of *Annie Get Your Gun*. Peters also received Tony nominations for her work in *The Goodbye Girl*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Mack and Mabel*, and *On The Town* and earned a Drama Desk nomination for her memorable portrayal of the Witch in Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. She is the co-founder, along with Mary Tyler Moore, of Broadway Barks!, an organization that promotes the adoption of shelter animals.

Gala honoree **Jane Iredale** is the founder, president, and CEO of Iredale Mineral Cosmetics and a longtime board member of the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center. Founded in 1994, Iredale Mineral Cosmetics is distinguished by its emphasis on makeup that has skin care benefits. Its products can be found in some of the most exclusive department stores in the world, and is exported to more than 40 international markets, including the United Kingdom, Europe, the Middle East, the Far East, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Latin America. A committed environmentalist, the company moves this year into its new Gold LEED certified corporate headquarters that it converted from an 1889 school building in Great Barrington. Before she formed her cosmetics company, Jane Iredale's background had been in film, theatre, and television. She started as a casting director, working in television commercials for the three major networks, and then in film, television and theater. She won an Emmy award for a public television series "The Silent Years," and was nominated for a Tony for the Broadway musical "Wind in the Willows."

Film and Theatre Broadcasts

The Mahaiwe will screen the beloved family film *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (1968, rated G), starring Dick Van Dyke, on Sunday, March 16 at 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$7 (general admission). Mahaiwe movies are sponsored by Don Buchwald and Associates.

There will be two encore broadcasts of the London's National Theatre in HD stage production of *War Horse*: Wednesday, March 19 at 1:00pm and Saturday, April 19 at 7:00pm. Since its first performance at the National Theatre in 2007, *War Horse* has become an international smash hit, capturing the imagination of four million people around the world. Based on Michael Morpurgo's novel and adapted for the stage by Nick Stafford, the production takes audiences on an extraordinary journey from the fields of rural Devon to the trenches of First World War France. The production features life-size puppets by South Africa's Handspring Puppet Company, who bring breathing, galloping, charging horses to life on stage. Tickets are \$18 to \$25.

Youth Programming

On Friday, April 11 at 10:00am, **Martha Redbone Roots Project** will perform as part of the Mahaiwe's arts and educational programming for both schools and families.

Redbone's music flows equally from her own unique, award-winning blend of Native American elements with funk and her deep roots in Appalachian folk and Piedmont blues. The Roots Project is Redbone's tribute to her heritage and reflects a deep communion with the spirits of her ancestors. Redbone will give a concert and include a cultural talk with students incorporating her Native American, African-American, and Appalachian roots. Tickets are \$6 for students and \$10 for individuals. Online ticketing is unavailable for this event. Tickets may be purchased by phone by calling 413-528-0100 or by visiting the box office during box office hours.

Tickets

Tickets to Buddy Guy, Joshua Redman, and Natalie Merchant go on sale to Mahaiwe members on Friday, March 14 at 12 noon and to the public on Thursday, March 20 at 12 noon. Tickets to the Mahaiwe 2014 Gala performance by Bernadette Peters will go on sale later this summer. All other shows are available for sale now.

The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 6:00pm and three hours before show times. A limited number of \$15 tickets are available for patrons ages 30 and younger to all Mahaiwe-presented programs through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org or call 413.528.0100.

New ArtSmart Memberships

The Mahaiwe has created a new membership level for patrons aged 30 and under. The \$35 ArtSmart Membership offers a number of benefits, including free events, movie passes, ticket discounts, and more. Patrons can call the Mahaiwe at [413.644.9040](tel:413.644.9040) x102 for more information, or stop by the box office at 14 Castle Street.

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 and has been in continuous operation for over 100 years. In 2005, the theater experienced a renaissance as a beautifully restored 681-seat venue to offer a broad range of cultural and community events. Today’s “Mahaiwe Mix” of diverse, high quality programming strives to provide meaningful, memorable entertainment for all ages and interests.

###

New Additions to the Mahaiwe 2014 Schedule at a Glance

Sunday, March 16 at 4:00 pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968, rated G)

Classic family musical film starring Dick Van Dyke

\$7 (general admission)

Wednesday, March 19 at 1:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

London's National Theatre in HD *War Horse* (encore)

\$18 to \$25

Friday, April 11 at 10:00am

Mahaiwe Presents

Martha Redbone Roots Project

Multicultural family music concert

\$6 to 10

Note: Online ticketing is unavailable for this event. Tickets may be purchased by phone by calling 413-528-0100 or by visiting the box office during box office hours.

Saturday, April 19 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

London's National Theatre in HD *War Horse* (encore)

\$18 to \$25

Saturday, July 5 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Natalie Merchant and Her Band

Pop singer-songwriter

Tickets are \$40 to \$90

Friday, July 11 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Buddy Guy

Blues guitarist

Tickets are \$30 to \$95

Friday, August 8 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

The Bad Plus and Joshua Redman

Contemporary jazz

Tickets are \$29 to \$79

Sunday, October 12 at time TBA

Mahaiwe Presents

Mahaiwe 2014 Gala in honor of Jane Iredale
An Evening with Bernadette Peters
Broadway musical star
Tickets TBA