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

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<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

**“Magical Mahaiwe Moments” Benefit Online Auction
May 5 – May 22**

Great Barrington, Mass.— The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center announces its first-ever online benefit auction titled “Magical Mahaiwe Moments.” The two-dozen offerings range from exclusive experiences with celebrities Chris Noth, Karen Allen, Jayne Atkinson, Bernadette Peters, Jim Bouton, Jane Iredale, and Simon Winchester to getaway packages to Mexico, San Francisco, and New York to one-of-a-kind artistic treasures. The auction will run from May 5 through May 22 at www.biddingforgood.com/mahaiwe. Proceeds will support the Mahaiwe’s artistic, education, and community programs.

Auction highlights include:

- A private dinner in Great Barrington with actor Chris Noth, star of the television shows *Law & Order*, *Sex and the City*, and *The Good Wife*
- A private tour of the set of the CBS series *The Good Wife* in Brooklyn
- A private tour of the set for the Netflix series *House of Cards* in Baltimore, led by actress Jayne Atkinson
- A dinner party with actress Karen Allen on stage at the Mahaiwe
- Lunches in the Berkshires with author Simon Winchester and *New Yorker* cartoonist R.O. Blechman, and coffee with *National Geographic* photographer John Stanmeyer
- Getaway packages, including the Shelburne Museum in Vermont; San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; San Francisco and the Wine Country; and New York City
- A diamond pendant from McTeigue & McClelland, with a design studio tour

- A private dinner and tour at the famed Friars Club in New York
- Summer camp experiences for teens at Kutsher's Sports Academy (including a basketball autographed by Carmelo Anthony) and Camp Jam
- A Mahaiwe Gala package during Columbus Day weekend (peak time for fall foliage), including an opportunity to meet Broadway legend Bernadette Peters, and a three-night stay for two people at Blantyre with three full breakfasts and one dinner
- A Jane Iredale Mineral Cosmetics package, including lunch and tour with Jane, a complete makeover, and gift basket
- Private airplane tour of the Berkshires with television producer Rolfe Tessem
- Pitching lesson with former Yankees pitcher and *Ball Four* author Jim Bouton
- Use of the Ronin Gallery in New York, home of the largest collection of Japanese prints in the U.S., for a private cocktail party
- Autographed photography books by Annie Leibovitz
- Observe a Paul Taylor Dance Company private rehearsal at the company's studio in New York City and enjoy VIP tickets to their Mahaiwe engagement in July

“This is a great opportunity to have fun bidding for a great cause on once-in-a-lifetime experiences and gifts,” said Mandy Victor-Pieczarka, Mahaiwe board member and auction chair. “We’re thrilled and so grateful for the generosity of our celebrity, business, and individual donors who provided such an exceptional array of auction experiences and items. It’s a wonderful way to support the Mahaiwe, which does so much to enhance our community with unique and diverse year-round performances for all ages.”

Located in downtown Great Barrington, 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. For more information, see www.mahaiwe.org.

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