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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>

**Mahaiwe Presents Author Fran Lebowitz
August 9 conversation to be hosted by WAMC's Joe Donahue**

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present a conversation with author and journalist Fran Lebowitz, hosted by WAMC's Joe Donahue, on Saturday, August 9 at 8:00pm. "Fran Lebowitz's remarks are sure to be topical and memorable, and peppered with her signature biting wit as well," said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly.

Purveyor of urban cool, witty chronicler of the "me decade," and the cultural satirist whom many call the heir to Dorothy Parker, Lebowitz offers insights on timely issues such as gender, race, gay rights, and the media, as well as her own pet peeves, including celebrity culture, tourists, and strollers.

Both speaking off the cuff and in her writing, Lebowitz is equally forthright, irascible, and unapologetically opinionated. Her first two classic books of essays, *Metropolitan Life* and *Social Studies*, have been collected in the *Fran Lebowitz Reader*. She is also the author of the children's book, *Mr. Chas and Lisa Sue Meet the Pandas*. She recently broke a ten-year writer's block and is back at work on her novel, *Exterior Signs of Wealth*. A documentary film about Fran Lebowitz, *Public Speaking*, directed by Martin Scorsese, premiered on HBO in November 2010.

Joe Donahue is the host and producer of WAMC/Northeast Public Radio's *The Roundtable*, a three-hour daily talk show. He is also the host of the nationally syndicated program, *The Book Show*. In addition, he serves as the station's vice president of news

and programming and he is an adjunct professor at his *alma mater*, The College of Saint Rose.

Tickets are \$25 to \$55. The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Tuesday 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 through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program, sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union. 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 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.

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