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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 Celebrates the Holidays

Holiday Concert by John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit, Classic Family Movies, and Big Apple Circus HD Broadcast

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present a festive array of events this holiday season, including a concert by popular jazz artists John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit, screenings of two classic family films, and an HD broadcast of New York’s Big Apple Circus. “Celebrating the holidays at the Mahaiwe is a beloved tradition for both local families and visitors. We look forward to welcoming everyone to all of our fun seasonal events,” said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly.

John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit are two favorite Mahaiwe entertainers, who will perform in Great Barrington together for the first time on Saturday, December 27 at 8:00pm. Soulful elegance, virtuosic musicianship, melodic creativity, and an unflinching swing will be operative during this meeting of these two artists, each a world-class communicator of an encyclopedic array of American popular song styles.

Renowned seven-string jazz guitarist, singer, and bandleader Pizzarelli addresses, in his own manner, repertoire associated with Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, the Beatles, and others. Known for her extraordinary vocal instrument since she burst onto the scene in her early twenties, multiple Grammy-nominated vocalist Monheit has steadily come into her own, and collaborated with artists such as Michael Bublé, Ivan Lins, Terence Blanchard, and Tom Harrell. Tickets are \$25 to \$100 (the latter includes post-show reception with the artists).

As a special holiday gift to the community, the Mahaiwe will host a free screening of Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946), starring James Stewart and Donna Reed, on Sunday, December 21 at 7:00pm. Families will also enjoy *The Muppet Movie* (1979), starring *Sesame Street* characters Kermit the Frog, Fozzie Bear, and Miss Piggy on Sunday, December 28 at 4:00pm. Tickets are \$7 (general admission). Movies at the Mahaiwe are sponsored by Don Buchwald & Associates and Greylock Federal Credit Union.

For its 37th Season, Big Apple Circus soars on wings of artifice and illusion to a dreamscape domain where nothing is impossible in its new show, *Metamorphosis*. The production features spectacular performers from the U.S., Russia, France, and Mongolia, in an array of classical circus artistry, such as clowning, juggling, acrobatics, and equestrianism (with animal-friendly acts) in a thrilling two-hour performance, which will be broadcast on Tuesday, December 23 at 6:00pm. Tickets are \$12. Recommended for children ages five+.

Tickets

A limited number of \$15 tickets are available for patrons ages 30 and younger to the John Pizzarelli and Jane Monheit concert through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program, sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union. 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. 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.