

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2015

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

Mahaiwe Celebrates the Holidays

Concert by John Pizzarelli, Classic Family Movies, and HD Broadcasts by Bolshoi Ballet, London's National Theatre, and the Met Opera

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present a festive array of events this holiday season, including a concert by popular jazz artist John Pizzarelli and screenings of two classic family films and HD broadcasts by the Bolshoi Ballet, London's National Theatre, and the Met Opera. "Celebrating the holidays at the Mahaiwe is a beloved tradition for families throughout the region. We look forward to welcoming audiences of all ages to enjoy a range of fun seasonal events," said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. "We also have gift certificates available for tickets and for Mahaiwe memberships. Performing arts experiences make great gifts!"

Live Music

On Saturday, December 19 at 8:00pm, the Mahaiwe will present John Pizzarelli's "Swing 7 Frank Sinatra Centennial Celebration" concert in honor Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday. A Mahaiwe audience favorite, Pizzarelli has had a multi-faceted career as a jazz guitarist, vocalist, and bandleader. Internationally known for classic standards, late-night ballads, and the cool jazz flavor he brings to his performances and recordings, he has recently established himself as the consummate entertainer and radio program host with the launch of "Radio Deluxe with John Pizzarelli," a nationally syndicated radio program co-hosted with his wife, Broadway star Jessica Molaskey. He is among the premier

contemporary interpreters of the great American songbook, bringing to the work his signature style and brilliant guitar playing. Tickets are \$25 to \$100. A limited number of \$15 tickets are also available for audience members ages 30 and younger through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program, sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union.

Movies

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 20 at 7:00pm. Families will also enjoy the 25th anniversary screening of the Christmas family comedy, *Home Alone* (1990), starring Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, and Macaulay Culkin on Saturday, December 26 at 4:00pm. Tickets are \$7 (general admission). Movies at the Mahaiwe are sponsored by Don Buchwald & Associates and Greylock Federal Credit Union.

HD Broadcasts

Tickets to the Bolshoi Ballet in HD and National Theatre in HD are \$17 per broadcast. Tickets to the Met Opera Live in HD is \$18 to \$25. London's National Theatre and Bolshoi Ballet intermission teas are sponsored by Harney & Sons Fine Teas.

On Sunday, December 6 at 1:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen the HD broadcast of the Bolshoi's *Lady of the Camellias*, with choreography by John Neumeier and music by Frédéric Chopin. The company breathes new life into John Neumeier's tragic masterpiece, inspired by Alexandre Dumas's novel.

In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the Metropolitan Opera's Live in HD series, the Mahaiwe will present a special encore screening of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* on Sunday, December 13 at 1:00pm. This was the groundbreaking broadcast that launched the Met's heralded Live in HD series, seen by opera lovers in movie theaters around the world. Adults and children alike were enchanted by the whimsical humor and breathtaking puppetry of Julie Taymor's hit production, presented in a shortened English-language version.

On Sunday, December 20 at 1:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen the HD broadcast of the Bolshoi's *Nutcracker*, with choreography and libretto by Yuri Grigorovich and music by Piotr Tchaikovsky. The company's version of this beloved holiday classic has a unique and beautiful sense of romance and philosophy.

On Sunday, December 27 at 3:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen London's National Theatre in HD production of *Jane Eyre*. This acclaimed re-imagining of Brontë's masterpiece was first staged by Bristol Old Vic last year, when the story was performed over two evenings. Director Sally Cookson now brings her celebrated production to the National, presented as a single, exhilarating performance.

Community Presentations

The Mahaiwe will host presentations by two community groups this holiday season. Close Encounters With Music will present *Dually Noted—Music for Four Hands* on Saturday, December 12 at 6:00pm (\$25 to \$45). Berkshire Bach Society will present *Bach at New Year's* on Thursday, December 31 at 6:00pm (\$40 to \$85).

Tickets

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. Since 2005, the performing arts center has hosted over 1,000 events and welcomed almost half a million people through its doors. Its education program has served over 12,000 students from 35

different schools with school-time performances and residencies. The Mahaiwe generates in excess of \$1,000,000 in ticket revenue from 150 events each year, while contributing over \$4,000,000 in regional economic impact from the theater's direct spending and audience's restaurant, lodging, and shopping activities.