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## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Carriage House Players Announce 2019-2020 Season Three productions will take place at Kenan Center's Taylor Theater

LOCKPORT, NY: The Carriage House Players (CHP) are proud to announce their 2019-2020 theater season at the Taylor Theater in Lockport, NY. This will be the first full season for CHP at the Taylor Theater, and will include a varied selection of humor-filled plays that reflect American culture with themes that are relevant in today's world. The Carriage House Players is a collective of actors, directors, playwrights and guest artists bringing new and contemporary works as well as selected plays from esteemed dramatists to audiences in Western New York.

The first of three productions will open on Friday, September 20 with *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, by Neil Simon; followed by *It's A Wonderful Life (Live Radio Version)* by Joe Landry, adapted from Philip Van Voren's holiday classic starting December 6, 2019; and *The Dining Room* by A.R. Gurney beginning April 17, 2020.

"For decades the Taylor Theater was a hub of top notch performances. The Carriage House Players hope to continue that tradition by introducing new audiences to the intimacy of live theater in one of Western New York's most beautiful performance spaces," says Kathleen Rooney, a founding member of the Carriage House Players.

The CHP 2019-2020 season celebrates the genius of Neil Simon whose works typically involve the challenges of being a New Yorker, Philip Van Voren, who celebrates the wholesomeness of small town America during the holiday season, and A.R. Gurney, born and bred in Buffalo, whose works focus on the upper middle class of the Northeast.

The productions will be directed by Gail Golden (*The Prisoner of Second Avenue*), Peg Merrill (*It's a Wonderful Life*) and Betsy Bittar (*The Dining Room*). Cast and crew for the CHP 2019-2020 season include; Alicia Michielli, Alisse Sikes, Betsy Bittar, Betsy Ross Visciano, Caroline Parzy-Sanders, Connor Caso, Daniel Morris, Darryl Hart, Elaine Roberts, Gail Golden, Jason Mussachio, Kathleen Rooney, Les Bailey, Margo Davis, Mira Steuer and Victor Morales.

Production dates and times are: *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, September 20, 21, 27 & 28 at 7:30PM, September 22 and 29 at 2:00PM; *It's a Wonderful Life*, December 6, 13 & 14 at 7:30PM, December 8 & 15 at 2:00PM; and *The Dining Room*, April 17, 18, 24 & 25 at 7:30PM, April 19 and 26 at 2:00PM.

Introductory rate for Carriage House Players individual season pass is \$40 until day of first performance (September 20). Individual tickets for the show are \$15 for Kenan Center members, \$20 for the general public, \$10 for students 18 and under with student ID, and may be purchased online at www.kenancenter.org, in person at the Kenan Center Business Office, or charged by phone. Ample free parking is available onsite. The Taylor Theater is located adjacent to the Kenan house at 433 Locust Street in Lockport, NY. For further information, visit www.kenancenter.org or call 716-433-2617. Because seating is limited, advance tickets are recommended.

The Carriage House Players is a collective of actors, directors, playwrights and guest artists bringing new and contemporary works as well as selected plays from esteemed dramatists to audiences in Western New York. In-residence at the historic Taylor Theater, the Players are a collaborative program of the Kenan Center, dedicated to enriching lives by providing cultural, educational and recreational activities. The Kenan Center, one of the premier facilities in the Buffalo Niagara region for arts, education and recreation programming, was established in 1967. The Kenan Center Campus is home to the Kenan House, the Kenan Arena, the Education Building which houses the Montessori preschool, and the Taylor Theater. For more information about the Kenan Center, visit <a href="https://www.kenancenter.org">www.kenancenter.org</a>.