



68 Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790 www.warnertheatre.org (860) 489-7180

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Contact:

Steve Criss

Marketing Director

(860) 489-7180, x.125

scriss@warnertheatre.org

or

Lynn Gelormino

Public Relations Coordinator

860-489-7180 x 157

lgelormino@warnertheatre.org

Warner Theatre Board Pays Tribute to Outgoing Executive Director

Torrington, CT – On Saturday, November 6th, before the curtains opened on the Warner Stage Company's Main Stage Musical Season, Warner Board Chairman Chuck Brower and former Chairman Marvin "Muff" Maskovsky took the opportunity to thank outgoing Executive Director James Patrick for his leadership and accomplishments during his seven year tenure at the historic performing arts center.

During Patrick's tenure the Warner achieved:

- Patron growth from 80k to over 100k.
- \$7 million dollars raised in capital funding.
- An 86% increase in enrollment for the Warner Theatre Center for Arts Education.
- An increase in programming from 120 events a year to over 170 events.

Perhaps the biggest accomplishment during this time was the opening of the 50,000 square foot Carole and Ray Neag Performing Arts Center where Mr. Patrick assisted in overseeing the design, fundraising and construction.

The Warner Theatre's Board of Directors presented Mr. Patrick with a plaque in recognition of his work and wished him well as the new Executive Director of the Velma V. Morrison Center in Idaho.

"James has done an amazing job moving our institution forward. With his expertise he has helped us expand on our state-of-the-art facilities and has assembled a capable professional staff. We wish him well on the next phase of his career," said Warner Board President Chuck Brower.

In his new position, Patrick will manage the Morrison Center's artistic and educational programming for the university and the surrounding community. He also will oversee and direct Morrison Center marketing, branding, audience development, fund development and institutional development efforts.

Located on the campus of Boise State University, home to the nationally ranked Broncos football team and the famous blue “Smurf-turf” playing field, the Morrison Center for the Performing Arts is Idaho’s premier performing arts center. Strategically located in the state’s capitol and positioned in the heart of the Treasure Valley, the 2,000-seat Morrison is known for its superb acoustics and ten-story fly house. The center presents a first-run, professional Broadway series, national entertainers of all genres and is home to such local arts groups as the Trey McIntyre Project, Boise Philharmonic, Ballet Idaho and Boise State University’s Music and Theatre Arts Departments. The Morrison is supported by a \$12 million endowment.

ABOUT THE WARNER THEATRE

Built by Warner Brothers Studios and opened in 1931 as a movie palace (1,772 seats), the Warner Theatre was described then as “Connecticut’s Most Beautiful Theatre.” Damaged extensively in a flood, the Warner was slated for demolition in the early 1980s until the non-profit Northwest Connecticut Association for the Arts (NCAA) was founded and purchased the theatre. The Warner reopened as a performing arts center in 1983, and restoration of the main lobbies and auditorium was completed in November 2002. In 2008, the new 50,000 square foot Carole and Ray Neag Performing Arts Center, which houses a 300 seat studio theatre, 200 seat restaurant and micro-brewery and expansive school for the arts, was completed. Today, the Warner is in operation year-round with more than 160 performances and 100,000 patrons passing through its doors each season. Over 10,000 students, pre K—adult, participate in arts education programs and classes. Together, with the support of the community, the Warner has raised close to \$17 million to revitalize its facilities. NCAA’s mission is to preserve the Warner Theatre as an historic landmark, enhance its reputation as a center of artistic excellence and a focal point of community involvement, and satisfy the diverse cultural needs of the region. To learn more about the Warner Theatre, visit our website: www.warnertheatre.org.

