



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

For Immediate Release

July 28, 2009

Contact:

Steve Criss
Marketing Director
(860) 489-7180 x 125

or

Lynn Gelormino
Public Relations Coordinator
(860) 489-7180 x 157

"WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD"

THE WIZARD OF OZ OPENS AUGUST 1 AT THE WARNER

TORRINGTON, CT — The Warner Stage Company's **Main Stage Musical Series** finishes the 2008-2009 Season with the classic family favorite, *The Wizard of Oz*.

The Wizard of Oz premiered at the Strand Theatre in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin on August 12, 1939, Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood on August 15, 1939 and The Loew's Capitol Theater in New York City on August 17, 1939. Seventy years later, it remains America's greatest and best-loved home-grown fairytales.

Join Dorothy (Danielle Spinello), Tin Man (Vincent McCoy), Scarecrow (Adam Fancher) and Cowardly Lion (Allen Burton) as they make their way to Oz and home again with the help of Good Witch, Glinda (Katie Brunetto) and the Wizard (Dan Willey). All of this is done while also trying to avoid the Wicked Witch of the West (Emily Perzan) and her attempt to get her sister's ruby slippers from Dorothy.

The Warner Stage Company's production of *The Wizard of Oz* is directed by Tom Cochran with musical director, Neil Pagano and choreographer, Kristen Jacobsen. Join us and hundreds of our own local "munchkins" on our trip to Oz: Saturday, August 1 & 8 at 2pm & 7:30pm, Sunday, August 2 & 9 at 2pm and Friday, August 7 at 7:30 pm.

Tickets for this production are \$18.50, \$21.50 and \$24.50. For more information on purchasing tickets, please contact the Warner Theatre Box Office at (860) 489-7180 or visit the Warner Theatre Online at www.warnertheatre.org.

The Wizard of Oz is sponsored by Brower, Organschi & D'Andrea LLP, Attorneys at Law

Season Media Sponsors: Republican-American, FM97.3 WZBG and Fox 61.

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.