



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

For Immediate Release

September 9, 2009

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

***Yankee New England Real Estate Signs on as Sponsor
of Warner Theatre Center for Arts Education's
Young Actor Series***

***Connecticut Association of Realtors Good Neighbor Award – winning firm
becomes premiere sponsor for initiative***

Torrington, CT – Dan Tolman, Broker and owner of Yankee New England Real Estate has just announced that his firm has agreed to be the 2009-2010 Season Sponsor of the Warner Theatre's Center for Arts Education's **Young Actors Series**.

"Our company has always been deeply involved with community charities with particular interest in children and the elderly. I'm a big fan of not only the theatre, but of the theatre's positive and reaching impact on the community," said Tolman. Tolman's Winchester Center-based real estate company was awarded the Connecticut Association of Realtors Good Neighbor Award for 2008.

"It's wonderful to have a firm like Yankee New England Real Estate on board to support our youth initiatives. They are the premiere sponsor for this important initiative. These programs play a vital role in our community," said James Patrick, executive director of the Warner Theatre.

The **Young Actor Series** is a series of productions featuring students of the Warner Theatre Center for Arts Education in performances ranging from children's theater to Shakespeare. This series gives students the opportunity to showcase skills developed in class, while giving the audience an exposure to the theatrical training process through the presentation of popular plays and musicals. The 2009-2010 Series includes: *Godspell, Jr, Charlotte's Web* and *Disney's,Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* For more information about the Warner Theatre Center for Arts Education or the Young Actor's Series, contact the Warner Theatre Center for Arts Education at 860-489-7180 ext. 148 or go online to <http://www.warnertheatre.org/aboutWTCAE.htm>

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.

