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**West Hartford Community Theater Invites You to Be Our Guest at
Disney's Beauty and the Beast this fall**

West Hartford, CT – Step into the enchanted world of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* this fall as the West Hartford Community Theater (WHCT) proudly presents its fall musical this November. Based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature, the stage version includes all of the wonderful songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice. The original Broadway production ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

This "tale as old as time" features a cast and production team from West Hartford and surrounding communities, and as far away as Cheshire, Middletown, Enfield, Suffield, and Preston. The cast of more than forty performers, ages 10 to 65, includes a dynamic mix of amateur and professionally trained actors, singers, and dancers working side-by-side to present a high quality production. WHCT's production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* is directed by Dana Sachs and produced by Terry Szymanski, with musical direction by Ed deGroat and choreography by Meghan McDermott. Filled with spectacular costumes and sets, and a professional orchestra, it offers a great opportunity to bring our entire community together for family theatre at its best.

The musical will be performed at Hall High School, with six performance dates scheduled: Nov. 11, 12, 18, 19 at 7:00pm and Nov. 13, 20: 1:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling (860) 992-9428 or online at westhartfordtheater.org.

WHCT's *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* Cast:

Belle – Anna Kelly

Beast – Michael McDermott

Gaston – Ken Schroeder

Maurice – Peter Robinson

Cogsworth – Kyle Riedinger

Mrs. Potts – Kimberley Parsons-Whitaker

Lumiere – Nate Strick

Chip – Declan Smith

Babette – Rebekah Battersby

Madame de la Grande Bouche – Sarah Petersen

Lefou – Drew Lyon

Beggar Woman – Melissa Reda

Monsieur D'Arque – Bill Mullen

Silly Girls:

Abigail Burns, Maggie Keane, Alexandra van der Hulst

Wolves:

Meghan Fitzsimonds (also mini-Babette), Francesca Giordano (also mini-Babette), Gabriella Giordano, Jewel Hazlett, Zoe Healey, Mallory Mitzel, Yumeko Stern.

Cronies:

Michael Dolan, Elijah Frazer, Matt Nelson, Peter Krzyzek, Bill Mullen, Lucas Pauluk, Harry van der Hulst

Ensemble:

Sue Bailey, Ewa Callahan, Miriam Callahan, Lisa Camargo, Noreen Cavanaugh, Joan Delaney, Karen Finnegan, Tina Frazer, Jean Guthrie, Peter Krzyzek, Julie Levine, Matt Nelson, Nancy Ritter, Karen Shakun, Terry Szymanski.

About West Hartford Community Theater:

West Hartford Community Theater (WHCT) opened its doors in 2008 with an eye toward providing the highest quality live musical theater experience for West Hartford residents and the greater Hartford community. WHCT continues to produce quality productions showcasing the unique and richly diverse talent in the community. A 501(c) (3) non-profit dedicated to the development of live theater, WHCT strives to provide an environment where shared goals, performance standards, and common vision guide collaborative creativity. We welcome membership of all ages, specifically encouraging the participation of minority youth, seniors, and the economically disadvantaged. For more information or to make a donation please visit our website at www.whct.org or 860-992-9428.

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