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West Hartford Community Theater presents *An Evening of Song & Celebration* Celebrating 10 Years of Excellence in Community Theater

(West Hartford, CT) – West Hartford Community Theater (WHCT) has announced it will kick off its 10th Anniversary with *An Evening of Song & Celebration*, a Spring Cabaret & Silent Auction event which will take place on Saturday, April 21st at 7:00 pm at Elmwood Community Center, 1106 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford CT.

An Evening of Song & Celebration will feature iconic musical selections from each of WHCT's productions since 2008, performed by singing actors that have been featured in the company's shows, accompanied by a piano, bass & drum trio. The evening will also feature small bites and a cash bar, and a lively silent auction. Attendees will have opportunities to bid on numerous experiences and services from local shops and restaurants. WHCT has announced that tickets for Broadway's *The Phantom of the Opera*, and the national tour of *Love Never Dies* (the sequel to Phantom) at The Bushnell have been donated as silent auction items.

From Vision to Excellence, & Giving Back to the Community

West Hartford Community Theater was started in 2008 by Bruce LaRoche and Maria Libro Judge, graduates of Conard High School, who had a vision to create a community theater company in West Hartford where none previously existed. With the goal of providing the highest quality live musical theater experience for West Hartford residents and the greater Hartford community, their vision has become a reality as year after year, WHCT continues to produce quality productions showcasing the unique and richly diverse talent in the West Hartford community.

As WHCT has evolved, the organization has engaged in targeted outreach through its monthly "Music Nights", where existing and new members of the company get together to perform their favorite musical selections which are then organized into performances for local nursing and retirement homes in the Greater Hartford area. Additionally, WHCT has given back to the community by purchasing a new stage curtain for Hall High School, the host site of WHCT musical productions. In 2018, WHCT began working with Hall High to refurbish the auditorium seating. This multi-year project involves partnering with the CT Department of Corrections, which arranges the rebuilding of seating through a program with the CT prison system. And WHCT has established a scholarship program in 2018, and will award one scholarship to a graduating senior from Conard or Hall, who is continuing his or her education in the performing arts.

Tickets for *An Evening of Song & Celebration* are \$30 per person, and can be ordered at www.westhartfordtheater.org

West Hartford Community Theater is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the development of live theater in West Hartford and related educational programs for adults and children. WHCT values diversity and strives to provide an environment where shared goals, performance standards, and common vision guides collaborative creativity. For more information, visit westhartfordtheater.org

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