

sandra feinstein-



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THE GAMM THEATRE TRANSFORMS ARMORY ANNEX INTO GARDEN OASIS Annual Fundraiser to Celebrate Springtime and Shakespeare

PAWTUCKET, RI (May 11, 2005) —The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) is pleased to host ***Shakespeare's Garden***, its third annual fundraising event, on **Wednesday, May 25, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at its home at the Pawtucket Armory, 172 Exchange Street. **Honorary Chairpersons Joseph J. MarcAurele, president and CEO of Citizens Bank of Rhode Island**, and his wife **Meredith MarcAurele**; and **Event Chair Coline Covington**, president of The Gamm's board of directors, invite the public to join The Gamm for a celebratory wine tasting, as well as silent and live auctions, to usher in the theater's third decade. Proceeds will help pay for the non-profit organization's artistic programs during its upcoming 21st season.

In addition to a wide selection of international wines donated by **Yankee Spirits**, *Shakespeare's Garden* will feature fabulous **food by award-winning restaurant Cav** and enchanting **renaissance lute performed by Donna Jeffrey**, project director for the Jacqueline M. Walsh School for the Performing and Visual Arts under construction at the Pawtucket Armory.

Tantalizing auction items include a **three-night stay in London**, including airfare, hotel and theater tickets; a week at **Oceancliff**, Newport; two nights at a **Nantucket B & B**, including ferry tickets; **cooking classes** by Johnson & Wales instructors; **tango lessons and tapas** for two; framed, signed prints by **artist Gretchen Dow Simpson** and much more.

Tickets to *Shakespeare's Garden* are **\$65 per person or \$120 per pair**. Call **401-723-4266** to purchase.

Event Chair Covington said she's anticipating the theater's best fundraiser yet.

"This year's event is a culmination of three years of unprecedented growth since The Gamm's move to Pawtucket. And we're thrilled to be celebrating with the backbone of our organization, our loyal subscribers and supporters," Covington said.

The Gamm's staging of the **New England premiere** of Amy Freed's uproarious Off-Broadway hit, ***The Beard of Avon***, opening May 23, "is the perfect backdrop for the event," said **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella**. "This hilarious, bawdy, intelligent comedy celebrates the greatest writer in the history of our language, human folly and, above all, the nature of collaboration—the secret and hallmark of theatrical success."

Honorary Chairperson MarcAurele said he is pleased to support The Gamm on behalf of Citizens Bank Foundation.

"I am honored to be this year's honorary chairperson for this event. The arts is a critical piece of the success of the community and The Gamm Theatre has added so much to the rebirth of downtown Pawtucket," MarcAurele said. "Through this annual fundraiser, The Gamm Theatre will be able to continue providing world-class, affordable, accessible entertainment and educational performances for the entire community."

Shakespeare's Garden is underwritten **Citizens Bank Foundation** with support from **Collette Vacations; Rhode Island Monthly; Yankee Spirits, Inc.; Barrington Printing; The Times; Troy, Pires & Allen Insurance; Two Russos Design** and **WBRU**.

About The Gamm

Founded in 1984 as Alias Stage, the nonprofit Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre performs great works of the classic and modern theater in an intimate setting that fosters the vital relationship between author, actor and audience. As the cornerstone of The Arts Exchange at the Pawtucket Armory, The Gamm seeks to engage and enrich the community through affordable entertainment and educational programming.