

sandra feinstein-



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**GAMM THEATRE'S "NEW ENGLAND BY STARLIGHT" A DAZZLING SUCCESS**

PAWTUCKET, RI (May 8, 2007) — The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) held its most successful fundraising party to date on **Saturday, May 5**, in the drill hall of the historic Pawtucket Armory made into a New England tableau, replete with covered bridge, birch forest, a dusting of fall leaves and intermittent snow fall under a canopy of twinkling lights! **"New England by Starlight,"** the non-profit organization's fifth annual event of its kind, netted an impressive **\$72,000** toward the theater's artistic and educational programs.

Special Guest Host, **film & television star Fionnula Flanagan** ("Rose Caffee" of Showtime's *Brotherhood*), and **Honorary Event Chairs Sam and Natalie Babbitt** and **Richard Kazarian, Jr.** welcomed nearly 200 guests to the revel in the romance of the New England-themed party. Gamm supporters devoured **luscious local cuisine by Blackstone Caterers** (including a popular chowder bar) and homemade desserts by **Overly Delicious**. The well-stocked bar included fabulous cocktails by **Bombay Sapphire and Stirrings**, a **variety of beers by Newport Storm** and a selection of fine wines by **Yankee Spirits**. Live music by **Bombay Jim & the Swinging Sapphires** provided a lively backdrop to the festivities.

Ms. Flanagan, who was honored with a montage of her film and television career, announced the winner of The Gamm's first-ever **"Awesome and Amazing Reverse Cash Raffle"**, in which **Robert Martin of Providence won almost \$5,000**. Mr. Martin then generously donated his winnings back to the theater. Other guests won exciting prizes in a **New England-themed silent auction** including an overnight stay at the historic and elegant **Mt. Washington Hotel** (\$675); a 6-day sail off the coast of Maine aboard the historic **Stephen Taber schooner** (\$675); a spruce and cherry wood **acoustic guitar** (\$660); a signed copy of the **Academy-Award Winning script of *The Departed*** (\$500); a **walk-on role in the Showtime series "Brotherhood"**, along with an autographed audio cassette of **Ms. Flanagan performing Molly Bloom's soliloquy from James Joyce's "Ulysses"** (\$500)...and much more.

"**'New England by Starlight'** was a true celebration of the theater's growing presence in the region and was made that much more special by **the support and participation of Fionnula Flanagan,**" said **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella**. "The evening also served to usher in **our first-ever commission and world premiere, *Radio Free Emerson*,** and provide the monetary momentum for our upcoming 23<sup>rd</sup> season. I can't thank our loyal supporters and sponsors enough."

**Collette Vacations, East Coast Lighting and Production Services, NBC 10, Rhode Island Monthly and Urban Smart Growth** were the event's benefactors. Additional support came from **Troy, Pires & Allen Insurance and Yankee Spirits; American Printing, Arden Engineering Constructors, LLC., MetLife Auto & Home, Schwadesign, Teknor Apex 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. The Gamm is a member of **New England Area Theatre (NEAT)**, a bargaining unit of the Actors Equity Association.

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