

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Gail Hulbert, Communications & Marketing Director

(401) 723-4266 or gail@gammtheatre.org

The Gamm Embarks on Season-Long Celebration of Pivotal Players in Theater's 25-Year History

PAWTUCKET, RI (September 14, 2009) — **The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** (The Gamm) is pleased to mark its milestone **25th Anniversary Season (2009-2010)** with a series of events at which the board of directors and staff will honor 25 individuals, groups of individuals, and organizations **who have played an instrumental role in shaping the non-profit organization**. By giving of their time, talent and treasure, the honorees have proven central to the growth of The Gamm, transforming a fledgling collective of talented artists into an award-winning, year-round professional theater.

"After much deliberation and input from Gamm contributors and supporters, we have selected 25 individuals and organizations without which The Gamm Theatre could not have enjoyed its success and longevity. **This is a truly awe-inspiring collection of talent, vision, and generosity**," said **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella**. "At the same time, we recognize that these honorees represent a host of others who have selflessly helped to make The Gamm Theatre what it is today."

The following individuals and organizations will be honored throughout Season 25 (as grouped), beginning with tonight's press night performance of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* and culminating in The Gamm's spring fundraising gala on April 10:

Being honored tonight:

Joy Semjen, long-time Gamm subscriber and patron

Seth Handy, former Gamm board president

Judith Swift, Gamm resident director and advisory board member

Being honored throughout the rest of the season:

Lynne Kelly of Collette Vacations, former Gamm board member, development chair

Mayor James Doyle of Pawtucket, patron and friend

Stephen Berenson, Director MFA Programs, Acting Faculty

Brian McEleney, Brown University/Trinity Rep Head of MFA Acting, Brown University/Trinity Rep

Gamm Theatre Artists: Christopher Francis Byrnes, Karen Carpenter, Richard Donnelly, Jeanine Kane, Steve Kidd, Jim O'Brien, Wendy Overly, Casey Seymour Kim, Normand Beauregard, Charles Cofone, Peter Sampieri, Matthew Terry, Stef Work

The Rhode Island Foundation, key strategic partner & long-time funder

Trinity Repertory Company, valued colleagues and collaborators

Stanley Bleecker, first Alias Stage board president

Irving Spaulding – retired University of Rhode Island professor, Emeritus Gamm board member

Nigel Gore & Kate Lohman - former Gamm artistic and administrative leaders

David T. Howard – Gamm resident set and costume designer

Marilyn Salvatore – Gamm resident costume designer

Richard Van Voris – Gamm lighting designer

Michael McGarty – Gamm set designer & Trinity Rep resident designer

-over-

Fred Sullivan, Jr., Gamm resident director
Citizens Bank, supporter & funder

Alias Stage founders: Dan Devine, Lucinda Dohanian, George Marcincavage, Pam Powers, Steve Sookikian, Kate Stone, Dan Welch

William P. Wingate, strategic advisor & former Gamm board member
Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, key strategic partner & long-time funder
Hope Pilkington, former Gamm board member, staff member, artist & patron

Samuel F. Babbitt, Current Gamm Board Member and resident actor
Coline Covington, Current Gamm Board President
Alan Shawn Feinstein, founder of The Feinstein Foundation & theater patron

About The Gamm Theatre

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. 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.