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For more information contact:
Gail Hulbert, Communications & Marketing Director
(401) 723-4266 or gail@gammtheatre.org

DOUBLE SHOT OF SHAKESPEARE OPENS GAMM'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON
***Much Ado About Nothing & Romeo and Juliet* Wrap up in Rep!**

PAWTUCKET, RI (August 21, 2009) — **The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** (The Gamm) is pleased to launch its **25th Anniversary Season (2009-2010)** with an exhilarating pairing of Shakespearean classics: The Bard's uproarious comedy ***Much Ado About Nothing*** and his beautifully devastating tragedy ***Romeo and Juliet***. Regular runs of both plays, performed by a talented company of Gamm resident artists and newcomers, culminate in ***Shakespeare in Rep!*** — **two exciting weeks of repertory performances** during which audiences can see each play on alternating days or both on a single day.

Much Ado About Nothing, directed by Gamm Resident Director **Fred Sullivan, Jr.**, runs from **September 10-October 4**. ***Romeo and Juliet***, directed by Gamm Artistic Director **Tony Estrella**, runs from **October 22-November 15**. Both plays are performed in repertory from **November 18-November 29**. All performances take place at The Gamm Theatre, 172 Exchange St., Pawtucket, RI.

Tickets are \$24-\$40 with discounts for subscribers, groups of 10 or more, seniors and students. For tickets call **401-723-4266** or buy online at **gammtheatre.org**. (Please note: online ticketing is newly accessible through the Gamm website.)

Much Ado About Nothing, directed by Fred Sullivan, Jr.
Sept. 10-Oct. 4

Not about nothing, the Bard's *Much Ado About Nothing* casts the serious themes of love, fear of commitment, jealousy and retribution in a **sexy, sizzling, side-splitting** comedy about two very different (and equally convoluted!) courtships. The Gamm revisits and reinvents its 2000 production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, reuniting Resident Director **Fred Sullivan, Jr.** with Artistic Director **Tony Estrella** and Resident Actors **Jeanine Kane** and **Sam Babbitt** as Benedick, Beatrice and Leonato.

Romeo and Juliet, directed by Tony Estrella
Oct. 22-Nov. 15

Timeless, universal and beautiful, this *Romeo and Juliet* takes on young love, unbridled passion and family dysfunction with the grit and gravitas of real life. **Thrillingly fast-paced, intimately engaging and chillingly real**, The Gamm's up-close and personal production of Shakespeare's tragic tale of teenage star-crossed lovers soars with the poetry of heartbreak and a doomed but perfect love.

Shakespeare in Rep!
Nov. 18-29

One company, two classics. See each play on alternating days (regular prices apply) or see both in one day for a **special price of just \$57**. (Save \$14.50! Phone and box office orders only.)

In planning this milestone season, **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella** said he wanted to start with **"something innovative and bold that both embraced our history and looked ahead.**

"Shakespeare is the guy who got me here 13 years ago with *Antony and Cleopatra*, the first of this theater's 10 intimately epic productions of his plays that have formed the cornerstone of The Gamm's reputation in the second half of its quarter century," Estrella said, adding "What better way to celebrate our big birthday with not one but two of his greatest plays? And why not do both with one cast and perform them for part of their run together in repertory? Let the audience see up close and personally how **they complement and clash and together paint as detailed a dramatic rendering of love as there has ever been.**"

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.

About *Much Ado About Nothing* & *Romeo and Juliet*

Much Ado About Nothing
by **William Shakespeare**
directed by **Fred Sullivan, Jr.**

Romeo and Juliet
by **William Shakespeare**
directed by **Tony Estrella**

Set Design by **Sara Ossana**
Costume Design by **Marilyn Salvatore** (*Much Ado*) & David T. Howard (*Romeo and Juliet*)
Lighting Design by **Jen Rock**
Musical Composition & Design by **David Tessier** (*Much Ado*) & **Charles Cofone** (*Romeo and Juliet*)
Fight Choreography by **Normand Beauregard**
Technical Direction by **Dade Veron**
Stage Management by **Robin Grady*** (*Much Ado*) & **Mark McClure*** (*Romeo and Juliet*)

Props Master, **Katryne Hecht**; Dance Choreography, **Angelica Vessella**; Master Electrician, **Renee Suprenant**; Dramaturge, **Jennifer Madden**; Production & Wardrobe Assistant (*Much Ado*)/Assistant Stage Manager (*Romeo and Juliet*), **Kate Ferdinandi**

CAST (*Much Ado About Nothing*/*Romeo and Juliet*)

Benedick (MA only)...**Tony Estrella***
Beatrice (MA only)... **Jeanine Kane***
Leonato/Prince...**Sam Babbitt***
Dogberry/Lord Capulet...**Tom Gleadow**
Hero/Juliet...**Amanda Ruggiero**
Conrade/Romeo...**Aaron Rossini**
Don Pedro/Tybalt...**Steve Kidd***
Don John/Mercutio...**Kelby T. Akin***
Claudio/Benvolio...**Marc Mancini**
Verges/Peter...**Chuck Reifler**

Margaret/Lady Capulet...**Karen Carpenter**
Balthasar (MA)/Balthasar (RJ)...**Zach LeClair**
Music, Watch/Apothecary, Music, Watch...**David Rabinow**
Nurse (RJ only)...**Wendy Overly***
Friar Laurence (RJ only)...**Jim O'Brien***
Antonio/Lord Montague...**Geoff Leatham**
Ursula/Lady Montague...**Tray Gearing**
Borachio/Paris...**Kyle Blanchette**
Friar Francis, Music, Watch/ Friar John, Music, Watch...**Joshua Koopman**
Music, Watch (MA only)...**David Tessier**

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

CALENDAR OF PERFORMANCES

Much Ado About Nothing
September

Thurs, Sep. 10, preview performance at 8
Fri, Sep. 11, preview performance at 8
Sat, Sep. 12, preview performance at 8
Sun, Sep. 13, preview performance at 7
Mon, Sep. 14, press performance at 7
Thurs, Sep. 17, regular performance at 8
Fri, Sep. 18, regular performance at 8
Sat, Sep. 19, regular performance at 8
Sun, Sep. 20, matinee performance at 2*
Sun, Sep. 20, regular performance at 7
Wed, Sep. 23, regular performance at 7
Thurs, Sep. 24, regular performance at 8
Fri, Sep. 25, regular performance at 8
Sat, Sep. 26, regular performance at 8
Sun, Sep. 27, matinee performance at 2
Sun, Sep. 27, regular performance at 7
Wed, Sep. 30, regular performance at 7

October

Thurs, Oct. 1, regular performance at 8
Fri, Oct. 2, regular performance at 8
Sat, Oct. 3, regular performance at 8
Sun, Oct. 4, matinee performance at 2
Sun, Oct. 4, regular performance at 7

November

Wed, Nov. 18, regular performance at 7
Thurs, Nov. 19, regular performance at 8
Sun, Nov. 22, regular performance at 7 **
Wed, Nov. 25, regular performance at 7
Sat, Nov. 28, regular performance at 8**
Sun, Nov. 29, matinee performance at 2**

Romeo and Juliet
October

Thurs, Oct. 22, preview performance at 8
Fri, Oct. 23, preview performance at 8
Sat, Oct. 24, preview performance at 8
Sun, Oct. 25, preview performance at 7
Mon, Oct. 26, press performance at 7
Thurs, Oct. 29, regular performance at 8
Fri, Oct. 30, regular performance at 8
Sat, Oct. 31, regular performance at 8

November

Sun, Nov. 1, matinee performance at 2*
Sun, Nov. 1, regular performance at 7
Wed, Nov. 4, regular performance at 7
Thurs, Nov. 5, regular performance at 8
Fri, Nov. 6, regular performance at 8
Sat, Nov. 7, regular performance at 8
Sun, Nov. 8, matinee performance at 2
Sun, Nov. 8, regular performance at 7
Wed, Nov. 11, regular performance at 7
Thurs, Nov. 12, regular performance at 8
Fri, Nov. 13, regular performance at 8
Sat, Nov. 14, regular performance at 8
Sun, Nov. 15, matinee performance at 2
Sun, Nov. 15, regular performance at 7

Fri, Nov. 20, regular performance at 8
Sat, Nov. 21, regular performance at 8
Sun, Nov. 22, matinee performance at 2**
Fri, Nov. 27, regular performance at 8
Sat, Nov. 28, matinee performance at 2**
Sun, Nov. 29, regular performance at 7**

* Followed by **Shared Sundays** discussion with artists & scholars. Show attendance not required. Open to the public at no charge.

** Same-day performances of *Much Ado About Nothing* & *Romeo and Juliet*