

Media Release - For Immediate Release – September 5, 2009

The Diary of Anne Frank Opens Theatre Aquarius' Season

Hamilton, ON, September 5, 2009 – One of the most enduring stories of the past century comes to life at Hamilton's Theatre Aquarius with ***The Diary of Anne Frank***. This season opening production will star **Natasha Greenblatt** as Anne Frank and **Tim Koetting** as Mr. Frank.

"*This is a powerful, never-to-be-forgotten story*", says Ron Ulrich, Theatre Aquarius' Artistic Director "*The show is about hope. A show about the best of humanity facing the worst of humanity.*"

Anne Frank documented her life within her diary as her family and four others hid for over two years in a small flat hidden behind a bookcase in an Amsterdam warehouse. In her diary, the always optimistic Anne recorded her hopes, frustrations, clashes and observations. Frank's words live on with translations in some 60 languages and over 25 million copies of her diary sold throughout the world.

Marcia Kash directs **Wendy Kesselman's** adaptation of the 1955 Pulitzer Prize-winning play by **Frances Goodrich** and **Albert Hackett**. ***The Diary of Anne Frank*** will begin previews with a Pay What You Can Performance on September 15. The official opening is September 17 and the show will run until October 10.

The show is surrounded by special added features! Patrons will savor a once in a lifetime opportunity to view the exhibit ***Anne Frank: A History for Today*** direct from the Anne Frank Center in New York. The exhibit is open to the public daily, with tours offered by docents from the Art Gallery of Hamilton on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A Guest Lecture Series will commence on October 4. Holocaust Survivor **Frank Junger** will speak about his experiences and memories, and on October 6 **Dr. Pamela Swett** from McMaster University will speak about War and Genocide. Please call us or visit our website for more information on these singular events.

Tickets for ***The Diary of Anne Frank*** are on sale now, and may be ordered on line at www.theatreaquarius.org, by calling the box office at 905.522.7529 (toll free 1.800.465.7529), or in person at the Dofasco Centre for the Arts, 190 King William Street, Hamilton. For group sales, contact groupsales@theatreaquarius.org.

The Diary of Anne Frank is generously sponsored by **Effort Trust** and the **Weisz Family Foundation** (Presenting Sponsor) and **ArcelorMittal Dofasco** (founding partner). The Theatre Aquarius 2009/10 Season is generously sponsored by **Ron and Donna Patterson**. We also acknowledge the support of the **Ontario Arts Council** and **Canada Council for the Arts**.

Theatre Aquarius, in its 37th season, is one of South Western Ontario's leading professional regional theatres serving over 100,000 patrons for its 200 performances, and draws audiences from London, Mississauga, Guelph and Niagara.

For further information, please visit our website at www.theatreaquarius.org or contact: **Stephanie Davidson**, Marketing and Communications Manager, Theatre Aquarius, Phone: 905.522.7815 ext. 235, Email: theatreaquarius@gmail.com

