

***** NEWS RELEASE *****

NEW REPERTORY THEATER NAMES NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JIM PETOSA

[WATERTOWN, MA, February 8, 2012] – Today, New Repertory Theatre names Jim Petosa, nationally-known, award-winning theatre artist, educator, and leader as its new Artistic Director.

After a nation-wide search, New Rep Board Chair Daniel Newton says, “I am excited that New Rep is bringing on board such an eminently qualified, visionary leader as Jim Petosa for this critical role. As a guest director at New Rep, Jim has been involved with our artistic family for years. I am confident he will ensure the continued production of the highest quality theatre our audiences have come to expect.”

Petosa served as Artistic Director of Olney Theatre Center outside of Washington D.C. (Montgomery County, MD) since 1994. High notes of his tenure include expanding the company from a summer theatre to year-round; growing the company into a theater-center campus, including a new theatre lab and amphitheatre; and earning many local, regional, and national awards for the institution and his directing, including the Helen Hayes Award. He will finish out Olney’s 2012 Season.

Additionally, Petosa will continue to serve as Director of the School of Theatre, College of Fine Arts, at Boston University, a position he has held since 2002. In this role, he also established the Boston Center for American Performance, the professional production extension of BU’s School of Theatre.

While Petosa’s New Rep appointment officially begins August 1, he says, “I’ll become involved immediately in the remainder of New Rep’s current season, as well as plans for the 2012-2013 upcoming season. Every day is an opportunity to share ideas and build relationships.”

Petosa plans to encourage “an era of collaboration that strengthens New Rep. He says, “It’s an exciting time for regional theatre in our country. We need to examine current models and make them relevant for the future. I have an incessant belief in the power and possibility of the theatre, and a deep desire to foster dialogues of discovery that continue advocating for its relevance and meaning.”

“Having directed three productions in three years at New Rep,” he continues, “I came to understand the organization’s commitment to quality, intelligence, and revealing human truths through thoughtful story-telling.” Petosa most recently directed *Three Viewings* this season, called “compelling” by *The Boston Globe*.

“I am truly looking forward to partnering with Jim,” says Managing Director Harriet Sheets. “Since his directorial debut of *Opus* with us in 2010, he has proven to be an effective team-player. With Jim, I expect to develop an inviting creative home for our artists.”

New Rep plans to celebrate the announcement of its 2012-2013 season next month at its *Premiere Party*, where patrons may personally meet Petosa.

2011-2012 SEASON
RENT

book, music, and lyrics by Jonathan Larson
directed by Benjamin Evett
musical direction by Todd C. Gordon
choreography by Kelli Edwards
Sep. 4, 2011—Oct. 2, 2011
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

COLLECTED STORIES

a drama by Donald Margulies
directed by Bridget Kathleen O’Leary
Oct. 9, 2011—Oct. 30, 2011
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

THREE VIEWINGS

by Jeffrey Hatcher
directed by Jim Petosa
Nov. 27, 2011—Dec. 18, 2011
 BLACK BOX THEATER

‘ART’

a comedy by Yasmina Reza
translated by Christopher Hampton
directed by Antonio Ocampo-Guzman
Jan. 15, 2012—Feb. 5, 2012
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

BAKERSFIELD MIST

*a National New Play Network
 Rolling World Premiere by* Stephen Sachs
directed by Jeff Zinn
a co-production with Wellfleet Harbor
 Actors Theater
Feb. 26, 2012—March 18, 2012
 BLACK BOX THEATER

LONG DAY’S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT

a drama by Eugene O’Neill
directed by Scott Edmiston
April 1, 2012—April 22, 2012
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

lyrics and book by Howard Ashman
music by Alan Menken
directed and choreographed by Russell Garrett
musical direction by Todd C. Gordon
April 29, 2012—May 20, 2012
 CHARLES MOSESIAN THEATER

Support comes from:

Bank of America
 Massachusetts Cultural Council
 The Shubert Foundation
 Lawrence + Lillian Solomon Fund
 Cabot Family Foundation

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE'S MISSION

New Repertory Theatre produces plays that speak powerfully to the essential ideas of our time. Through the passion and electricity of live theater performed to the highest standards of excellence, New Rep expands and challenges the human spirit of both artists and audience. New Rep presents world premieres, contemporary and classic works in several intimate settings. We are committed to education and outreach, including special dedication to the creation of innovative in-school programming and providing access to underserved audiences. New Rep is an active advocate for the arts and a major voice in the national dialogue defining the role of theater in our culture.

ABOUT JIM PETOSA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Jim Petosa, an award-winning theater artist, educator, and leader, has been Director of the School of Theatre, College of Fine Arts, at Boston University since 2002 as well as Artistic Director of Maryland's Olney Theatre Center for the Arts and its National Players educational touring company since 1994. He also serves as one of three Artistic Directors for the Potomac Theatre Project in Manhattan (originally in Washington, D.C.), dedicated to producing political works.

During his tenure at Olney, he expanded the company from a summer theatre to year-round; grew the company into a theater-center campus, including a new theatre lab and amphitheatre; and earned numerous local, regional, and national awards both for the institution and his directing. While at BU, he established the Boston Center for American Performance, the professional production extension of the Boston University School of Theatre in 2009.

Throughout the Northeast, Petosa has directed countless plays for numerous institutions. For New Repertory Theatre, he directed *Three Viewings* (2011), *The Last Five Years* (2011), and *Opus* (2010).

Petosa has served on the faculty of the Catholic University of America, the University of Maryland College Park, and the Heifetz International Music Institute at St. John's College. He has been a visiting professor at Middlebury College, an artist-in-residence at George Washington University, and a guest artist at Georgetown University, Wolf Trap, and the Smithsonian Institution.

In Boston, his work was nominated for two Independent Reviewers of New England (IRNE) awards for *A Question of Mercy* at Boston Center for American Performance (2010). In Maryland, his work earned over 25 Helen Hayes Award nominations as well as the award for outstanding direction of a musical for *Jacques Brel Is Alive And Well...*; his production of *Look! We Have Come Through!* was nominated for the Charles MacArthur Award for outstanding new play. He earned the Montgomery County Executive's Excellence in the Arts and Humanities Award for Outstanding Artist/Scholar (in Maryland) as well as Maryland Theatre Association's Award for Theatre Education.

A member of Actors' Equity Association, Petosa has served on the executive board of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Catalyst Theatre, and the advisory board Playwrights Forum. Petosa studied drama, theatre history, and criticism both as an undergrad and graduate student at Catholic University of America. He resides in Quincy, MA.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE'S 2011-2012 SEASON

New Rep's 2011-2012 Season continues with these productions.

***Bakersfield Mist* February 26-March 18, 2012, Black Box Theater**

A National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere by Stephen Sachs
Directed by Jeff Zinn, Featuring Ken Cheeseman and Paula Langton
A Co-production with Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre

***Long Day's Journey Into Night* April 1-22, 2012, Charles Mosesian Theater**

A Drama by Eugene O'Neill, Directed by Scott Edmiston
Featuring Will Lyman and Karen MacDonald

***Little Shop of Horrors* April 29-May 20, 2012, Charles Mosesian Theater**

Book and Lyrics by Howard Ashman, Music by Alan Menken
Directed and Choreographed by Russell Garrett, Music Direction by Todd C. Gordon
Featuring Paul D. Farwell, Susan Molloy, Blake Pfeil, and Timothy John Smith

TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

In the 2011-2012 Season, full priced tickets to non-musical productions in the Charles Mosesian Theater range from \$28-58 (for musicals, \$28-\$63), depending on the day of the week and seating location. Tickets for productions in the Black Box Theater are \$35 General Admission. Senior, student, and group discounts are available, as well as student rush.

Subscriptions for New Rep's current 2011-2012 Season are available now. Subscriptions for the 2012-2013 Season will be announced this spring. Information on varied subscription packages is available by calling New Rep's Box Office at 617-923-8487 or via e-mail at tickets@newrep.org.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE FACTS AT A GLANCE:

Artistic Director:	Jim Petosa
Company:	New Repertory Theatre
Where:	In residence at the Arsenal Center for the Arts Charles Mosesian Theater and Black Box Theater 321 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 02472
Tickets:	Call: 617-923-8487, or buy online at www.newrep.org Senior, Student Discounts available Group Rates are available to groups of 10+
Social Media:	Twitter: www.twitter.com/newrep Facebook: www.facebook.com/newrep YouTube: www.youtube.com/newrep
Accessibility:	Wheelchair accessible Assisted Listening System Box office with TTY For TTY only, dial 617-923-2067 Large-Print and Braille Programs available
Public Transportation:	#70 or #70A bus to the School Street stop From Central Square Station on MBTA's Red Line
Parking:	Free, six-level parking garage next to the Arsenal Center for the Arts
For Media Inquiries:	Contact Ami Bennitt at 617.923.7060, extension 205 or e-mail ami@newrep.org

###