



PRESS RELEASE
January 6, 2011

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Trinity Rep Raises over \$42K for RI Community Food Bank During Holiday Season

Fifth year of partnership brought donations of cash, food, and theater tickets

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Trinity Rep is pleased to announce that they collected \$42,464 in cash donations to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank in addition to their annual canned food drive held at the theater. Continuing their longtime partnership with the Food Bank as a holiday drop-off location for food donations, the theater concluded each performance throughout November and December of their holiday classic *A Christmas Carol* with a collection for the Food Bank. The donation was made on behalf of the thousands of Trinity Rep patrons attending the show, the theater's staff and ushers. The partnership between the two institutions has, even through challenging economic times, brought the total dollar amount raised for the Food Bank throughout the partnership to over \$190,000 through the generosity of thousands of individuals.

This year, in addition to concluding each performance of *A Christmas Carol* with a collection for the Food Bank, Trinity Rep was able to donate 150 tickets to a performance of *A Christmas Carol* to Food Bank clients through our Open Access Theater program, generously funded by Citizens Bank.

"I am so pleased that we have continued Trinity Rep's longstanding partnership with the Rhode Island Community Food Bank this holiday season. The generosity of our audience has been overwhelming," stated Artistic Director Curt Columbus. "We are proud to be able to be a part of such an important cause, particularly during the run of *A Christmas Carol*, which celebrates the spirit of the holidays – not just Christmas in particular, but the time of year when people are asked to give to others in need."

"Hunger in Rhode Island has reached a ten-year high," said Andrew Schiff, Chief Executive Officer of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.

"With so many of our neighbors facing difficult times, struggling to put food on the table for their families, the continued generosity of Trinity Rep and their patrons, particularly during the holidays, truly captures the spirit of the season," added Schiff. The story of *A Christmas Carol* carries with it an incredible sense of inspiration, and the outpouring of generosity that Rhode Islanders showed for those in need will go a long way towards helping families this winter."

About Trinity Repertory Company

Since its founding in 1963, Trinity Repertory Company has been one of the most respected regional theaters in the country. Featuring the last permanent resident acting company in America, Trinity Rep presents a balance of world premiere, contemporary, and classic works for an estimated annual audience of approximately 120,000. In its 46-year history, the theater has produced 57 world premieres, mounted national and international tours, and, through its MFA program, trained hundreds of new actors and directors. This season marks the 44th year of Project Discovery, Trinity Rep's pioneering educational outreach program.

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Last season, Trinity Rep's educational programs reached nearly 15,000 Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut students through matinees as well as in-school residencies and workshops. Brown University/Trinity Rep offers professional training for actors and directors in a three-year MFA program. Trinity Rep's season presents seven subscription productions and an annual production of *A Christmas Carol*. The 2010-2011 Season continues with *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller; *Yellowman* by Dael Orlandersmith; *Steel Magnolias* by Robert Harling and *The Completely Fictional—Utterly True—Final Strange Tale of Edgar Allan Poe*, a new play by Stephen Thorne. For more information or to subscribe, call the box office at (401) 351-4242 or visit Trinity Rep's website at www.trinityrep.com.

About the Rhode Island Community Food Bank

The Rhode Island Community Food Bank is a non-profit organization located in Providence, RI. The Food Bank solicits, stores and distributes food products donated by supermarkets, wholesalers, food processors, local farmers and community food drives. The food is then distributed to the Food Bank's network of more than 250 member agency programs. In the past fiscal year, the Food Bank distributed 9.7 million pounds of food. For more information about the Food Bank, please visit www.rifoodbank.org.

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