



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**COMMONWEALTH THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS**  
***PARFUMERIE***

LANESBORO, MINN. — The Commonwealth Theatre Company presents the romantic comedy *Parfumerie*, November 25th through December 20th with discounted tickets available for previews November 18th through November 25th. Call the box office at 800-657-7025 or visit Commonwealth Theatre online at [www.commonwealththeatre.org](http://www.commonwealththeatre.org) for exact performance dates and times.

*Parfumerie*, a delightful romantic comedy for the whole family, inspired such feature films as *The Shop Around the Corner* with Jimmy Stewart and *You've Got Mail* with Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks. It's Christmastime 1937, and at Hammerschmidt's Parfumerie, fellow shop clerks George Horvath (Scott Dixon) and Amalia Balash (Irene ErkenBrack) are bickering as usual. But when George discovers that Amalia is the secret identity behind his anonymous romantic pen-pal, he suddenly finds his world turned upside-down. What happens when you realize that your worst enemy is also the love of your life?

Commonwealth's own Adrienne Sweeney sits in the director's chair for this story of how risky it can be to fall in love. "Great comedy usually comes from the life experiences that scare us the most, and falling in love is scary," Sweeney says. "You have to take a chance being vulnerable, letting someone else come

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into the most secret and private rooms in your heart. And, sadly, that also can mean giving someone else the power to hurt you like you've never been hurt before. You have to be brave in order to love and be loved, and, as we see in this play, sometimes it takes people an awfully long time to build up that kind of courage.”

Joining ErkenBrack and Dixon on stage will be Commonweal Resident Artists Hal Cropp, Stef Dickens, David Hennessey, and Daniel Stock with Twin Cities actor Thom Pinault as shopowner Miklos Hammerschmidt. The cast also features Commonweal Apprentice Company Artists Gary Danciu, Brandon Grayson, Carla Joseph, Rachel Kuhnle and Megan Pence.

Commonweal's Resident Production Manager Jason Underferth serves as stage manager and lighting designer for *Parfumerie*. He also leads the production team consisting of designers Kit Mayer (set), Jeff Stolz (costumes), Stan Peal (sound), and Carla Joseph and Brandon Grayson (props). Megan Pence is the show's Assistant Director.

Thanks to support from F&M Community Bank, special weekday matinee performances are available for school groups at only \$5 per person which also includes a study guide, pre-show classroom workshop, and post-performance discussion with the actors.

The Commonweal Theatre Company is committed to making the holidays a little brighter for the children at the Mayo Eugenio Litta Children's Hospital in Rochester. Donate a new art supply to the ART-for-KIDS project, November 18 through December 20, and you will receive a \$5 discount (only one discount per ticket) off the regular adult ticket price to *Parfumerie*.

All performances are at the Commonweal Theatre, 208 Parkway Avenue North in downtown Lanesboro. Ticket prices are \$30, with discounts available for students and groups of ten or more. Employees and residents of Fillmore and Houston Counties are offered free admission to the preview performance on Thursday, December 1. For ticket reservations or information about any Commonweal events or programs, call 800-657-7025 or 507-467-2905, or email [tickets@commonwealtheatre.org](mailto:tickets@commonwealtheatre.org).

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