

For Immediate Release, November 3, 2009

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Link to high resolution images: http://www.hamnertheater.com/Season5/TheHomecoming_Press
(also available by request)

The Hamner Theater presents *The Homecoming*, by Earl Hamner, Nov. 19 - Dec. 13, 2009.

A Nelson County Christmas Story

Nellysford, VA (Nov. 2, 2009) - The Hamner Theater announces the return after three years of the beloved family Christmas story, ***The Homecoming***, by Earl Hamner. There will be fourteen performances, beginning Thursday, Nov. 19 and closing Sunday, Dec. 13.

The Homecoming is the heart-warming story of a family waiting for the magic of Christmas Eve to arrive - not Santa, but Daddy - told from the perspective of the adult Clay-Boy as he remembers the journey he took, on that snowy evening long ago. We join Clay-Boy as he searches for his father and encounters some colorful characters that expand his growing understanding of the world.

Says writer Earl Hamner of ***The Homecoming***, "It is remembered in my family that on Christmas Eve of 1933 my father was late arriving home. That, along with the love he and my mother bestowed upon their eight red-headed offspring, is fact. The rest is fiction."

Hamner Theater Co-Artistic Director, Boomie Pedersen returns to the director's chair for this production. The cast includes Hamner stalwarts Jonas Collins (*Shadow of Honor, Six by Six*), Mary Coy (*Richard III, You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running*), Rose Harper (*Daughters of the Appalachians, The Homecoming, Six by Six*), Rick Steeves (*Twilight Zone, The Homecoming*), Mariflo Stephens (*The Homecoming, Richard III*), Ryan Wender (*Uncle Vanya, Six by Six, Story Theater*) and Melissa Wender (*Daughters of the Appalachian, Six by Six*). Many parts are doubled in this cast of 32 actors portraying 21 characters. The actors also include Orion Bloom, Alice Clair, Margaret Clair, Katie Coleman, Carper Collins, Jackson Collins, Mattie Collins, Richard Cooper, DJ Crocker, Dakota Crocker, Michael Dowell, Alice Ferrall, David Ferrall, Louise Ferrall, Fiona Harper, Zed Kosowitz, Cindy LaChance, Jim Loman, Sophie Loman, Olivia Marshall, Becca Shaw, Cody Shaw, Phoebe Shaw, Herbert Wender Ryan and Alexey Zielinski.

Performances will take place Thu. - Sat. at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. There will be no shows on Thursday & Friday of Thanksgiving week, Nov. 26 & 27. Tickets \$10, \$5 for 12 & under. Reservations are suggested, phone (434)361-1999. Visit www.hamnertheater.com for more information.

About the Hamner Theater: The Hamner Theater, a non-profit project of the Rockfish Valley Community Center, receives funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and anonymous donors to support its mission of bringing professional theater to Nelson County.

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Summary:

What: ***The Homecoming***, by Earl Hamner

Where: Hamner Theater, 190 Rockfish School Lane, between Afton and Nellysford, VA 22920

Show Times: Thursday – Saturday, Nov. 19 - Dec. 13, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. (excluding Thanksgiving Thu. & Fri., Nov. 26 & 27th) and Sunday matinees Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6 & 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$10, \$5 for 12 & under

Reservations/Information: 434.361.1999 or www.hamnertheater.com