

EMBARGOED Until Wednesday, May 2nd at 3:30pm

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**7 ANGELS THEATRE, NAUGATUCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, NAUGATUCK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND RENAISSANCE PLACE
ANNOUNCE AGREEMENT FOR NEW FACILITY DOWNTOWN**

NAUGATUCK, CT --- (May 2, 2007) --- Representatives from the 7 Angels Theatre, Naugatuck Historical Society, Renaissance Place and the Naugatuck Economic Development Corporation today signed an agreement to redevelop Building 25 as part of the proposed Renaissance Place project downtown.

Semina De Laurentis, Artistic Director of 7 Angels stated: "With this new satellite facility we will be able to increase our presence in the region. Our plans call for a new black box theatre, a smaller theatre, so we can offer a different type of production than we can in our current facility. We have been looking for this type of opportunity for some time. Renaissance Place is the perfect fit. Our patrons in Naugatuck will be able to enjoy an evening out with dinner and a show. It is a great new opportunity for us and we are very excited." The new black box theater would not take the place of 7 Angels' current facilities at the Hamilton Pavilion in Waterbury, but would be a satellite facility for the organization to offer additional productions. In addition, the facility will provide urgently needed space for scene building, costume sewing, rehearsal, storage and classrooms to support 7 Angels in Waterbury that is not available in the Hamilton Pavilion there. 7 Angels is the regions only Professional Equity Theatre.

Bridget Mariano, President of the Historical Society added: "We have been slowly working toward a plan to redevelop the historically important Building 25. This agreement gives us the impetus we need to take this project to the next level and make our vision a reality. We think this is a win-win for everyone involved. We are very pleased that Mr. Conroy has maintained his commitment to the history of our community."

The agreement between the parties states that all involved will work together to redevelop Building 25, if the referendum on Renaissance Place passes, as a new home for the Historical Society and incorporate a new black box theater for 7 Angels' use. The parties have been meeting for many months to discuss their vision for Building 25 and how it could work along with the Renaissance Place development. The fact that 380 new residences and more than 100 stores and restaurants will be created by the new development are major reasons for 7 Angels agreeing to establish a new black box theater.

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Alex Conroy, the developer of Renaissance Place, stated: “I am very excited that 7 Angels will be creating a new satellite facility and am pleased they are going to be part of Renaissance Place. And I am equally pleased that we are helping the Historical Society achieve their goal of rehabilitating Building 25. It has such a rich history in Naugatuck’s past that it’s only fitting for it to have a prominent role in the Borough’s future. We have long discussed having arts and cultural elements as an integral part of the development. That will now become a reality.”

Jay Carlson, Chairman of the Naugatuck Economic Development Corporation added: “this is exactly the type of exciting activity the Borough has been waiting for. We have discussed the need to do something positive with Building 25 for a long time. It is a natural fit for the Historical Society. 7 Angels coming in adds to the excitement of Naugatuck and highlights why we need Renaissance Place to happen now! I would like to compliment Alex Conroy and Bridget and the 7 Angels Board for recognizing an opportunity that can benefit the entire Borough and for working hard to make it a reality.”

“**Building 25**” was originally built in 1895, as the Central Office for Goodyear's India Rubber Glove Manufacturing Co., which began in Naugatuck in 1847. After the United States Rubber Co. was founded, the building served as the Central Office for the entire facility in Naugatuck, and subsequently, Uniroyal, until that company closed in 1979. Today it stands as one of the few remaining structures of the proud manufacturing past that helped shape Naugatuck’s rich history.

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