

For Immediate Release

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STAC'S LAETARE PLAYERS JOURNEY INTO THE WOODS

(SPARKILL, NY – APRIL 1, 2009) – St. Thomas Aquinas College's spring production, *Into the Woods*, with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, opens Thursday, April 2nd, announced Dr. Evan Matthews, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Music and Theatre at the College.

Inspired by the timeless tales of the Brothers Grimm, *Into the Woods* tells the story of a Baker and his Wife who journey into the woods on a quest to lift a witch's curse. On the way they cross paths with Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Cinderella and a menagerie of other fairy tale characters. They each pursue individual wishes until their stories become entangled in unexpected ways – revealing what happens after “happily ever after.”

Under the leadership of producer Dr. Matthews and student director Sean Mundy, the cast interprets this “fairy tale for adults” as it comments on contemporary society. With a set design and choreography that utilizes the entire theater, audience members will feel part of the show.

“The storyline, score and cast size make this show both challenging and rewarding.” commented student-director Sean Mundy. “Analyzing the meaning behind each story helped the cast relate to their characters and reveal issues relevant to our society today.”

This is Mundy's third directorial appearance for the Laetare Players. The cast and crew include faculty, alumni, and students from the College.

Performances begin at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4 and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 5. Tickets for this student performance are \$8 for students and \$10 for adults. For reservations contact the Music and Theatre Office at 845-398-4144 or e-mail laetare@stac.edu.

MORE ABOUT ST. THOMAS

The College's 2,700 full and part time students can choose from 97 different majors, minors, specializations, and dual degree programs across five divisions: The Humanities; Business Administration; Social Sciences; Natural Sciences & Mathematics; and Teacher Education or are enrolled in one of our graduate programs. St. Thomas has expanded its offerings to include: a Master of Science in Education with specializations in Literacy, Special Education, and Educational Leadership, a Post Masters Certificate program in Education, a Master of Science in Teaching, a Master of Business Administration program, a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Science in Education, and an Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science degree, the latter two offered at the West Point Military Academy. For more information on the College visit www.stac.edu.