



Media Release

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**THE LEAGUE OF HISTORIC AMERICAN THEATRES
PRESENTS 2012 AWARDS TO PALACE THEATRE / MANCHESTER, DULCIE GILMORE AND HAL HOLBROOK**

SAN DIEGO, CA (July 18, 2012) – **The League of Historic American Theatres, Inc.**, celebrating excellence in the preservation, restoration and sustainable operation of historic theatres throughout North America, presented its **2012 Outstanding Historic Theatre Award** to The **Palace Theatre Trust** in Manchester, NH and its **2012 Outstanding Individual Contribution Award** to **Dulcie Gilmore**, Director of the Arie Crown Theater/SMG in Chicago. The League also gave its inaugural **Marquee Award** to Tony Award winning actor, **Hal Holbrook**

Presenting the Outstanding Historic Theatre Award to The Palace Theatre Trust, League Executive Director **Ken Stein** acknowledged the Palace Theatre's significant accomplishments and excellence in community impact, quality of programs and services, quality of physical restoration and ability to inspire excellence among other historic theatres. **Carl Rajotte**, Artistic Director for the Palace, accepted the award.

James Boese, Vice President of Nederlander Producing Company of America, New York, NY, introduced Gilmore during an awards luncheon in San Diego, opening the League's 36th Anniversary Conference, hosted by San Diego Theatres, Inc. Gilmore served on the League's board of directors for nine years, most recently as Immediate Past President from 2007-2011 and President 2005-2007. Boese praised Gilmore's vision, dedication and perseverance in her role as League Board President as well as to her service to theatres in the Chicago area. Boese credits Gilmore with making Chicago a destination for Broadway Musicals.

Donald Telford, President and CEO of San Diego Theatres in San Diego, CA, introduced **Hal Holbrook**, who was visibly moved when receiving the 2012 League of Historic American Theatres Marquee Award in honor of his 70 years on stage and in film and television. Many League theatres have hosted Mr. Holbrook over the years with his one man show *Mark Twain Tonight!* Mr. Holbrook has performed this show every year for 58 years. Holbrook thanked the League for their part in saving historic stages upon which he has played. In his speech, he named many of the pioneer actors who had influenced his career. *"Can you imagine the thrill it has been for me to walk on the same stages all over this country where these great actors walked before me? It has been so wonderful to me and such an inspiration to me and you folks are responsible for it...I don't know that I have ever received something that I will treasure more than this award."*

The League's Awards Program inspires excellence by recognizing theatres and individuals for their significant accomplishments and/or distinguished service to our field. An award-winning theatre will have demonstrated excellence through significant achievement, the impact of its services and breadth of populations served, and the length of time and/or intensity of its activities.

The Outstanding Individual Contribution Award recognizes an individual who demonstrates vision, dedication, selflessness and excellence through his or her contribution to historic theatres and their communities. The recipient of this award will have demonstrated excellence through his or her significant contributions, the impact of his or her services and breadth of populations served, and the length of time and/or intensity of contributions that benefit the field of historic theatres.

The Marquee Award is given to an artist whose work not only inspires League members but also showcases the beautiful, historic theatres that the League works tirelessly to restore and maintain. The recipient of this award will be a celebrated artist whose name has lit up the many historic marquees of our member theatres.

About the League of Historic American Theatres, Inc.

The League of Historic American Theatres, Inc., a non-profit association dedicated to sustaining America's historic theatres for the benefit of their communities and future generations, is a growing network of more than 300 historic theatres across the U.S. and Canada. Founded in 1976, the League has made a strategic transition from an organization best known for a membership that helps save historic theatres to a membership increasingly concerned with the tools, techniques and technologies of sustaining historic theatres.

The League serves members through educational programs, publications, specialized services and an annual conference and theatre tour, facilitating the exchange of information and resources for improving their historic theatres, their business and their communities.

For additional information, visit the League's web site at: www.lhat.org .

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