



PRESS RELEASE
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CONTACT: Patrick Finlon, PR Director
315-443-2636 or pjfinlon@syr.edu

Photo Exhibit from Oswego, NY's *Safe Haven Museum and Education Center* at Syracuse Stage



(SYRACUSE, NY)—A photo exhibit from Oswego, NY's *Safe Haven Museum and Education Center* is now on display in the Coyne Lobby at Syracuse Stage. The exhibit highlights the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter, the nation's only WWII refugee shelter, and may be viewed now through May 3 during the run of Syracuse Stage's *The Diary of Anne Frank*. A significant portion of the exhibit has been donated by Exhibits and More of Syracuse, www.exhibitsandmore.com.

In conjunction with the photo exhibit, the regularly scheduled Nottingham Lecture Series at Syracuse Stage will feature a discussion with three panelists: Elizabeth Kahl, Board President of the Safe Haven Museum and Education Center; Fran Enright, a resident of Oswego who lived there when the shelter was open; and Bob Davidson, Owner of Exhibits and More. The discussion will take place at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, in the Sutton Pavilion at Syracuse Stage, before the 2 p.m. matinee performance of *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

SAFE HAVEN MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER

In 1944 President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his plan to create a free port at Fort Ontario in Oswego, NY. Under this plan 982 refugees from eighteen different countries, including 874 Jews, were transported from Italy to an emergency shelter at Fort Ontario. Roosevelt circumvented the rigid immigration quotas by identifying these refugees as his "guests," but that status gave them no legal standing and required their return to Europe once the war was over, even if they had no home to return to. Sadly, Fort Ontario would be the only shelter in the United States established for European refugees from the Second World War and the Holocaust. Safe Haven Museum and Education Center tells the story of these refugees, the shelter

that was their home, and the city that welcomed them. The museum is open to the public year round. www.oswegohaven.org

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

An impassioned drama about the lives of eight people hiding from the Nazis in a concealed storage annex, *The Diary of Anne Frank* captures the claustrophobic realities of their daily existence—their fear, their hope, their laughter, their grief. Running now through May 3 at Syracuse Stage, tickets are available at the Syracuse Stage Box Office at 820 East Genesee Street, by telephone at 315-443-3275 or by going to www.SyracuseStage.org.

SYRACUSE STAGE

Syracuse Stage is Central New York's premier professional theatre. Founded as a not-for-profit theatre in 1974 by Arthur Storch, Stage has produced more than 220 plays in 35 seasons including numerous world and American premieres. Each season upwards of 90,000 patrons enjoy an exciting mix of comedies, dramas and musicals featuring the finest professional theatre artists. In addition, Stage maintains a vital educational outreach program that annually serves over 30,000 students from 24 counties. Syracuse Stage is a constituent of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, and a member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT). In addition to ticket sales, Syracuse Stage performances are made possible by funds from Syracuse University, the Central New York Community Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts, The Shubert Foundation, Onondaga County, and corporate, foundation and individual donors.

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Syracuse Stage | Producing Artistic Director: Timothy Bond | Managing Director: Jeffrey Woodward
820 E. Genesee St. | Main: 315-443-4008 | Box Office: 315-443-3275 | www.syracusestage.org