

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From: Gallery Theater
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RE: *Rodgers & Hammerstein's*

Carousel

Music by Richard Rodgers
Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Based on Ferenc Molnar's Play "Lilliom" as adapted by Benjamin F. Glazer
Original Dances by Agnes de Mille

Stage Direction by David Howell
Music Direction by Gwen Leonard
Adapted Choreography by Kathleen Van De Veere

Gallery Theater in cooperation with Linfield Opera Theatre will present Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Carousel* opening April 23 and running through May 8 on the main stage. There are only eight performances for this show so be sure to buy your tickets early.

In a Maine coastal village toward the end of the 19th century, the swaggering, carefree carnival barker, Billy Bigelow, captivates and marries the naive millworker, Julie Jordan. Billy loses his job just as he learns that Julie is pregnant and, desperately intent upon providing a decent life for his family, he is coerced into being an accomplice to a robbery. Caught in the act and facing the certainty of prison, he takes his own life and is sent "up there." Billy is allowed to return to earth for one day fifteen years later, and he encounters the daughter he never knew. She is a lonely, friendless teenager, her father's reputation as a thief and bully having haunted her throughout her young life. How Billy instills in both the child and her mother a sense of hope and dignity is a dramatic testimony to the power of love. It's easy to understand why, of all the shows they created, *Carousel* was Rodgers & Hammerstein's personal favorite.

Performance Dates: April 23, 24, 25, 30, May 1, 2, 7 & 8 ~ 2010

Curtain: Friday and Saturday-7:30 p.m., Sunday- 3:00 p.m.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW: \$15 General Admission, \$13 Students/Seniors. Gallery's box office is open Tuesday through Friday; 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Call 472-2227 for tickets. For further information go to www.gallerytheater.org. ###