



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### ***“GEORGE M!” THE STORY OF AMERICA’S FIRST SHOW BUSINESS MEGA-STAR COMES TO DUTCH APPLE!***

Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre proudly presents the musical spectacular *George M!* playing August 12 through September 25, 2010. This fast-paced and upbeat musical depicts the life of George M. Cohan from vaudeville to Broadway!

*George M!* follows the first giant of American musical theatre over a 60-year period from his childhood on the vaudeville circuit with his family as "The Four Cohans", to New York where he starts his 25 year complete control of the Broadway stage. The unforgettable tunes that are now part of the American musical landscape include *Give My Regards to Broadway*, *Over There*, *You're A Grand Old Flag* and *Yankee Doodle Dandy*. This toe-tapping musical classic is great for the entire family!

Most of the cast performing in this production have already performed *George M!* for more than 80 shows at the Dutch Apple's sister theatres, the Broadway Palm in Fort Myers, Florida and Broadway Palm West in Mesa, Arizona. John Ramsey returns to the Dutch Apple as the ultimate showman, George M. Cohan. John is an audience favorite and has been seen as the Emcee in *Cabaret*, Phil Davis in *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, Richard Henry Lee in *1776* and most recently as Cosmo Brown in *Singin' in the Rain*.

Allison Fund, who was raised in Lititz, will portray his sister Josie. Allison is a graduate of Montclair State University where she received a BFA in musical theatre. She has performed at the Dutch Apple in *The King and I*, *Peter Pan*, *Sound of Music*, *The Music Man* and numerous children's theatre productions. She is an instructor for the SPATTS summer acting camp as well.

Andy Kopec, another audience favorite will be performing. He has appeared in more than a dozen productions for the Prather Entertainment Group. Dutch Apple patrons may remember him from *All Shook Up*, *Cabaret*, *Peter Pan*, *1776*, and *Mid-Life! The Crisis Musical* and most recently as the Duke in *Big*

*River*. He has also toured nationally in *Peter Pan*, *1776*, *Fiddler On The Roof* and the first national tour of Meredith Willson's *The Music Man*.

Kristen Marie will play George's mother Nellie Cohan. She is returning to the Prather theatres to finish the *George M!* tour. Her recent credits include the tour of *Bye Bye Birdie* (Helen/Rosie cover) US0 of Metropolitan NY. Her New York City credits are *Twilight: The Musical*, *Ziegfeld's Midnight Frolic of 2010* and *Totally Electric* and her regional credits are *No, No Nanette* (Lucille) and the Off Broadway hit, *Tony N Tina's Wedding* (Donna). Kristen also co-founded a women's vocal trio in which she sings and acts as choreographer. [www.themanhattandolls.com](http://www.themanhattandolls.com)

Tommy Vance makes his debut with the Dutch Apple as the patriarch of the Cohan clan, Jerry Cohan. He was most recently seen as Cecco in the national tour of *Peter Pan*. Some of his favorite performances are *42nd Street* (twice), Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, *Cinderella* and *My Fair Lady*.

Ann Nieman returns as the director/choreographer for this production. Ann is well known for her unmatched direction of tap-dancing pieces and she has created over 100 productions for respected regional theatres across the United States and Europe. She most notably created *Grease*, *Sweet Charity*, *Evita*, *West Side Story* and *Anything Goes*. Her Off-Broadway credits include *In the Name of God...or Honk If You Love Satire* and *Wind in the Willows*. For Prather Entertainment Group (PEG) in particular, Ann has directed and choreographed productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *42nd Street* to name just a few. She began her professional performing career as a dancer on Broadway and in several national tours including *42nd Street*, *Hello, Dolly!* *Me and My Girl*, *George M!* and *Singin' in the Rain*. She has had the honor of working with such notables as the legendary Carol Channing, composer Jerry Herman, stage and movie star Tim Curry, Broadway choreographer Peter Genarro and television stars Gary Marshall and Ken Berry. A native of Texas, Ann received her BA in theatre from North Texas State University.

Wave your American flag and head over to Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre for the most patriotic musical yet, ***George M!*** plays August 12 through September 25, 2010. Performances are Tuesday through Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$52 with group discounts available for parties of 16 or more. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling 717-898-1900, by visiting [www.DutchApple.com](http://www.DutchApple.com), or by stopping by the box office at 510 Centerville Rd. Lancaster, PA.