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A Connecticut Not-For-Profit Organization

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For immediate release

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**SHUBERT THEATRE RECEIVES FUNDING FROM CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2030**

**$4.99 Million Dollar Grant will be used for Capital Improvement and Infrastructure Upgrades   
to the venue as the theatre approaches the 110th Anniversary of its original opening**

Anthony McDonald, Shubert Theatre’s Executive Director, is delighted to announce that it has been awarded a grant of $4,993,489 from the third round of the State of Connecticut’s Community Investment Fund 2030 (CIF) to be used for the “Shubert Theatre Sustainability” projects. Since it opened on December 11, 1914, New Haven’s Shubert Theatre has become known as the *“Birthplace of the Nation’s Greatest Hits”* for the number of pre-Broadway and World Premieres that were first seen on its legendary stage. In preparation for the 110th Anniversary of the theatre’s original opening, Shubert Theatre management has been assessing upgrades needed to keep the building sound and its aging infrastructure up to date. As a Connecticut Not-For-Profit Organization, Shubert Theatre relies on grants and donations to fund large capital projects that cannot be covered by ticket sales alone. While this funding will be transformative for the future sustainability of Shubert Theatre's infrastructure, we continue to depend on support for our work both onstage and in our community.

Funds provided from the State Bond Commission will enable the theatre to make upgrades and improvements to the venue’s sound system, lighting and electrical equipment as well as to replace outdated HVAC units with updated, energy efficient units which will reduce the cost of the overall energy output. A long-overdue replacement of a vital elevator that directly services the lower-level backstage areas of the theatre and first floor stage will ensure that there are no disruptions during a performance. The grant will allow work to be completed on the repointing of the original 1914 brick exterior of the theatre and other necessary restoration projects. In order to keep up with the rapidly evolving technology and equipment that are part of new touring Broadway productions, these upgrades are vital in order for Shubert Theatre to provide the necessary infrastructure, stage equipment and ancillary amenities necessary to attract accredited theater productions.

The grant will also allow the theatre’s management to transform the venue’s lobby mezzanine into a new, enclosed multi-functional “cabaret-style” theatre to accommodate smaller productions and expand programming options for the Shubert. In addition, this much-needed professional space will provide the opportunity for local artists to present their works in a more intimate environment and at a more affordable rate than a performance on the venue’s main stage.

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Anthony McDonald said, “On behalf of Shubert Theatre and its board, I would like to thank the Community Investment Fund Board, Governor Ned Lamont, Senator President Pro Tempore Martin M. Looney, City of New Haven Mayor Elicker, Representatives Walker, Dillon, Lemar and congresswoman DeLauro for their support in securing this generous grant. As we approach Shubert Theatre’s 110th Anniversary, this grant will allow us to complete necessary capital projects to bring the venue into the 21st century and ensure it continues to be a sound and thriving center of live performances to be enjoyed by all members of the community we serve.”

"I am thrilled to announce this state funding which will usher in a new era of excellence for the Shubert Theatre," said Senate President Pro Tempore Martin Looney (D-New Haven). "This generous investment will facilitate much-needed upgrades to our beloved venue, encompassing state-of-the-art theatrical systems, a modern HVAC system, and a new elevator to ensure accessibility for all. But the impact goes far beyond the bricks and mortar; it will serve as a catalyst for the arts in our community. This project will not only revitalize the Shubert but also pave the way for the creation of new performance spaces within its historic walls, providing a vibrant stage for local artists and a hub for community activity. Our theater is set to shine brighter than ever, and I am immensely proud to have played a part in making this vision a reality. I want to thank my fellow New Haven legislators and Governor Lamont in their support of this project in order to make today possible.”

The Community Investment Fund 2030 was established to foster economic development in historically underserved communities across the state. In total, CIF will provide a total of up to $875 million to eligible municipalities as well as not-for-profit organizations and community development corporations that operate within them. Eligible projects include capital improvements, such as those focused on affordable housing, brownfield remediation, infrastructure, and public facilities, as well as small business support programs that provide revolving loans, gap financing, microloans, or start-up financing.

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