



P.O. Box 123 Clayton, New York 13624
www.ClaytonOperaHouse.com
315.686.2200

For Immediate Release

February 11, 2011

Media Contact: Erin Brick

Acting Executive Director, Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund

315.686.1037 (not for publication)

For immediate release

Clayton - The Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund (TIPAF) at the Clayton Opera House announced that it has selected Joseph Gleason, Weare, New Hampshire, as its new executive director. Mr. Gleason has extensive theater management and technical director experience, including as facilities manager for the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, New Hampshire; director of operations for the Lowell Memorial Auditorium in Lowell, Massachusetts; and technical director for the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers, Florida.

He serves on the board of trustees for the Capitol Center for the Arts, where he spearheaded the effort to upgrade servers and ticketing software and participated in the theater's task force to create a strategic plan for future technological needs.

Mr. Gleason is employed in the field of information technology for Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc., Bennington, NH, serving as information services manager. This position has provided Mr. Gleason with years of experience in finance, sales, customer service and staff team building

He graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in theatre. He is currently completing a Master of Arts in arts administration through Goucher College in Towson, Maryland.

"We are extremely excited to have Joe as a part of the TIPAF family and the 1000 Islands community. His unique combination of financial and technical experience and his theater background will secure TIPAF's premier status as a presenter of quality performing arts in the area," said TIPAF President Pete Colello.

Mr. Gleason is expected to begin his executive director duties on February 13. Of the Clayton Opera House, he stated, "I am honored to have been chosen as the new executive director of the Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund at the Clayton Opera House. It is rare to see such a successful private/public partnership in the arts as the one between TIPAF and the town of Clayton. I am looking forward to becoming a member of the community and working together to ensure the Clayton Opera House continues to bring great events to the area."

TIPAF continues to fulfill its mission to manage a leading community and performing arts center at the Clayton Opera House. TIPAF, in partnership with the town of Clayton, has established the Clayton Opera House as a vital institution for the presentation of the performing arts, as an important venue for the social and business activities of the community, and as a desirable cultural destination in the 1000 Islands tourist market.

TIPAF will announce its 2012 performance schedule, including three spring events, in the coming weeks.

###