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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## THUNDER BAY THEATRE ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE OF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND PLANS FOR 2019-2020 SEASON

**ALPENA, Mich., NOV 18, 2019** – The Thunder Bay Theatre Board of Directors announced today that Jeffrey Mindock, Producing Artistic Director at Thunder Bay Theatre is leaving, under mutually agreed upon terms with the Board, after serving the organization for five years.

Mindock was responsible for planning, casting, directing, and producing professional shows at the year-round theatre. Additionally, he led a team of administrative staff at the theatre and was responsible for seeking and writing grants to help underwrite and support this non-profit organization. During his time at Thunder Bay Theatre, Mindock also initiated an educational outreach program which served over 12,000 children in and around Northern Michigan with theatre-based educational opportunities.

Lisa Larkin, Thunder Bay Theatre Board President explained, “Molly Stricker, a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, and former Managing Director for Thunder Bay Theatre, will be serving as Interim Artistic Director for our last two shows of the season. She will help us with finishing out our 2019 season productions of *Godspell* and *A Christmas Carol*.”

“There will be a search for a permanent successor, which we will be posting soon,” explained Larkin. “A change in Artistic Directors could mean a change in the 2020 season, but that decision will come from the board, together with the current administrative staff and the new artistic director.”

*Godspell*, a collaboration with the Thunder Bay Theatre and the Alpena High School Masquers Club, is slated to run November 29 through December 15. And *A Christmas Carol*, which will feature many area students and community members will run December 20-December 22. Tickets for both may be purchased online at [thunderbaytheatre.com](http://thunderbaytheatre.com).

#### About Thunder Bay Theatre

TBT is a 501 ( c ) (3) non-profit corporation, and is the only year-round professional theatre in Northern Michigan. TBT provides a very valuable theatre opportunity to many young people who are actively pursuing a career on stage. It also creates wonderful learning experiences for local performers and volunteers who get a chance to work closely with the resident professional company. In addition to its many stage productions, TBT



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has drama programs for area youth and develops traveling programs for schools throughout Northeast Michigan.