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**Shakespeare on the Cape Performs Molière's *School for Wives*  
Co-Presented with Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater  
at the new Julie Harris Stage**

**Wellfleet, MA**— As the first guest company in **WHAT's** new building, **Shakespeare on the Cape** will open a new production of Molière's *School for Wives* in a co-presentation with **WHAT** at the new **Julie Harris Stage** this Sunday. It will run Sundays and Mondays from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 27<sup>th</sup>. Directed by the company's co-artistic director, Eric Powell Holm, the production will star his co-founder and co-artistic director, Elliot Eustis, as the jealous Arnolphe. Also starring is founding company member, Ben Griessmeyer, who was named 2006's Best Actor by the Cape Cod Times for his performance of Romeo in Holm's production of *Romeo and Juliet* last summer. Griessmeyer will play the naïve young beauty, Agnés.

A frothy hilarious take on the battle-of-the-sexes, *School for Wives* is widely considered to be Molière's first comic masterpiece. Arnolphe's determination to find a simple wife has lead him to raise Agnés in a special school to keep her utterly naïve. With the wedding approaching, Arnolphe's plan backfires: Agnes has fallen in love, because she had never been taught otherwise. Translated into English rhyming couplets by former Poet Laureate Richard Wilbur, the adaptation extends **SOTC's** playfulness with casting conventions. With a minimalist set, and a troupe of actors that never leave the stage, *School for Wives* promises to be a unique comic experience for **WHAT** audiences. "Despite the fact that this play is essentially about jealousy, it's so hilarious and generous that it leaves us with a feeling of joy," Holm says. "It's such an honor, especially after touring to the **Guthrie's** new building last fall, to play in another brand new theater building. **WHAT** is a truly inspiring organization."

**Shakespeare on the Cape** (SOTC) was founded in 2004 by Elliot Eustis and Eric Powell Holm who trained together at the **University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program**. In the summer of 2005, **SOTC** debuted in a makeshift theater above the Schoolhouse Gallery in Provincetown, with productions of *Twelfth Night* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, both of which were named among the best productions of the 2005 by the Cape Cod Times. Their second season, summer 2006, they produced *Romeo and Juliet* and *As You Like It* which opened in repertory at the Art House in Provincetown, and subsequently toured Cape Cod to Wellfleet, Harwich, Wood's Hole, Nantucket, and finally west to the **Guthrie Theater's Dowling Studio**, as the **Guthrie's** first guest company in their new flagship building in Minneapolis. In September 2006, **Shakespeare on the Cape** gave the world premiere of a long-lost

Tennessee Williams one-act called *The Parade, or Approaching the End of a Summer* for the first annual **Provincetown Tennessee Williams Festival**, an event which was covered in the New York Times and American Theater Magazine.

Founded in 1985, **Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater** (WHAT) is nationally known as Cape Cod's most adventurous professional theater company. Now in its 24th year, **WHAT** has expanded and brings theatergoers over twice as many productions with this season's addition of a new state-of-the-art year-round theater. The newly dedicated **Julie Harris Stage**, a tribute to the five-time Tony Award winning actress and **WHAT's** honorary chairperson, now fully complements the original **Harbor Stage** and **WHAT for Kids**, continuing **WHAT's** mission to consistently seek out distinctive and provocative new works and to recruit artists with the skill, imagination and vision to realize those works in production. The new Julie Harris Stage is located at 2357 Route 6 just next to the Wellfleet Post Office on Route 6. The original Harbor Theater is located on Mayo Beach next to the Town Pier.

School for Wives

By Molière

Translated by Richard Wilbur

Directed by Eric Powell Holm

July 29 – August 27

Sundays & Mondays at 8:15 PM

At WHAT's new Julie Harris Stage

2357 Route 6, Wellfleet, MA

(508) 349-9428 for Tickets

\$29/\$14.50

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