

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Kitchen Theatre Company's "Campaign for a Bold New Space" Making Progress** *Strong community support prompts decision to increase the campaign goal*

When the Kitchen Theatre Company launched a campaign to raise funds to renovate its new 99-seat performing space at 417 West State/Martin Luther King St, it faced challenges presented by a down economy and the impact this could have on giving. Despite those obstacles, the KTC has seen steady and healthy support from its friends and donors. As a result, the KTC board has approved a decision to increase the campaign goal from \$950,000 to \$1.2M.

Artistic Director Rachel Lampert explains: "To date we have raised \$890,000, 94% of our original goal. We are extraordinarily grateful to our many friends, businesses, foundations and funders whose generous gifts are making this project possible. The positive response to the campaign encouraged us to look again at our design plans to see if some cutbacks and compromises we had made originally might be reconsidered. This is such a critical, once in a lifetime effort for the Kitchen Theatre Company, we want to be sure we get it right for us and for the community."

The revised design will include a full scene shop with enough height to build on-site, reducing costs for trucking and equipment rental; a better sound barrier between the rehearsal and performance spaces; larger dressing rooms; better location of the green room; and new theater seats for our patrons - something many subscribers and friends requested when this project was announced. The campaign schedule has not changed; it is scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2009.

The Kitchen Theatre Company anticipates having renovations completed in the spring of 2010. Until then, the Kitchen Theatre Company continues at the Clinton House with a season of 191 performances planned between now and July 2010.

For more information on the **Kitchen Theatre Campaign for a Bold New Space**, visit the website at <http://www.kitchentheatre.org/campaign.htm>

**Bold, intimate, engaging...Kitchen Theatre Company** (KTC), now in its 19th season, is downtown Ithaca's critically acclaimed and nationally recognized year-round professional theatre, with four performance series (Main Stage, Family Fare, Kitchen Counter Culture, Kitchen Sink). KTC provides an engaging mix of regional and world premiere plays and musicals to Central NY in an intimate 73-seat theater that encourages a bold relationship between audience and actor. The theatre is located in the historic Clinton House, a renovated hotel in downtown Ithaca, New York. KTC is the first not-for-profit recipient of the David R. Strong Memorial "Small Business of the Year" Award from the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce. The Kitchen Theatre Company receives public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency, and the Tompkins County Room Occupancy Tax Fund. For the 2009-10 Season, the Kitchen Theatre Company also receives support from the Shubert Foundation.