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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MOHONK MOUNTAIN STAGE COMPANY (MMSC) PUBLISHING
ANNOUNCES ITS
SECOND POETRY COMPETITION
FOR HUDSON VALLEY POETS
AND PUBLICATION OF LITERARY JOURNAL**

Mohonk Mountain Stage Company (**MMSC**) announces its second Poetry Contest for poems to be included in its literary journal, ***Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley***. The contest is open to all writers living in the Hudson Valley of New York, from Albany to the metro-New York City area. The contest deadline is November 15, 2006, and includes cash prizes for First Place (\$200) Second Place (\$100) and Third Place (\$75) entries, as well as Honorable Mention awards (no cash prize). All prize-winning entries, as well as selected other entries, will be published in MMSC's ***Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley – Poetry 2006***, published in May 2007, and will be read in a public performance by the MMSC's Readers Theatre Group at Unison Arts Center on May 4, 2007. There is a reading fee of \$15 for up to three poems (14 pages total); further submission guidelines are available on the MMSC website at www.mmstageco.com/publications/journals.html.

In affirming **MMSC's** decision to begin publishing as an integral part of its programs, **MMSC's** Producing Director, Robert Miller, noted "As a company dedicated to celebrating the written word, **MMSC** recognizes its responsibility not only to revel in the work of gifted authors past and present, but to contribute to the development of a body of literature yet to be written." MMSC Publishing's ***Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley***, a literary journal, focuses on the development of new plays and a regional poetry competition. The first volumes (*Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley: New Plays from the SUNY New Paltz Dramatic Writing Program 2003; Volume 1 Issue 1*) and (*Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley: Poetry 2004; Volume 1 Issue 2*) were published in April, 2004 and December 2004 respectively.

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The poetry entries will be reviewed by a panel of qualified preliminary readers (O. Howard Winn, Professor of English Emeritus, Dutchess Community College; Barbara Adams, Professor Emerita of English at Pace University; Stella Deen, Associate Professor of English at State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz and William Connors, MA, MALS, at Cornell and, SUNY New Paltz.,) with final judging by Eamon Grennan. Eamon Grennan, born in Dublin and educated at UCD, where he studied English and Italian, and Harvard, where he received his PhD in English, has published volumes of his poetry which include *What Light There Is & Other Poems*, *Wildly for Days*, *As If It Matters*, *So It Goes*, *Selected and New Poems* and *Still Life with Waterfall*. His latest collection, *The Quick of It*, appeared in 2004 in Ireland, and in Spring 2005 in America. Other publications include *Leopardi: Selected Poems*, and *Facing the Music: Irish Poetry in the 20th Century*, a collection of essays on modern Irish poetry. His poems, reviews, and essays have appeared in many magazines both in Ireland and the US. Grennan has given lectures and workshops in colleges and universities in the US, including courses for the graduate programs in Columbia and NYU. During 2002 he was the Heimbold Professor of Irish Studies at Villanova University. His grants and prizes in the United States include awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Guggenheim Foundation. *Leopardi: Selected Poems* received the 1997 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation, and *Still Life with Waterfall* was the recipient of the 2003 Lenore Marshall Award for Poetry from the American Academy of Poets. His poems have been awarded a number of Pushcart prizes. Grennan taught since 1974 at Vassar College where he was the Dexter M. Ferry Jr. Professor of English. Grennan divides his time between the US and the west of Ireland.

Mohonk Mountain Stage Company is an independent theater company that has been operating in the Hudson Valley since 1994. MMSC celebrates ideas, imagination and ingenuity through its award-winning Readers Theatre Group and Theatre For Young Audiences, a literary journal and an annual theatre scholarship award. They have garnered numerous awards from The Taconic Newspapers and *Times Herald Record* including Best Theatrical Event of the Year, Best Play and Best Actor. Their Theatre for Young Audiences productions such as **Brave Little Tailor**, **The Jungle Book** and **The Frog Prince** have toured nationally, performing in schools, theaters, and civic centers. Sponsors include both the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. and Brooklyn Academy of Music as well as local and regional schools.