

Syracuse Stage Announces Winners of The 2009 Chase Young Playwrights Festival

Works by Local High School Students Performed By SU Drama Students at Staged Reading

STORCH THEATRE at SYRACUSE STAGE
Monday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m.

(Syracuse, NY)—Eight area high school students have been chosen as the winners of the eleventh annual Chase Young Playwrights Festival at Syracuse Stage. Their work will be performed by students from the Department of Drama in Syracuse University's College of Visual and Performing. A staged reading of the winners' work will take place at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 27, in the Storch Theatre at Syracuse Stage, 820 East Genesee Street. This event is free and open to the public. For more information about this event, please call 442-7755.

Winners of the 2009 Chase Young Playwrights Festival were chosen from more than 106 submissions by area high school students. A panel at Syracuse Stage chose 16 semi-finalists, who presented their work for feedback and rewriting. Eight works were then chosen to be performed at the staged reading.

Winning again this year is Camden High School Senior Shaina Bienvenue. Last year, Shaina was honored for writing a series of monologues that explored society's view of beauty, entitled *Anti-Pink*.

The winners of the 2009 Chase Young Playwrights Festival are:

- **Shaina Bienvenue**, senior, Camden High School, planning to major in music or psychology.
Title: *The Games We Play*
Synopsis: A well-crafted trio of monologues devoted to love and hate.
- **Evan Andrew Davis**, senior, Nottingham High School in Syracuse, planning major in writing in college.
Title: *Perspective of a Divorced Couple*
Synopsis: Divorce, presented from two interwoven perspectives.
- **James Domachowske**, senior, Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse

Title: *Good Change*

Synopsis: Two down-and-out schemers plan a grand heist to turn their lives around.

- **Brett Keegan**, senior, Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse
Title: *For Restful Death I Cry*
Synopsis: Unrequited love leads a young man to a difficult decision.
- **Bethany Metallo**, senior, Liverpool High School, planning to major in Art Education
Title: *The Bob Prince*
Synopsis: A spoiled princess and an opinionated narrator weave a fantasy tale of Bob-meets-girl.
- **Jacqueline Peck**, senior, Liverpool High School, planning to major in Foreign Language Education.
Title: *High School I.R.L.*
Synopsis: A young woman tries to debunk pop-culture portrayals of high school life, while her friends plan an intervention to combat her cynicism.
- **Stefan Schoasheck**, senior, Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse.
Title: *Jack and Jill*
Synopsis: An eerie re-imagining of the classic nursery rhyme.
- **Jacqueline Silvalia**, a senior from Liverpool High School
Title: *The Psyche Link*
Synopsis: A futuristic trans-media piece about the blurring line between reality and a digital world.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT SYRACUSE STAGE

Syracuse Stage is committed to providing students with rich theatre experiences that connect to and reveal what it is to be human. Research shows that young people who participate in or are exposed to the arts demonstrate higher academic achievement, stronger self-esteem and a greater ability to plan and work toward a goal. Last season more than 34,000 students from 24 counties attended or participated in in-depth integrated arts partnerships with Syracuse Stage.

The Bank of America Children's Tour: bringing high-energy, interactive and culturally-diverse performances to elementary school and community audiences. The fall 2009 production will be Mike Kenny's *The Song from the Sea*, a spellbinding blend of puppetry, music and visual storytelling.

Carrier *BACKSTORY!*: an interactive, live, creative history lesson for middle school students through adults in which actors visit classrooms and other venues to bring historic characters to life.

Lockheed Martin Project Blueprint: merging scientific discovery and the arts, as an actor portraying a scientist/mathematician introduces students to the connections between scientific and artistic processes.

artsEMERGING: high school students participate in an in-depth exploration of a mainstage play using multiple arts and a multi-cultural approach. This spring, students will create visual art to be displayed during the run of *Crowns*.

The Chase Young Playwrights Festival: challenging high school students to submit original plays for a chance to have their work performed at Syracuse Stage.

Student Matinees with classroom study guides are offered for mainstage productions. For group rates, please call 315-443-9844.

SYRACUSE STAGE:

Syracuse Stage is Central New York's premier professional theatre. Founded in 1974, Stage has produced more than 220 plays in 36 seasons including a number of world, American, and East Coast premieres. Each season 90,000 patrons enjoy an adventurous mix of new plays and bold interpretations of classics and musicals featuring the finest theatre artists. In addition, Stage maintains a vital educational outreach program that annually serves over 30,000 students from 24 counties. Syracuse Stage is a constituent of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, and a member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT). Syracuse Stage is a non-profit organization and performances are made possible by funds from Syracuse University, the Central New York Community Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts, The Shubert Foundation, Onondaga County, and corporate, foundation and individual donors.

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