

City of Dallas News Release

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City of Dallas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF DALLAS OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS TEAMS WITH DOCUMENTARY ARTS, JUNIOR PLAYERS, THEATRE BRITAIN, AND PEGASUS THEATRE IN SUPPORT OF FREE NIGHT OF THEATER

Documentary Arts presents *Blind Lemon Blues* – September 20, 2008 at 12:00pm
Junior Players presents a *Comedy Acting Workshop* – September 20, 2008 at 2:00pm
Theatre Britain presents *Peacemaker* – September 21, 2008 at 2:00pm
Pegasus Theatre presents *Know-No* – September 27, 2008 at 2:00pm

DALLAS, TX – The City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) is pleased to announce four special *Free Night of Theater* pre-events to be held free of charge from Saturday, September 20 through Saturday, September 27, 2008 at various neighborhood branches of the Dallas Public Library. OCA is excited to team with Documentary Arts, Theatre Britain, Junior Players and Pegasus Theatre on events designed to bring a “taste” of *Free Night* directly to select Dallas neighborhoods. Presented in conjunction with Theatre Communications Group (TCG), *Free Night of Theater* offers theatergoers over 3,000 free tickets to more than 26 Dallas-area theaters and campaigns to attract new audiences to live theatrical performances.

Documentary Arts presents *Blind Lemon Blues* – September 20, 2008 at 12:00pm

Documentary Arts will present a 30-minute version of their Leon-Rabin award-winning production (2001 for Outstanding New Play or Musical) *Blind Lemon Blues* at the grand opening celebration of the new Bachman Lake Library Black Box Theater. Located at 9480 Webb Chapel Road the performance takes place on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at 12:00pm. *Blind Lemon Blues*, conceived and written by Alan Govenar and Akin Babatunde, pays homage to the influence of Blind Lemon Jefferson, who emerged in the 1920s as the biggest selling country blues singer in America. Blind Lemon’s lyrics merge with new arrangements and choreographed movement to propel the drama and reveal the intricacies that define the myth and the man. Admission is free of charge. Seating is limited and will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis. No reservations available. For more information please visit www.dallasculture.org/freenightoftheater.cfm.

Junior Players present a *Middle School Comedy Acting Workshop* – September 20, 2008 at 2:00pm

Junior Players will conduct a Comedy/Improv Workshop for middle-school students at Casa View Library located at 10355 Ferguson Road on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at 2:00pm. Taught by comic pros John Flores and Valorie Hauss-Smith, this 90-minute workshop will focus on various aspects of comedy including physical comedy, stand-up comedy, clowning, comedia, and improvisation. Open to students in grades 5-8, the workshop is free of charge and limited to 25 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. To sign-up in advance please call 214-671-0971 or email greg.macpherson@dallascityhall.com. For more information please visit www.dallasculture.org/freenightoftheater.cfm.

Theatre Britain in *Peacemaker* – September 21, 2008 at 2:00pm

Theatre Britain will present *Peacemaker* by David Holman at Pleasant Grove Library located at 1125 S. Buckner Blvd. on Sunday, September 21, 2008 at 2:00pm. *Peacemaker* is ideal for pre-K through 5th

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grade students and incorporates storytelling, music, puppetry, juggling, dancing and audience participation all while tackling the themes of tolerance, friendship, and diversity in a light-hearted way. Simp and her friend, Franny, live in the Land Of Red. They are very glad that they have never seen anyone from the Land Of Blue, for Blues are monsters with huge claws and eyes like burning coals. But today is a day like no other. Today is the day Simp and Franny will remember for the rest of their lives. Today is the day they will meet a Blue! Admission is free of charge. Seating is limited and will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis. No reservations available. For more information please visit www.dallasculture.org/freenightoftheater.cfm.

Pegasus Theatre presents *Know-No* – September 27, 2008 at 2:00pm

Pegasus Theatre presents *Know-No* by Matt Lyle at Dallas West Library located at 2332 Singleton Blvd. on Saturday, September 27, 2008 at 2:00pm. *Know-No* explores the slightly off-kilter world of Ms. Smith and her boss Mr. Jones who has recently disclosed a secret love for his employee, a revelation that throws their perfectly routine existence into turmoil. The play asks each character to answer the question: How much do I NEED to know about the person I love? *Know-No* is funny, intense, sweet, frightening, and ultimately hopeful...maybe. *Know-No* is appropriate for “Young Adults” and up. Admission is free of charge. Seating is limited and will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis. No reservations available. For more information please visit www.dallasculture.org/freenightoftheater.cfm.

About Free Night of Theater Dallas

Presented by the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs in conjunction with Theatre Communications Group (TCG), *Free Night of Theater* offers theatergoers over 3,000 free tickets to more than 26 Dallas-area theaters and campaigns to attract new audiences to live theatrical performances. Theatergoers will be able to reserve tickets through the *Free Night of Theater* website, www.freenightoftheater.net, beginning at noon on Wednesday, October 1, 2008. Tickets can only be reserved online and reservations are handled on a first come, first serve basis. Each participating theatre will set a reservation ticket limit for their productions. Once tickets have been reserved through the website, patrons will be able to pick up their tickets at the will-call window of the individual theater’s box office on the night of the show. Patrons are strongly encouraged to visit a theater that they have never attended.

As of September 1, more than 3,000 tickets (valued at more than \$50,500) have been pledged for *Free Night of Theater Dallas*. Participating theatres include: African American Repertory Theater, Charles W. Eisemann Center, The Company of Rowlett Performers (C.O.R.P.), Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, Dallas Children's Theater, Dallas Hub Theater, Dallas Theater Center, Echo Theatre, Garland Civic Theatre, ICT MainStage, Jubilee Theatre, Lyric Stage, MBS Productions, One Thirty Productions, Pocket Sandwich Theatre, Repertory Company Theatre, Shakespeare Dallas, Teatro Dallas, TeCo Theatrical Productions, The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, The MET Theatre, Theatre Britain, Theatre Three, Undermain Theatre, Uptown Players, WaterTower Theatre, and WingSpan Theatre Company.

For more information on Dallas’ *Free Night of Theater*, visit the national *Free Night* website at www.freenightoftheater.net. Information is also available through the Office of Cultural Affairs website at www.dallasculture.org.

Office of Cultural Affairs

The City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) works to enhance the vitality of the City and the quality of life for all Dallas citizens by creating an environment wherein arts and cultural organizations can thrive so that people of all ages can enjoy opportunities for creative expressions and the celebration of our community’s multicultural heritage. Our mission is to establish a cultural system that ensures that ALL Dallas citizens and visitors have an opportunity to experience the finest in arts and culture. The OCA is advised by an 18-member Cultural Affairs Commission appointed by the Dallas City Council. The OCA manages the city’s Cultural Contracts, Neighborhood Touring and Public Art Programs; oversees six cultural centers including the Bath House Cultural Center, Ice House Cultural Center, Juanita Craft Civil Rights House, Latino Cultural Center, Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, and South Dallas Cultural Center; and operates the city’s classical music radio station, WRR101.1FM. More information on the programs and services provided by the OCA can be found at www.dallasculture.org.