



HOWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Media Advisory

April 2, 2009

HCC's Student Arts Collective Presents American Premiere of "Dracula" Adaptation, April 30 to May 17

Adaptation of Bram Stoker's classic novel by British pair is one of the newest written for stage; production is 40th for Student Arts Collective

(Columbia, MD) – Howard Community College's (HCC) Student Arts Collective presents the American premiere of Bram Stoker's "Dracula," as adapted by British playwrights John Godber and Jane Thornton, under the direction of Susan G. Kramer, April 30 through May 17, 2009 in the newly renovated Smith Theatre. Performances will be held on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays beginning at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$12 for seniors and groups, and \$10 for all students. For tickets, call the box office at 410-772-4900 or visit www.howardcc.edu/studentarts. For more information, call 410-772-4252 or email studentarts@howardcc.edu. This production — recommended for ages 13 and up — includes mature subject matter and images. Those under age 9 will not be admitted.

Press performances are scheduled for May 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. and May 3 at 3 p.m. While members of the press are encouraged to attend the scheduled press performances, those unable to attend are invited to view dress rehearsals (April 27-29) or any regularly scheduled performance.

True to Bram Stoker's classic novel, Godber and Thornton's adaptation is one of the newest written for the stage. Viewers will find the pair's 1995 version to be a sensual, fast-paced, multi-layered masterpiece of fear. As an unexpected storm violently thrashes the coast of England, a young woman sleepwalks along the cliff's edge. In the teeth of the gale, a mysterious, seemingly abandoned vessel slams into the harbor. The Transylvanian Count Dracula grips England tight, stalking his victims with brutal, sensual devastation. From the remote wilderness of Yorkshire to a vast ruined castle near London, the violent battle to end Dracula's lustful power rises into an unearthly clash of power – the pure essence of good and evil.

"Dracula" Director Susan G. Kramer has been Student Arts Collective's (formerly known as Student-Alumni Arts) producing artistic director since its inception 14 years ago. A former student of HCC, she is proud of her Baltimore Community Theatre roots. Recent Student Arts Collective directing credits include "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," "The Child Behind the Curtain," "The Foreigner" and "The Crucible."

"Dracula" features HCC Students, Alumni and Guest Artists:

Dracula: Jeff Klima
Jonathon Harker: Chris Sisson
Mina Murray: Katie Tyler
Lucy Westenra: Sarah Brodine
Dr. Jack Seward: Daniel Johnston
Redfield: John Sisson
Van Helsing: Emma K. McDonnell

Lord Arthur Holmwood: Dan McQuay

The Ensemble:

Shane Conway, Linda DeBakey, Kevin Good, Brendan O'Donnell, Alanna Olive-Smith, Dan Murphy, Jessica Welsh

Production Team:

Director: Susan G. Kramer
Assistant Director and Choreographer: Darius McKeiver
Original Composition: Nischom Silverman
Sound Effects: Dave Harton
Concept and Design: David Cunningham, S.G.Kramer, Steven Ward
Scenic Artist: David Cunningham
Light Design: Andrew Haag
Costume Design: Denise Umland
Violence and Dialect Coach: Jenny Male
Dramaturge: Emma K. McDonnell
Stage Manager: Candace Cooper

Student Arts Collective Team:

AC Executive Producer: Valerie Lash
AC Producing Artistic Director: S.G. Kramer
AC Associate Artistic Director: Grace Anastasiadis
Horowitz Center Technical Director: David Blachowicz
Master Electrician: Eric Moore

HCC's Smith Theatre is located on campus inside the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center (HVPA) at 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044.

About Student Arts Collective

The Student Arts Collective is honored to mount its 40th major production with this celebrated American Premiere of Bram Stoker's "Dracula". Its productions often include the work of artists from the community of all ages and experiences, from students to professionals. Student Arts Collective's eclectic entities includes main stage productions, dance company performances, improv group shows, musical theatre revues, original works, open mics, summer programs for teens and pre-teens and more.

About HCC

Howard Community College is a publicly funded two-year community college serving the educational needs of citizens and employers in Howard County, Maryland since 1970. With its slogan, "You Can Get There From Here," the college has forged a variety of partnerships to offer career and transfer programs to over 25,000 students annually at its main campus in Columbia, the Ecker Business Training Center, Laurel College Center, and the historic Belmont Conference Center. Located midway between two major metropolitan areas, Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD, Howard Community College is an affordable, community-based institution that has long been recognized for its ability to inspire learning, and the lifelong pursuit of personal and professional goals. Among its many awards is the prestigious U.S. Senate Productivity Award for organizational performance excellence, awarded to the college in the spring of 2008.

Media Contact:

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ELECTRONIC IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST