

## September – November

Visit [www.whartoncenter.com/education](http://www.whartoncenter.com/education) for playwriting tips and a downloadable Student Information Packet that includes entry rules, required forms and a sample script format.

### Friday, November 20, 2009 – Script Entry Deadline

- Scripts submitted must be postmarked by Friday, November 20, 2009.
- Application form (downloadable) must be signed by student, sponsoring teacher and parent or guardian and returned with scripts.
- Playwright must be a Michigan high school student in grades 9 – 12 to enter.
- Scripts must be original works.
- See Script Submission Rules for complete details.

**January 2010** – Twelve semifinalist playwrights chosen to work with faculty mentor, Robert J. Roznowski, Professor of Theatre/Acting at MSU, to prepare their scripts for a second reading.

**February 2010** – Six finalist scripts selected to be produced on stage

- Playwrights are assigned a professional mentor.
- Finalists and directors meet to discuss scripts.
- Auditions, casting.

**May 2010 – Performances** showcasing six original works written by high school students, produced by students from MSU's Department of Theatre and performed on the Pasant Theatre stage at Wharton Center.

- **Sunday, May 16, 2010, 1:30 pm – Free Public Performance**
  - Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center for Performing Arts
  - Post-performance Reception, Recognition and Awards Ceremony
  - 4:00-8:30 pm-Forum for playwrights, directors, actor's to assess the work of all plays in a moderated session. Dinner provided. Playwrights are required to attend.
- **Monday, May 17, 2010, 10:00 am – Free High School Performance**
  - Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center for Performing Arts
  - Download School Reservation form at [www.whartoncenter.com/education](http://www.whartoncenter.com/education)
  - Reservations due by April 8, 2010.

## **What is the professional theatre mentoring aspect of YPF?**

Mentors are directors or playwrights from Michigan and around the Mid-West who are currently working in the professional theatre and have had experience working with young people. Once the six finalists are selected they will be assigned a mentor. For the next 4-5 weeks playwrights and their mentors will work to make revisions in the script. Communication will be by email, phone or both. While everyone has time constraints it is assumed that mentors and playwrights will spend about two hours a week working together with the playwright spending some additional time outside of those discussions to revise the play. Once the revisions are completed the revised plays will be sent to the MSU Department of Theatre in preparation for rehearsals.

At present the mentors for 2010 are:

- Seth Gordon – Associate Artistic Director, Cleveland Playhouse
- Carol North – Artistic Director, Metro Theatre Co. St. Louis
- Tony Caselli – Artistic Director, Williamston Theatre
- John Lepard – Executive Director/Director/Actor, Williamston Theatre
- Michael Haney – Associate Artistic Director, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park
- Randy Wyatt - Playwright in Residence – Whole Art Theatre, Kalamazoo

*Note: Mentors are subject to change*

## **What is happening during the weekend of May 15 and 16, 2010?**

On Saturday May 15, 2010 mentors will gather at the Wharton Center with their playwrights to meet each other and then watch a dress rehearsal of their play. This will be followed by a period of discussion about seeing the play for the first time. This will most likely be an afternoon session. On Sunday May 16th at 1:30pm playwrights and mentors will watch the public performance of the plays. This will be followed by the awards ceremony. From approximately 4:00pm to 8:30pm all playwrights, mentors, directors and actors will meet for an ARTIST'S FORUM where each play and production will be discussed. The forum will be moderated by one of the mentors. The Wharton Center will provide a lite supper and beverages during this event. ALL SIX FINALISTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND BOTH THE SESSION ON MAY 15 AND 16<sup>TH</sup>. Finalist playwrights may invite two guests to the May 16th ARTIST'S FORUM.