

For immediate release.
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Who: Pillsbury House Theatre
Where: 3501 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis
What: 2009 Season Announced

No Child..., February 20 - March 22, 2009
Chicago Avenue Project's Forward/Reverse, April 27 & 28, 2009
Playlist: America '09, May 8 - 23, 2009
King of Shadows, October 2 - November 1, 2009
Chicago Avenue Project's Eyes on the Prize, November 9 & 10, 2009

PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2009 SEASON

Minneapolis, MN - Pillsbury House Theatre is pleased to announce their 2009 Mainstage and Chicago Avenue Project seasons. This year Pillsbury House Theatre will present three Mainstage productions and two Chicago Avenue Project productions.

"We were very pleased with our 2008 season of productions, many of them ending on year-end top-ten lists," states co-artistic director Faye Price. "I'm extremely excited about our 2009 season offerings. They are artistically challenging and thought inspiring."

Pillsbury House Theatre kicks off the year with *No Child...* by **Nilaja Sun**, a one-woman tour-de-force solo piece that underscores Pillsbury House Theatre's commitment to challenging work that inspires choice, change and connection. This award-winning play examines not only the state of today's education system but also the very people that work in that system every day from the teachers to the students and even the janitor. Sonja Parks, a Pillsbury House favorite, will be portraying all sixteen characters. "It's funny; it's touching; it's nothing short of amazing" states co-artistic director Faye M. Price.

In 2008 Pillsbury House Theatre's Breaking Ice Company made an appearance on the Mainstage with *Other*. They return in 2009 with another original production, *Playlist: America '09*. Working with playwright **Aditi Kapil**, the company is once again exploring the issues and concerns we all face today. The theme is change. What does it mean to us individually and collectively? The Breaking Ice Company and Aditi Kapil will create a piece that will engage and provoke as only Breaking Ice can.

Pillsbury House Theatre closes the season with the provocative and mysterious *King of Shadows* by **Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa**, best known for his work as a comic book writer. He uses that fantastical

experience while also drawing on themes from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to tell the story of homeless teen Nihar and the social worker who attempts to save him.

Pillsbury House Theatre's **Chicago Avenue Project** will once again be pairing theatre professionals with area youth to create original pieces that foster the child's growth. Directors, playwrights, actors and more all volunteer their time to help the children act on stage or create a script. Past theatre professionals have included Christiana Clark, Tracey Maloney, Nathaniel Fuller, James A. Williams, Trista Baldwin, and Carlyle Brown. This year's productions include *Forward/Reverse* in April and *Eyes on the Prize* in November. Each production features 8-10 one acts.

No Child...

By Nilaja Sun

Directed by Noël Raymond

February 20 - March 22, 2009

One actress, 16 characters. This multi-award-winning, tour-de-force solo show is one teacher's story of working in a troubled New York City school. *No Child...* is a sometimes joyous, sometimes moving story of art, redemption and the precarious state of America's public educational system.

"One actress, one troubled school full of characters" - Boston Globe

Playlist: America '09

By Aditi Kapil and the Breaking Ice Company

Directed by Heidi Hunter Batz

May 8 -23, 2009

Four uniquely American characters, all listening to the same uniquely American sounds of a fusion radio DJ find their uniquely American lives on a collision course of change. What does change mean to them individually or collectively? Award-winning playwright Aditi Kapil joins the Breaking Ice ensemble to create a piece that is as thought provoking as it is timely.

King of Shadows

By Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa

Director TBA

October 2 - November 1, 2009

15 year old Nihar isn't like any other runaway teen you have ever met. He befriends and forms a powerful bond with a young social worker and her teenage sister. The famous fog of San Francisco sets the stage for this fantastical thriller. Who to trust? What to believe? Where are the boundaries?

"An artfully powerful tract on homeless teenagers." Curtainup.com

Chicago Avenue Project

Forward/Reverse

April 27 & 28, 2009

Eyes on the Prize

November 9 & 10, 2009

The mission of Pillsbury House Theatre is to create challenging theatre to inspire choice, change and connection.

For further information, contact Neal Spinler at 612-787-3622 or spinlern@pillsburyhousetheatre.org. Visit Pillsbury House Theatre online at www.pillsburyhousetheatre.org.

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