



**Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre**

*The Baird*

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*Photo: Roberta Smith, Clark Carmichael and Laura Ekstrand perform at the Charles A. Bierman Home in South Orange as part of 2011's Stages Festival (credit: Steve McIntyre)*

**February 20, 2012**

**For Immediate Release**

## **DREAMCATCHER PARTICIPATES IN STATEWIDE CELEBRATION OF THEATRE: NEW JERSEY THEATRE ALLIANCE'S STAGES FESTIVAL**

DREAMCATCHER REPERTORY THEATRE, professional Theatre in Residence at the Baird Center in South Orange, is offering a number of special programs during the month of March as a part of the New Jersey Theatre Alliance's **Stages Festival**, an annual statewide event that provides discounted and free theatre performances, workshops and events for families throughout the month of March.

**The Stages Festival** is a statewide event offering free and discounted tickets to performances, workshops, classes and events at the states professional theatres, as well as in non-tradition venues like libraries, schools, senior centers and museums. The program was developed to encourage New Jersey's citizens to attend their local professional theatres by making the experience affordable, accessible and fun.

All across the state, patrons will receive free and discounted tickets to over 100 performances and special events, including classes, workshops and backstage tours. Since its inception in 1998, the program has served over 75,000 people. The New Jersey Theatre Alliance encourages audiences to bring not children, grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends, and make a day of it. To receive a full schedule of statewide events for **The Stages Festival** please visit [www.stagesfestival.org](http://www.stagesfestival.org).



The first of its special programs is a discounted ticket offer on its next mainstage production, **BLOOD: A COMEDY** by New Jersey playwright David Lee White. When it was performed at Passage Theatre of Trenton, its only other production, *The New York Times* said, "BLOOD couldn't be cleverer as it deals with the onset of Alzheimers disease, a soap-opera-style family shocker and reflections on the existence of God." Student tickets (aged 13 and up) for the Saturday, March 10 8:00 pm performance are \$10 with the purchase of one full-price adult ticket. This highly entertaining play contains the kind of irreverent humor that can be enjoyed by teens and adults alike.

**BLOOD** will run at Dreamcatcher at The Baird, 5 Mead Street in South Orange from Friday, March 9 through Sunday, March 25. Performances are Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00 p.m., and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$25 for seniors and students, with special rates for subscribers and groups. To take advantage of the **Stages Festival** offer, purchase your full-price tickets at [www.dreamcatcherrep.org](http://www.dreamcatcherrep.org) or by calling Brown Paper Tickets at [1-800-838-3006](tel:1-800-838-3006). Then reserve your discounted student ticket at [973-3787754](tel:973-3787754) x2228.

Dreamcatcher's next special program is a Free Sample Class Day for its Summer Theatre Conservatory, a program for students aged 10-17 during the month of July. Students in this varied program will take classes in subjects like acting technique, improv, voice, and dance and will have the opportunity to create and put on a show! The Sample Class Day will be held Saturday, March 24 from 10 am to 2 pm, where students will get a taste of what's in store for them in the summer program. The STC is a fun way for students to explore their interest and deepen their skills in the performing arts during their summer vacation. Professionals in their field teach all classes, and students receive individual attention, constructive feedback, and the support needed to achieve their personal goals. Reservations are required for the Sample Class Day, and enrollment is strictly limited. To register, please call [973-378-7754 x2228](tel:973-378-7754) or email [info@dreamcatcherrep.org](mailto:info@dreamcatcherrep.org).

The third **Stages Festival** event that Dreamcatcher provides is a series of free cabaret performances at various locations in Essex and Union Counties. Singers from the Dreamcatcher company will perform "A Musical State of Mind," a cabaret featuring songs that feature our beautiful United States, like "Georgia on My Mind" and "New York State of Mind." Audience members are invited to sing along using the lyric sheets provided for them. The 45-minute cabaret performance will take place at the following venues: Livingston Public Library, March 20 at 1:30pm; South Orange Public Library, March 26 at 1:00 pm; Winchester Gardens, Maplewood, March 27 at 1:00 pm; and Summit Senior Center on Friday, March 30 at 11:00 am. No registration is required – just come! For more information, call Dreamcatcher at [973-378-7754 x2228](tel:973-378-7754).

Founded in 1981, the New Jersey Theatre Alliance is the first statewide organization for professional, not-for-profit theatre companies in the United States, and is a leader in developing model programs that foster collaboration, cooperation and audience development. Currently celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year, the Alliance provides member theatres and arts patrons a wide range of supportive services and programs. The Alliance assists member theatres in their growth and development, as well as in the promotion of their programs, helping them reach their full potential. For arts patrons, the Alliance provides a variety of services to enhance their theatre-going experience.

*The Stages Festival is a co-sponsored project of The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. Major funding support is also provided by Bank of America and The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey.*

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*Discover Jersey Arts is our marketing partner. Visit [www.JerseyArts.com](http://www.JerseyArts.com) for more information about other arts programming happening around the Garden State.*

For information and tickets for any of Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre's programs, please contact Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre at The Baird, 5 Mead Street, South Orange, NJ 07079, [973-378-7754, ext. 2228](tel:973-378-7754), [www.DreamcatcherRep.org](http://www.DreamcatcherRep.org).

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*Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey.*