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LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES ANNOUNCES AUGUST LINE-UP OF THEATER THURSDAYS EVENTS

CHICAGO (August 4, 2008) – The League of Chicago Theatres is pleased to announce the August line-up of *Theater Thursdays* events. *Theater Thursdays* events combine a new show every week, with a pre or post show reception including food and drinks, and exclusive access to artists from each production, all for one special ticket price by mentioning “*Theater Thursdays*” when making a reservation at each box office.

This August, patrons of *Theater Thursdays* can participate in a variety of exciting events. Enjoy catering from Starship Restaurant in beautiful Oak Park before attending the world premiere of *Love in the Middle Ages*. You can also partake in pre-show cocktails before enjoying The Mill’s first production of the season with *Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief*, or prepare for a night away from the hectic city traffic at Avenue M, Chicago’s newest Steakhouse, where you will enjoy the hilarious premiere of *Election Day* by New York playwright Josh Tobiessen.

Launched in January of 2005, *Theater Thursdays* provides a great opportunity to venture out after work, entertain clients, socialize with friends or make new ones. Explore foreign cultures, sample bites from the city’s best restaurants and take in Chicago’s exceptional theater scene with a new show every week.

93.1 FM WXRT, the *Chicago Reader*, and Yelp.com are media partners for *Theater Thursdays*.

For a description and pricing of each show, please see the features listed below.

Thursday, August 7

Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief by Paula Vogel
The Mill at Stage Left Theatre
3408 N. Sheffield Ave.

Enjoy an evening of sugar and spice with the sassy vixens of The Mill's first production of the season. Arrive at the theatre for pre-show cocktails inspired by the prohibition era. Then snag a seat for the show. It turns out Cassio might be the only guy Dessie hasn't shagged. The Mill's production draws inspiration from the structure of early burlesque, using original songs and skits poking fun at Othello and gender politics in the first act of the performance and finishing with Vogel's parody of one of Shakespeare's greatest plays. After the show, retire to the lobby for sweet and savory nibbles and a nightcap.

The League of Chicago Theatres (LCT) is an alliance of theaters which leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. The League of Chicago Theatres Foundation (LCTF) is dedicated to enhancing the art of theater in the Chicago area through audience development and support services for theaters and theater professionals.

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Reception begins at 7:30 p.m.
Show begins at 8 p.m.
Tickets: \$15, \$10 Industry (with headshot, resume, or business card)
For reservations call 312-388-7660
Show Press Contact: Jaclyn Biskup, themilltheatre@gmail.com

Thursday, August 14

Election Day, by Josh Tobiessen
Theatre Seven of Chicago at Chicago Dramatists
1105 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago

Your evening starts at Chicago's newest steakhouse, **Avenue M**, situated in fashionable River West (695 N. Milwaukee). Once there, you'll dine alfresco in the garden patio, surrounded by ivy covered walls and fragrant fruit trees, away from the city traffic. Order any entrée from their sumptuous bar menu*, which includes pizza, sandwiches, crab cakes, salads and short rib sliders. Luckily, it's Thursday, so champagne is half price and live jazz is the perfect accompaniment while you sip your complimentary soda or coffee. After dinner, walk two blocks to Chicago Dramatists, and get ready to laugh, because you're seeing the Chicago Premiere of *Election Day*, a rip-roaring political satire about one undecided voter and the three people dying to make up his mind, from New York playwright Josh Tobiessen. After the show, hang around in the lobby for an informal wine and cheese reception with the cast and crew. This night is a full plate of casual dining and riotous laughter!

Avenue M opens at 4:00 p.m.
Show begins at 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$30
For reservations, visit www.theatreseven.org or call 773-358-8153 and mention "Theater Thursdays."
Show Press Contact: Brian Golden, brian.golden@gmail.com

Thursday, August 21

Glengarry Glen Ross by David Mamet
Redtwist Theatre
1044 W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago

Treat yourself to dinner before the show at **Francesca's Bryn Mawr**, where your confirmed show reservation entitles you to 20% off your meal (you may also valet for \$8 plus tip). Then see Redtwist Theatre's gender-blind production of *Glengarry Glen Ross*. After the play, enjoy a talkback and light refreshments at the theatre. Dessert provided by **That Little Mexican Café**.

20% off at Francesca's Bryn Mawr with the confirmation of your show tickets
Show begins at 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$22 (purchase by Monday August 18)
For reservations visit www.redtwist.org or call 773-728-7529 and mention "Theater Thursdays."
Show Press Contact: Jan Graves, jan@redtwist.org

Thursday, August 28

Love in the Middle Ages by Bob Solone & Scott Urban
Village Players Performing Arts Center
1010 W. Madison St., Oak Park

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Spend an evening in beautiful and historical Oak Park for a world premiere musical! Starting an hour before the performance, a reception will be held at the theatre, with wine, hors d'oeuvres catered by **Starship Restaurant** of Forest Park and a preview of *The Medium At Large*, an upcoming world premiere production at Village Players. Then enjoy *Love in the Middle Ages*, as it has fun with those over 40 years old jumping back into the dating game. Join Jennifer as she discovers many single people from her parent's generation struggling with the same problems as she does today. Following the performance, a special Q&A session will be held in the theatre with the writers of piece, allowing patrons to learn what is required to write a new musical.

Reception begins at 7 p.m.

Show begins at 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

For reservations call 866-764-1010 and mention "Theater Thursdays."

Show Press Contact: Christopher Pazdernik, chris.vptbuzz@gmail.com

THE LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES

Theater Thursdays are organized by The League of Chicago Theatres. Founded in 1979, the League is an alliance of theaters that leverages its collective strength to promote, support and advocate for Chicago's theater industry locally, nationally and internationally. Currently, the League serves a diverse membership of more than 190 theaters and theater companies, ranging from small storefront, non-union companies to major cultural centers with multi-million dollar facilities and productions.

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