

**You're invited to
Word(s)PLAY! 2011**
New Play Readings at Penumbra
3 days, 3 plays



Free and open to the public
Tickets at 651-224-3180 or penumbratheatre.org
[map and directions](#)

Journey to the Door of No Return by Psalmayene 24

A struggling music producer and an eccentric novelist meet at a bus stop - a crossroads where they face the demons inside. A mystical tale that explores the process of forgiveness and the cost of redemption.

Saturday, July 16th, 7:30pm

Sweet Maladies by Zakiyyah Alexander

Three recently freed slave girls, stuck in 'the big house', play the only game they know: history. But what happens when the game turns sticky sweet and deadly?

Saturday, July 23rd, 7:30pm

Tell Martha not to Moan by Clinnesha Sibley

Inside an African American home, Detroit, 2007 - the nation is embroiled in the presidential campaign. A glimpse into the changing world through the eyes and memories of a devoted and desolate elderly couple.

Saturday, August 6th, 7:30pm

This event offers a staged reading of each play followed by an open talk back with the playwright, director, and artists. Join us to learn how we nurture new playwrights and move a play from the page to the stage.

Playwrights

Psalmayene 24 is an actor, playwright and director. He has received playwrighting commissions from The African Continuum Theater Company, Arena Stage and Imagination Stage. His one man play, *Free Jujube Brown!*, is published in the anthology *Playz from the Boom-Box Galaxy: Theater from the Hip-Hop Generation* (TCG). He has appeared on HBO's critically acclaimed series *The Wire* and is the writer/director of the award-winning play for young audiences *Zomo the Rabbit: A Hip-Hop Creation Myth*. He is currently working on an adaptation of Pinocchio that will have its world premiere production at Imagination Stage in Maryland during their 2011-2012 season.



Zakiyyah Alexander is a writer and actor. She is the author of *10 Things to do before I die* (Second Stage Uptown), *Sick?* (Summer Play Festival), *The Etymology of Bird* (Hip Hop Theater Festival, Providence Black Repertory Theatre), *Blurring Shine* (Market Theater, Johannesburg), *Sweet Maladies* (Rucker Theatre), *Something New, You Are Here*, and *The Focus*. She is currently working on the play *Black Picasso* and a musical with Imani Uzuri, featuring the poetry of Sonia Sanchez. Ms. Alexander is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama. She is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Bard College where she teaches undergraduate playwrighting.



Clinnesha D. Sibley is a published poet and Assistant Professor in Drama at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Her plays have been selected by the Arkansas Repertory Theatre's Voices at the River Playwriting Residency, Theatre Squared's Arkansas New Play Fest, and the Kennedy Center American College



Theatre Festival. Her plays have also been selected by the Great Plains Theatre Conference as a part of the 2008 PlayLabs and for the 2011 Main Stage Series. She is the recipient of the 2009 Key Woman Educator in Drama Award from the Iota Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society and the 2011 Holland New Voices Award.

The new play program is generously supported by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

The 2010-2011 Season is proudly presented by

