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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Great Plains Theatre Conference Adds Annual Performance Awards

(Omaha, Neb.) - The *Great Plains Theatre Conference* has added a new element to the annual playwriting Conference. Performance Awards will be given this year to recognize the hard work and talent of the actors, directors and theatre companies who present new works of developing playwrights during the Conference. The awards will be presented at the Saturday night, May 31st Gala.

The awards will be determined by both the attending audiences and the Conference panelists in the following categories:

Audience Choice Awards:

- Best Theatre Company Reading
- Best Concurrent Play Lab Script
- Best Featured Play Lab Play Script
- Best Actress
- Best Actor
- Best Supporting Actress
- Best Supporting Actor

Panelist Choice Awards

- Best Featured Play Lab Script
- Best Concurrent Play Lab Script
- Best Theatre Company Reading
- Best Actress
- Best Actor
- Best Supporting Actress
- Best Supporting Actor
- Best Director

The 2008 Conference will honor Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner Doug Wright with the Great Plains Playwright Award. Hosted at Metropolitan Community College's historic Fort Omaha Campus, the third annual Great Plains Theatre Conference is an eight-day event May 24-31, 2008, including an extensive writers workshop and a week-long series of play labs, which provide an opportunity for playwrights to have a staged reading of their work and receive feedback from professional and academic panelists. For more information about the Conference, call (402) 457-2618 or visit www.mccneb.edu/theatreconference.

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