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Mark Donahue Selected as One of Top Five for the Great Plains Theatre Conference

Omaha, Neb. – Chicago playwright Mark Donahue's play *Say Prix Fixe* has been selected as one of five for the Mainstage Series at the 2009 Great Plains Theatre Conference May 23-30 at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Neb.

The Mainstage Series is comprised of the five top-rated plays out of more than 400 submitted to the Conference. The plays will be presented at special staged readings for Conference attendees and responded to by accomplished playwrights Theresa Rebeck and Constance Congdon, among others. The top Mainstage playwright will be selected at the Conference and recognized at the culminating Gala with an award and \$1,000.

Say Prix Fixe is a play about a newspaper restaurant critic and his mentee who discovers the critic has a 'secret' — he's lost his sense of taste. The critic succeeds in getting his taste back but through a twist in fate, ends up being fired and can now be found working as a waiter; yet another faceless position.

Donahue's other writing credits include the play *Night Work* in addition to several music reviews and articles for the Associated Press, the *Boston Phoenix*, *Skyscraper Magazine* and *Hit It or Quit It Magazine* and short fiction published by *Basta! Magazine*. He has degrees from Xavier University and Syracuse University. Donahue currently works as an editor for Penton Media.

The mission of the Great Plains Theatre Conference is to recognize the work of renowned American playwrights while at the same time fostering the work of new and emerging playwrights. The creative goals of the Conference are threefold: to nurture new playwrights giving them the opportunity to have their work performed and to study with and receive thoughtful feedback from experienced theatre professionals; to be a place where emerging and more accomplished playwrights can workshop their new work and receive attention from national theater professionals; and to be a catalyst for vibrant new work to be released onto the national theatre scene.

For more information on the 2009 Great Plains Theatre Conference, visit www.mccneb.edu/theatreconference.