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## **Jessica Jill Turner Selected as One of Top Five for the Great Plains Theatre Conference**

Omaha, Neb. – Los Angeles playwright Jessica Jill Turner's play *Charlie Moose Makes His Move* 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.

*Charlie Moose Makes His Move* is a play about a morbidly obese novelist and his 12-year-old best friend who secretly suspects the novelist is an alien though that is not the case; it is a play about imagination and memory and the dangers of living solely in the space where they converge.

Turner's other playwriting credits include *The Healing Hands of Hatch Lemon*, *To Reasons to Kill Yourself if You Are/Are Not a Clown*, *Entrenched in the Oath* and *Wasn't Any Law Could Take Him Alive!*, all of which have been produced throughout New York City. She received her B.F.A. in Theater from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and her M.F.A. in Playwriting from Columbia University. Turner is currently on the Board of Directors of tAB (The Arts Bureau, a Brooklyn-based art collective).

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](http://www.mccneb.edu/theatreconference).