

# TAPROOT THEATRE



C O M P A N Y

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## **Taproot Theatre hosts *Neighbors and Strangers*, a special event corresponding with *Brownie Points***

**Pastor Patrinell Wright and Total Experience Gospel Choir among guests at event  
discussing diversity and the experience of race in Seattle**

SEATTLE – May 26, 2011 – In conjunction with its Mainstage show *Brownie Points*, Taproot Theatre Company hosts a special free event called “Neighbors and Strangers: Discussing Diversity and the Experience of Race in Seattle” on Monday, June 13, at 7 p.m. Expanding on the themes in *Brownie Points*, Taproot has invited a panel of guests—including Pastor Patrinell Wright and her Total Experience Gospel Choir—to engage in a conversation about diversity and the experience of race in Seattle.

The discussion comes shortly after the release of the 2010 Census report, which ranked Seattle as the 5<sup>th</sup> least diverse of America’s large cities, yet with the most diverse zip code in the country (98118). “Neighbors and Strangers” will consider a number of questions, including what does this mean for people living in Seattle, is diversity a problem in our city, and what factors are affecting Seattle’s diversity?

Moderated by Tali Hairston, director of the John Perkins Center at Seattle Pacific University, the evening’s speakers will include Pastor Patrinell Wright, founder/director of Total Experience Gospel Choir, Rabbi Mark S. Glickman of Congregation Kol Ami and Congregation Kol Shalom, Dr. Ron Ruthruff, author of *The Least of These*, and Karen Lund, director/associate artistic director of Taproot Theatre Company. A special guest performance from Total Experience Gospel Choir will open the evening. See the show, share the story, and then come join the conversation!

“Neighbors and Strangers” takes place on Monday, June 13, at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) at Taproot Theatre Company, located at 204 North 85<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle. Admission is free, but guests are required to sign up in advance due to limited seating. Priority seating will be given to ticketholders for any performance of *Brownie Points*. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Sonja Lowe at 206.529.3666 or [sonjal@taproottheatre.org](mailto:sonjal@taproottheatre.org). Tickets to *Brownie Points*, which runs through June 18, are available through Taproot Theatre’s box office at 206.781.9707 or online at [www.taproottheatre.org](http://www.taproottheatre.org).

In addition, join Taproot Theatre after the performances on Thursday nights (May 26, June 2, 9 and 16) for "Conversations." Organized in partnership with the John Perkins Center at Seattle Pacific University, these guided, collaborative discussions will explore the themes of race, identity and motherhood in *Brownie Points*.

**ABOUT TAPROOT THEATRE COMPANY**

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Mainstage Productions, Touring Productions and the Acting Studio. Taproot exists to create theatre that explores the beauty and questions of life while bringing hope to our search for meaning. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS), and the Greenwood-Phinney Chamber of Commerce.

Thanks to our title sponsor, Viking Bank, and our opening night sponsor, The Upper Crust. Support for Taproot Theatre's 2011 Mainstage season is generously provided by The Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, The Seattle Foundation, 4Culture, ArtsFund and PONCHO.

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