

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ARTISTS OF FAITH BUILD SKILLS AT CHURCH DRAMA CONFERENCE**

**Taproot Theatre Company presents 13<sup>th</sup> annual event on March 8**

SEATTLE – January 30, 2008 – Performers, directors and virtually anyone else who participates in church drama programs can learn to enhance their productions at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Church Drama Conference at Taproot Theatre in Seattle on Saturday, March 8, 2008. This exciting day of classes, discussions and workshops lasts from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with focused learning tracks tailored to specific needs including Acting, Playwriting, Directing, Set Design for Church Productions and Costuming. All classes are taught by Taproot Theatre Company professionals.

“As one of only a handful of professional theatres founded and run by artists of faith, we feel we speak a common language and share similar goals to our brothers and sisters working in church drama ministries or facing the day to day ups and downs of a professional artist of spiritual integrity,” said Sara K. Willy, Taproot Theatre’s education director.

“We want to support positive change in our culture through excellence in artistry performed by artists of strong personal beliefs and faith.”

This gathering is perfect for theatre artists, teachers, worship & drama directors, youth leaders and pastors. The cost is \$75 per person and includes classes, performances, continental breakfast and lunch. Register by January 31 and pay just \$70. Contact Sara Willy at 206.529.3670 or [saraw@taproottheatre.org](mailto:saraw@taproottheatre.org) to register.

At the conference, participants will receive a two-for-one voucher for a performance of *Doubt*, playing on Taproot Theatre Company’s Mainstage from March 26-April 26. In this Pulitzer Prize-winning play by John Patrick Shanley, Sister Aloysius must deal with a weighty issue: how can one prove convictions when there’s no evidence but the heart? This newer work, which premiered at Manhattan Theatre Club in 2004, deals bravely with the issue of molestation in the Catholic Church, and the mystery of uncertainty.

## **About Taproot Theatre**

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 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.

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**13<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Church Drama Conference  
For artists of faith**

***An inspiring, fun-filled event that will dramatically change  
the way you think about your work as an artist of faith.***

Saturday, March 8, 2008, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Taproot Theatre , 204 North 85<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle

Cost is \$75 per person and includes classes, performances, continental breakfast and lunch. Early registration is just \$70 by January 31. Financial aid is available to qualified organizations.

For more information or to register, please contact Sara Willy at 206.529.3670 or [saraw@taproottheatre.org](mailto:saraw@taproottheatre.org). or visit our Web site for updated class schedules and information. [www.taproottheatre.org](http://www.taproottheatre.org)

***Doubt, A Parable*  
By John Patrick Shanley  
March 26-April 26**

This Pulitzer Prize-winning drama probes the mystery of uncertainty. When Sister Aloysius suspects wrongdoing at St. Nicholas school she instructs Sister James to keep a watchful eye. Her strong convictions set into motion a course of actions that could terminate Father Flynn. In the pursuit of truth, doubt shadows all certainty of the situation. Is Sister Aloysius right? Do convictions alone prove the accuracy of truth?

**Special offer for conference participants:** You will receive at the conference a two-for-one voucher for a performance of *Doubt*. Group rates are available for parties of 8 or more. Call 206.781.9708.