

# ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Managing Director Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 12TH ANNUAL STUDENT 10-MINUTE PLAY COMPETITION

**\*\*\* Out of nearly 800 entries, eight selected playwrights receive a production at Arena Stage and a cash prize of \$250 \*\*\***

(Washington, D.C.) **Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater announces eight winners of the 2011/2012 Student Playwrights Project 10-Minute Play Competition**—an annual event in which D.C.-area students submit original 10-minute plays into competition. **Nearly 800 works were submitted from students in D.C.-area middle and high schools this year.**

The eight winning playwrights will receive playwriting master classes and participate in further script development by working with a professional director and dramaturg from Arena Stage. The plays will then be performed by professional actors. All winning playwrights receive \$250. Arena Stage will also host readings of the middle school and high school honorable mention plays. All performances and readings take place at the Mead Center (1101 Sixth St. SW).

#### **Winning Play Performances**

In the Arlene and Robert Kogod Cradle  
\*Each performance features all winning plays  
Friday, March 9 – 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, March 10 – 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

#### **Honorable Mention Readings**

In the Ammerman Rehearsal Hall  
High School Readings: Monday, February 27 – 7:30 p.m.  
Middle School Readings: Tuesday, February 28 – 7:30 p.m.

Admission to the Student Playwrights Project performances is free, but reservations through the Arena Stage Sales Office are required by calling 202-488-3300.

The Student Playwrights Project is an educational component of Arena Stage's mission to expand the American canon with new work from diverse voices.

Note: Some of the plays contain mature content and language and are not appropriate for very young children.

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## Winners announced for Student 10-Minute Play Competition at Arena Stage—Page 2

### The Winning Plays (listed alphabetically by winner)

**The Other Side** by Scott Bertaut, Grade 12  
Kingsbury Day School, Washington, D.C.

**Quarantine** by Sarah Chaikind, Grade 11  
McLean High School, McLean, VA

**Snowing in October** by Keila Cline, Grade 10  
KIPP DC: College Prep, Washington, D.C.

**Purgatory or the Counselor's Waiting Room** by Zoe Davidson, Grade 12  
McLean High School, McLean, VA

**Ghost Stories** by Steven Duffy, Grade 12  
Yorktown High School, Arlington, VA

**A Place Called High School** by Emoni Matthews, Grade 12  
Woodbridge Senior High School, Woodbridge, VA

**Not to Be Mentioned** by Madeline Pages, Grade 11  
Yorktown High School, Arlington, VA

**Chocolate Bars and a New Life** by Sahana Ramani, Grade 8  
Rachel Carson Middle School, Herndon, VA

### High School Honorable Mentions

**Leaving** by Paul Julien Burg, Grade 11  
French International School, Bethesda, MD

**Paradise Lost** by Brian Casey, Grade 12  
Community Based Classroom, Bladensburg, MD

**The Crystal We All Carry Inside** by Thomas Froger-Silva, Grade 10  
French International School, Bethesda, MD

**Gridlock** by Hannah Green, Grade 12  
Yorktown High School, Arlington, VA

**Standing Up** by Damian Leverett, Grade 11  
McLean High School, McLean, VA

**Trick for a Treat** by Ronnell Morris, Grade 12  
Ballou Senior High School, Washington, D.C.

**Feminine Willies** by Betsy Ryan, Grade 12  
Falls Church High School, Falls Church, VA

**Stones in Heaven** by Ambrym Smith, Grade 12  
Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Washington, D.C.

**Middle School Honorable Mentions**

**Life Without One** by Yasmin Branscomb, Grade 8  
Stuart Hobson Middle School, Washington, D.C.

**Who You Are Becoming** by Sam Cornbrooks, Grade 8  
Key Middle School, Springfield, VA

**Broken** by Christian Ellis, Grade 7  
Rippon Middle School, Woodbridge, VA

**Hard Times** by Ryan Hunt, Grade 7  
French International School, Bethesda, MD

**Chronicles of the Chronically Ill** by Kyrin Jones, Grade 8  
Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA

**Djenge, the Baboon** by Yann Messagan, Grade 7  
French International School, Bethesda, MD

**Cardboard Love** by Sabina Whitcomb, Grade 8  
Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA

**T.I.R.E.D.M.O.M.** by Nova Zhang, Grade 8  
Rachel Carson Middle School, Herndon, VA

**The Student Playwrights Project is supported in part by Toni Ritzenberg and other generous donors. Without the extraordinary support of all our donors and grantors, the Student Playwrights Project and our other Community Engagement program offerings would not be possible.**

*Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater is a national center dedicated to the production, presentation, development and study of American theater. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Producer Edgar Dobie, Arena Stage is the largest company in the country dedicated to American plays and playwrights. Arena Stage produces huge plays of all that is passionate, exuberant, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays through the American Voices New Play Institute. Now in its sixth decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. [www.arenastage.org](http://www.arenastage.org)*

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