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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP SEEKS SCRIPTS FROM ASPIRING TEEN PLAYWRIGHTS

Submissions needed for annual playwriting contest sponsored by Target

OCTOBER 2, 2006 – Berkeley Repertory Theatre is now accepting submissions from Bay Area teens for its fifth annual **Target® Teen One Acts Festival**. Every year, teens select two original plays penned by local students to be performed, directed, and staged by their peers. The winning playwrights are paired with mentors who are theatre professionals to receive feedback and support in revising their scripts for performance, and the entire production process is supported by Berkeley Rep’s staff. The **deadline for submissions is January 1, 2007**; performances take place next spring on March 30 and 31 and April 1, 6, and 7.

“The Target® Teen One Acts Festival is a great opportunity for young writers,” remarks **Genevieve Michel**, a senior at Albany High School who directed a show in last year’s festival and is now co-director of Berkeley Rep’s Teen Council. “It’s so valuable for teens to see their words come to life.”

“It’s so rare that teenagers get this kind of hands-on experience in a professional environment,” adds **Rachel Fink**, director of the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre. “Mentors from Berkeley Rep guide the teens at every step of the process, and the resulting shows are enjoyed by hundreds of people.”

Submissions must include the playwright’s name, age, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, current grade, and school. Each play should be no longer than 45 minutes in length and may be sent by e-mail to teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org or by mail to Target® Teen One Acts Festival, c/o Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, 2025 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA, 94704.

This year, teens who want to enter the contest also have two opportunities to get a leg up on the competition:

- Teens who would like to receive advance feedback on their plays may submit their scripts early. Scripts received by the **optional submission date of November 29, 2006** will be read by members of the play selection committee, who will e-mail suggestions for improvement directly to the playwrights and be available for further consultation.
- The Teen Council is also offering three free **Playwriting Workshops** on **October 4, October 25, and November 29** from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. These workshops offer aspiring writers a chance to start or continue work on their scripts and a forum to pose any questions they may have about the process. Teens may attend one or multiple workshops, and no experience is necessary.

The **Berkeley Rep Teen Council** is a theatre youth group organized by teens for teens. Its goal is to foster the theatre audiences and theatre professionals of tomorrow by opening channels of communication between teens, theatre professionals, and the community at large. The Teen Council provides the opportunity for youth to participate in all aspects of the dramatic process: on stage, backstage, and in front of the stage through an affiliation with the Tony Award-winning Berkeley Repertory Theatre. **For more information**, visit berkeleyrep.org, e-mail teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org, or call 510.647.2974.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

- WHO: Teens who love theatre
- WHAT: Fifth annual **Target ® Teen One Acts Festival**
Every year, teens select two original plays penned by local students to be performed, directed, and staged by their peers at Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre.
- WHERE: Send submissions to
teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org
or
Target ® Teen One Acts Festival
c/o Berkeley Repertory Theatre
2015 Addison Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
- WHEN: **11/29/06** – early submission deadline (allows time for feedback on your script)
1/1/07 – deadline to submit plays
3/30, 3/31, 4/1, 4/6 & 4/7/07 – performances of the winning scripts
- HOW MUCH: Free!
- INFO: 510.647.2974, teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org, or berkeleyrep.org

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- WHO: Teens who love theatre
- WHAT: **Playwriting Workshops**
These classes help teens start or continue writing one-act plays, and also inform them about the Target ® Teen One Acts Festival at the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre.
- WHERE: Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre
2071 Addison Street @ Shattuck
Berkeley, CA 94704
- WHEN: **Wednesdays, 10/4, 10/25 & 11/29 from 4:30 – 6:00 PM**
Attend one class or multiple classes.
- HOW MUCH: Free!
- INFO: 510.647.2974, teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org, or berkeleyrep.org

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