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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP ENCOURAGES TEENS TO SUBMIT SCRIPTS FOR ANNUAL FESTIVAL

Local youth are invited to participate in playwriting contest sponsored by Target

NOVEMBER 7, 2007 – The Berkeley Rep School of Theatre is now accepting submissions from local youth for the sixth annual Target® Teen One Acts Festival. Each year, a panel of high-school students selects two original plays penned by Bay Area teens to be performed, directed, and produced by their peers. The winning playwrights are paired with theatre professionals who offer feedback and support as the teens revise their scripts for the stage. **The deadline for submissions is December 14, 2007**; performances take place next spring on April 4, 5, 6, 11, and 12.

“The Target® Teen One Acts Festival is a great way to make friends because you're surrounded by students your age,” says **Mia Devicha**, co-chair of the Teen Council. “It’s also a great opportunity to practice organization and creativity – because it’s wonderful to plan an event and then see the results. I think it’s a real privilege that participants get to be mentored by Berkeley Rep professionals in directing, producing, stage management, and more.”

“It’s rare for young writers to get hands-on mentorship from professional artists,” adds **Rachel Fink**, director of the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre. “Berkeley Rep staff support and guide the teens as they take on all aspects of the festival, from writing and directing to marketing and producing. The result is an experience that perfectly mirrors the professional theatre environment.”

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. **Submissions** must include the playwright’s name, age, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, current grade, and school.

Anyone who wants to get a leg up on the competition can take advantage of these opportunities:

- Teens wishing to receive advance feedback on their plays may submit their scripts early. Scripts received by the **optional submission date of December 1, 2007** will be read by members of the play selection committee, who will e-mail suggestions for improvement directly to the playwright and be available for further consultation.
- The Teen Council is also offering two free **Playwriting Workshops** on **November 8** 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. No experience is necessary, and teens may attend one or both workshops.

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, call 510.647.2974, visit berkeleyrep.org, or e-mail teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org.

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BERKELEY REP SEEKS SCRIPTS FROM TEEN PLAYWRIGHTS / 2 OF 2

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

- WHO: Teens who love theatre
- WHAT: **Sixth 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
2025 Addison Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
- WHEN: **12/1/07** – early submission deadline (allows time for feedback on your script)
12/14/07 – deadline to submit plays
4/4, 4/5, 4/6, 4/11 & 4/12/08 – 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 workshops 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: **Thursdays 11/8 & 11/29 from 4:30 – 6:00 PM**
Attend one or both classes.
- HOW MUCH: Free!
- INFO: 510.647.2974, teencouncil@berkeleyrep.org, or berkeleyrep.org

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