

Philadelphia Theatre Community Teams up with NoPassport For a Day Celebrating Latina/o Playwrights

30/30, an international event, comes to Plays & Players on March 22 including a panel and staged reading.

In conjunction with the national reading festival by NoPassport, in collaboration with Dominic D'Andrea (Producing Artistic Director, The One-Minute Play Festival, #1MPF), and locally with the Philadelphia New Play Initiative, Plays & Players and Power Street Theater Company are proud to announce 30/30/1, a celebration of new plays by US Latina/o playwrights.

With a challenge to theatre artists around the country to produce 30 plays in 30 days by national Latina/o writers, on March 22, we will present the uniquely Philadelphia edition **and read 30 plays in ONE DAY.**

How will we do it? Theater and Latino community leaders will gather at 12pm on March 22 at the historic Plays & Players Theatre at 1714 Delancey Place for a library style reading session to each read a singular play in silence, and then each will have two minutes to "pitch" their play to the other participants. Out of this, a vote will reveal the winning play to be read to the public that evening at 7pm by professional actors. Immediately following the reading session at 5pm, a panel conversation will be held to discuss how to promote more Latina/o theater in Philadelphia with both local and national guests.

Attendance and participation to the panel conversation at 5pm and public reading at 7pm is open to the public and presented free of charge in hopes that this will begin a dialogue across the city to both bring the arts to the Latina/o community and to tell new stories on the Philadelphia stage that accurately reflect our changing cultural landscape.

30/30 is a gathering of 30+ NoPassport playwrights and theatre-makers who also happen to be US Latina/o artists. Each playwright asked to participate has selected one play from their body of work to make part of this scheme. Some are brand new plays. Others are from the author's hidden back catalogue. Others are representative pieces. Some are two handers, others are multi-character pieces. The range is vast and wide, as rich as US Latino theatre writing itself. The plays will be presented as readings in venues both inside and outside of the theatre in cities all over the world over the course of the next three months.

Philadelphia "Spring Ahead" Bake-Off

In the spirit of the themes and goals of 30/30, on March 9, from 12-5pm, Plays & Players will co-host with Philadelphia Dramatists Center (PDC) its annual "Spring Ahead" Philadelphia Bake-Off, an event in which local writers each "bake" a play using the same ingredients over a 72 hour period, and then meet to read them aloud with local actors in a community celebration.

This year's ingredients will be themed towards Latino culture. All are open to participate as writers, and should look for ingredients announce on March 6 at 12pm on the Plays & Players and PDC website.

To reserve a free ticket for the panel conversation and public reading, please go to www.playsandplayers.org or call 866-811-4111.

About Plays & Players

Over 100 years old, Plays & Players was reborn in 2011 as a professional theater under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Daniel Student. As a coalition of theatre artists and enthusiasts, Plays & Players strives to provide intelligent, inclusive, and diverse plays that engage and entertain audiences, to invest in local talent, and to preserve its historic landmark home. Plays & Players' 2013-14 season focuses on brothers and sisters; those with whom we are closest, those who share our blood, and those with whom, familiar or unknown, we seek connection. Through rituals old and new, we continue searching for those who are both distant from and deeply within us as we attempt to unwrap the simplest of notions: brotherhood. The season concludes with legendary Puerto Rican playwright José Rivera's *Cloud Tectonics*, directed by Allison Heishman and starring Taysha Canales, Anthony Martinez-Briggs, and Eric Scotolati, running June 5-22.

About Power Street Theatre Company

Power Street Theatre is an ensemble-based company composed of socially-conscious theater artists collaborating to create new work that explores social issues. We want to be a catalyst for cultural outreach and understanding within Philadelphia and beyond. We are students, community leaders, and artists learning the ropes of creating a vision from the ground up. Our goal is to create great art by exposing, exhibiting & expressing our stories to those communities within the Philadelphia area who are familiar and unfamiliar with theater. We are a diverse theatre for the world as we see it, producing new and contemporary plays that explore the social, political and cultural issues within our communities. Power Street's first production, *Minorityland* ran to rave reviews in the 2013 Philadelphia FringeArts festival.

About NoPassport

NoPassport was founded by playwright Caridad Svich in 2003. It is an unincorporated, artist-driven, grass-roots theatre alliance & press devoted to cross-cultural, Pan-American performance, theory, action, advocacy, and publication. NoPassport exists as a virtual and live forum for the exchange of work and dreams, a network between theatres and the academy, and a mobile band of playwrights, directors, actors, producers and musicians. The mentoring of younger artists is also a key component of NOPE's (as we playfully call ourselves) mission.

About Philadelphia New Play Initiative

An entirely volunteer, decidedly un-funded campaign to improve the climate for new work in the region. Our focus is on building relationships and creating a more informed community, with the

ultimate goal of generating significantly more productions of locally-written plays by our burgeoning core of small and mid-sized theatres.

About Philadelphia Dramatists Center

PDC is a community of *playwrights, collaborating artists* and *audience members* dedicated to creating and nurturing new work. We develop resources, stimulate creative partnerships and participate in the ongoing national dialogue about how and why theater is created.