



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CREATING NEW WORKS IN FOCUS AT THE HUMAN RACE WITH READINGS AND SEMINARS

Partnership with the Ohio Playwrights Circle brings professional playwrights to lecture on creating new work and to present plays in development.

(Dayton, OH) — In conjunction with Ohio Playwrights Circle, The Human Race Theatre Company highlights its commitment to the development of new theatre with two new play readings in the fall and a series of writing seminars scheduled throughout the season. “We are thrilled to be working with Ohio Playwrights Circle and Michael London, who has been teaching our playwrighting classes for a number of years,” says Human Race President & Artistic Director **Kevin Moore**.

CREATIVE WRITERS SEMINARS

For regional writers of all levels of experience, the two organizations offer the **Creative Writers Seminars**, a new series of one-day Saturday sessions at the Loft Theatre with professional writers who will talk about their craft and provide insight on their processes. Traditionally, The Race’s writing classes have been focused on the craft of writing for the theatre. However, seeing an interest for such study among area writers of multiple genres, the groups chose to expand their offerings to make the opportunities more inclusive. “This year, we are focusing on more universal themes,” **Moore** explains, “to serve writers from a variety of forms, including fiction, film and television, documentary, as well as playwrighting.”

This season, the **Creative Writers Seminars** has already scheduled three sessions: “**Building Character**” with **Michael Slade** on Saturday, October 1; “**Understanding the Deeper Layers of Your Story**” with **Michael M. London** on Saturday, November 12; and “**Telling Their Story**” with **Eric Ulloa** on Saturday, February 4. Each seminar is from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and is designed for writers 18 years and older. Admission is \$65 per seminar and registration can be made online at www.ticketcenterstage.com or by calling Ticket Center Stage at **937-228-3630**. Other upcoming seminar dates, titles and guest lecturers are in the works and will be announced at a future date.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR LECTURERS

Michael Slade is a New York City-based, award-winning playwright, librettist, Emmy-nominated television writer, screenwriter and award-winning children’s author. Ohio audiences

know him from The Human Race Theatre's world-premiere productions of *Family Shots* (starring Corbin Bleu and Colleen Zenk), *Under a Red Moon* and *Change*, as well as from their workshop production of *Gingerbread Children*, and the Zoot Theatre's production of *And a Child Shall Lead*.

Michael M. London is the Director of the Ohio Playwrights Circle and a playwright who has worked with the Ohio Arts Council's Artist-in-Residence program for over 30 years. His plays have been produced in the US, Canada and the UK. He received a variety of awards for his novel, *Dearest*, and for editing a new publication of Jane Austen's *Lady Susan*. His latest play in development is *The Last Night at Trevoise*. Michael is returning to London, England to complete a Master's Degree in screenwriting from Royal Holloway, University of London.

Eric Ulloa is the playwright of the upcoming Human Race world premiere of *26 Pebbles*. Ulloa is also the librettist of the musicals *Molly Sweeney* and *Passing Through*, both currently in development for production. Ulloa is a contributing writer for *The Huffington Post* and *Playbill*. He is currently performing on Broadway in *One Your Feet: The Musical Story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan*. Human Race audiences will remember him in productions of *Man of La Mancha* and *Shenandoah*.

NEW PLAY READINGS

The Human Race hosts the Ohio Playwrights Circle's **New Play Readings** program in the Caryl D. Philips Creativity Center in downtown Dayton. The first two plays in the program are ***Memorial Day (The Last Dinner)*** by **Daniel W. Owens**, presented on Sunday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m., and ***Last Night at Trevoise*** by **Michael M. London**, presented on Sunday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m. "With the addition of our **Creative Writers Seminars** this season, it was only natural to bring the play readings back to the Creativity Center," says **Moore**. "Area actors and directors will bring these new plays to life, in a concert-reading format."

Owens' *Memorial Day (The Last Dinner)* takes place in the Sullivan's Bar & Grille, a 70 year old, family-owned establishment in a small blue-collar city north of Boston. But the changes in the neighborhood now threaten its future. As the family comes together for Memorial Day, sides are chosen, allegiances challenged, and truths are revealed, bringing a cataclysmic climax that will make this indeed, "the last dinner."

London's *Last Night at Trevoise* takes place on the night of May 24, 1775, when Benjamin Franklin had a secret meeting with his son, William, the Royal Governor of the colony of New Jersey. Being on opposite sides, the topic of conversation was likely about American independence. But research also indicates there was much "personal baggage" to address. Michael London has combined what is known with what we suspect to re-create a pivotal moment in American history.

The doors to the Philips Creativity Center open at 6:00 p.m. for each reading. Admission to the readings is free, but donations are welcome to cover production expenses. Seating is very limited. Audiences are invited to stay after the readings for refreshments and a post-performance discussion with the playwrights.

**For more information on The Human Race Theatre Company and Ohio Playwrights Circle's Creative Writers Seminars and New Play Readings programs, please visit the New Works section of The Human Race Theatre Company's website:
www.humanracetheatre.org.**

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Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, The Human Race Theatre Company was founded in 1986 and moved into the Metropolitan Arts Center in 1991, taking up residence at the 212-seat Loft Theatre. In addition to the Eichelberger Loft Season, The Human Race produces new works development and special event programming. Under the direction of President and Artistic Director Kevin Moore, the company also maintains education and outreach programs for children, teens and adults, as well as artist residencies in area schools, an In-School Tour, and a summer youth program. Human Race organizational support is provided by Culture Works, the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District, the Shubert Foundation, the Erma R. Catterton Trust Fund, the Jesse & Caryl Philips Foundation, the Virginia W. Kettering Foundation and the Ohio Arts Council, which helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The 2016-2017 Sustainability Sponsors are the ELM Foundation, Anne F. Johnson, Steve and Lou Mason, and Morris Home Furnishings. The 2016-2017 Loft season sponsor is the Jack W. and Sally D. Eichelberger Foundation of the Dayton Foundation, with additional support from Premier Health.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

The Human Race Theatre Company and Ohio Playwrights Circle present
Creative Writers Seminars and New Play Readings

CREATIVE WRITERS SEMINARS

“Building Character” with Michael Slade

Saturday, October 1, 2016

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Understanding the Deeper Layers of Your Story” with Michael M. London

Saturday, November 12, 2016

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Telling Their Story” with Eric Ulloa

Saturday, February 4, 2017

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

All seminars are held at the Loft Theatre
Metropolitan Arts Center
126 North Main Street (between First and Second streets)
Dayton, Ohio 45402

For writers 18 years and older

Admission: \$65 per seminar

Registration:

Ticket Center Stage box office phone: (937) 228-3630

Box office hours: Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Online: www.humanracetheatre.org or www.ticketcenterstage.com

NEW PLAY READINGS

Memorial Day (The Last Dinner)

by **Daniel W. Owens**

Sunday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Last Night at Trevoise

by **Michael M. London**

Sunday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m.

All readings are in The Caryl D. Philips Creativity Center
116 North Jefferson Street
2nd Floor
Dayton, Ohio 45402

Admission:

Free, but donations of any amount are welcome at the door.