



Metropolitan Community College
40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

mccneb.edu | 402-457-2400

Jan. 24, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Sheila O'Connor

Executive Director, Office of Public Affairs

402-457-2733

soconnor7@mccneb.edu

www.mccneb.edu

Theatre conference names Kia Corthron as 2014 honored playwright

OMAHA, Neb.—The Great Plains Theatre Conference is pleased to announce award-winning playwright Kia Corthron as the Conference honoree in 2014. As the Conference's honored playwright, Corthron will share her work and expertise at the ninth annual Great Plains Theatre Conference, May 24–31, at Metropolitan Community College's Fort Omaha Campus.

About Kia Corthron

Kia Corthron's "Life by Asphyxiation", previously produced by Playwrights Horizons, inaugurated the Public Theater's Public Forum Drama Club in October 2013. Other plays include "A Cool Dip in the Barren Saharan Crick", "Trickle", "Moot the Messenger", "Light Raise the Roof", "Snapshot Silhouette", "Slide Glide the Slippery Slope", "The Venus de Milo Is Armed", "Breath", "Boom", "Force Continuum", "Splash Hatch on the E Going Down", "Seeking the Genesis", "Digging Eleven", "Wake Up Lou Riser", "Come Down Burning" and "Cage Rhythm".

Awards and fellowships include the 2012 Lee Reynolds Award, Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Creative Arts Residency, Dora Maar Residency, MacDowell Colony, Siena Art Institute visiting artist, Playwrights' Center McKnight National Residency, Masterwork Productions Award, the Wachtmeister Award, Columbia College/Goodman Theatre Fellowship, Barbara Barondess MacLean Foundation Award, AT&T On Stage Award, Daryl Roth Creative Spirit Award, Mark Taper Forum's Fadiman Award, National Endowment for the Arts/Theatre Communications Group, Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays, New Professional Theatre Playwriting Award, Callaway Award and, in television, a Writers Guild Outstanding Drama Series Award and Edgar Allan Poe Award for "The Wire".

Most recently, Corthron has written two new plays, "Megastasis" and "Slingshot", and a novel. She currently serves on the council of the Dramatists Guild, is a member of the Writers Guild of America and is an alumnus of New Dramatists.

About the Great Plains Theatre Conference

Free and open to the public, GPTC's mission is to enable playwrights and theatre artists to share time, energy and talent in the service of developing craft, creating new work and strengthening community on a local and national scale. MCC hosts the annual conference that offers extensive opportunities for top emerging playwrights to learn and grow. Through the Conference, playwrights connect with one another in a supporting and encouraging environment, critique one another's work, develop work together and form future creative alliances. GPTC is also proud to present PlayFest, a free community theatre festival held each evening of the Conference. PlayFest 2014 will feature Corthron's work as well as new work by some of the country's top theatre artists.

mccneb.edu/GPTC

facebook.com/GreatPlainsTheatreConference

@GPTC2014

402-457-2618

###

Metropolitan Community College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, is a comprehensive, public community college that offers affordable and quality education to all residents of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Founded in 1974, MCC has the largest enrollment out of six community colleges in Nebraska and is the second largest postsecondary institution in the state. MCC serves more than 40,000 students annually.