



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 28, 2007

“Doubt” marks main-stage directing debut for Courtemanche

Lansing, Mich. – BoarsHead Theater’s Jonathan Courtemanche will make his main-stage directing debut with the opening of John Patrick Shanley’s “Doubt” on October 26.

CONTACT:

Patty Mallett
(517) 484-7800 ext. 101
pmallett@boarshead.org

BoarsHead Theater exists to entertain, educate and inspire audiences of all ages throughout Michigan. Founded in 1966, we are the state’s oldest continually operating professional theater.

BoarsHead belongs to Theatre Communications Group and operates under an agreement with League of Resident Theatres.

We hire union actors, choreographers and directors.

BoarsHead Theater receives some financial assistance from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the Lansing City Council.

“It’s really his time to blossom that way,” said BoarsHead Theater Artistic Director Kristin Thatcher. “He’s so smart and he’s been watching others do it so long as a stage manager that it was just a natural for him to take the reins of a main-stage show.”

Courtemanche, who is in his sixth season with BoarsHead, is the theater’s production stage manager and associate director. He earned a B.A. in theatre with a certificate in acting at the University of Wisconsin-Madison but shifted his focus to stage management after realizing it offered more opportunities. After graduation, Courtemanche discovered an increasing interest in directing, which he also studied at Wisconsin under Professor Norma Saldivar. He directed a staged reading of “Doubt” for BoarsHead in 2006.

“The fact that I get to make my professional debut at BoarsHead is such a thrill – this theater has given me so many opportunities to grow as an artist and as a theater professional,” Courtemanche said. “I owe a debt of gratitude to Kristine.”

“Doubt” premiered off-Broadway in late 2004 and moved to Broadway in March 2005, where it played 25 previews and

- MORE -

525 regular performances before closing in July 2006. It won every best play award, including the Tony, New York Drama Critics Award and the Pulitzer Prize.

Set in a Catholic school in 1964, “Doubt” examines the battle between a progressive parish priest and the conservative nun who suspects him of taking an inappropriate interest in one of the school’s young male students.

Is the priest a pedophile?

Or is the nun paranoid?

BoarsHead’s production of “Doubt,” which is part of the second annual “The Stages of the Law” program sponsored by Thomas M. Cooley Law School, will leave the audience second-guessing itself – as Shanley intended.

“One of the things I love about this play is that it’s kind of a mystery,” said Courtemanche, a self-described “recovering Catholic” and the only member of his immediate family not to attend Catholic schools.

“The audience is really left to decide.”

“Doubt” runs through November 18. For tickets, contact the theater’s box office at (517) 484-7805 or visit www.boarshead.org.

