



UNH Students Perform "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When The Rainbow Is Enuf" Nov. 4-6

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DURHAM, N.H. –When you're a student of color in a predominately 'white' learning institution, it can become quite a challenge to feel that your voice is heard or even noticed. The University of New Hampshire's CONNECT program and seven students decided to change that when they took on a production of Ntozake Shange's award-winning choreopoem "for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf."

"It began as a means to support the retention efforts of students of color through performance art," says Thelma Sanga, CONNECT program coordinator and first-year student advisor. "As we progressed and worked together, a second goal emerged—to utilize the play as a way to bring out the voice of women of color on campus."

Sanga is the play's producer/co-director with Antoinette Hilson, a UNH senior and theatre major and Irene Kao, multicultural program coordinator.

The play is open to the public and runs November 4, 5, and 6 at 7 p.m. at Richards Auditorium in Murkland Hall. Tickets are \$7.50 for community members and free for UNH students at the UNH Memorial Union Building box office, or may be purchased over the telephone with a credit card by calling (603) 862-2290 from 10 a.m.- 4p.m.

The actors include Selina Taylor, Brooklyn, NY; Marie Mathieu, Hyde Park, Mass.; Lakendra Rose, Philadelphia, Penn.; Paula Garcia, Exeter, NH; Myra Khan, Chambesy-Geneva, Switzerland; Nikki Perez, Long Beach, Calif.; and Tamika Harrison, Brooklyn, N.Y. Seven campus organizations and offices united to help the women produce the play.

The CONNECT program conducts pre-orientation and other year-long activities for first-year and upperclass students of color.

The play, created in 1975, features the voices of seven women of color in 20 poems that testify about their lives and the power to survive. It moved from off-Broadway to become a Broadway hit and has continued to engage audiences throughout the country.