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UNH Junior's Play Best in the Nation

By Erika Mantz
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DURHAM, N.H. -- A 10-minute play written by University of New Hampshire junior Lindsay Joy was chosen as the best in the nation at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Washington, DC.

"Love, Life and a 7-11" was presented along with the seven other regional winning plays the last weekend in April. According to David Kaye, UNH assistant theater professor, the judges commented on the high quality of all the scripts, but singled Joy's play out for its "heart-warming and humorous characters and its overall quality."

"I am delighted that Lindsay's work has received this national recognition," Marilyn Hoskin, dean of UNH's College of Liberal Arts, says. "She is a wonderful example of the work that our students in performing arts do on a regular basis."

Joy received a $1,000 scholarship prize. There is a possibility her play will be presented at the renowned Actor's Theatre of Louisville, the premiere festival for 10-minute plays.

"She could not have had stiffer competition," Kaye says. "Winning is not a guarantee of anything, but it might open the door just the crack she needs. If anything, it has certainly inspired and motivated her. She's got a great imagination and a great sense of humor, and she's really an astute observer of human nature," he says. "Put that all together and you have the makings of a great playwright."

Joy says the week she spent in Washington attending workshops "was one of the best I've ever had. I met a lot of wonderful, talented, and passionate people. It was
an honor to be surrounded by so many great minds." She is currently working on an ensemble piece about eating disorders and college life with a classmate for the campus Eating Concerns group.

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