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'Lady Day' Next Up for Theatre Department

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The Lindenwood University Department of Theatre will continue its 2008-2009 Mainstage Season on Oct. 16, 17 and 18 with "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill," a play with music by Lanie Robertson about the iconic jazz singer Billie Holiday.

Performances are 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 16, 17, and 18 in Lindenwood's Emerson Black Box Theatre. Ticket prices are \$10 for general admission. The play contains mature subject matter.

"Lady Day..." is part performance piece, part historical, and part social overview. Set at midnight at a Philadelphia nightclub in 1959, the musical presents jazz/blues great Billie Holiday in a performance at the end of her career and life. This one-woman production showcases many of Holiday's famous songs such as "Foolin' Myself," "Crazy He Calls Me," and "God Bless the Child."

Even more importantly, the show chronicles the sometime celebrated but more often rocky path of the singer's journey in life.

The Emerson Black Box Theater is located in the new J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts on the campus of Lindenwood University, 2300 West Clay Street, St. Charles, Mo., 63301. This is the theatre programs inaugural season in the new \$32 million facility.

For reservations, contact the Box Office at 636-949-4433. Group rates are available.

The role of Billie Holiday is played by graduate student Hassie Davis. The director of the production is Keith Williams. The musical director and pianist is Cornelius Davis. The set and lighting designer is Tim Poertner. The costume designer is Sallie Durbin. The production manager is Michael Kantz.

For more information, contact Ted Gregory, director of theatre, at 636-949-4966 or via e-mail at tgregory@lindenwood.edu.