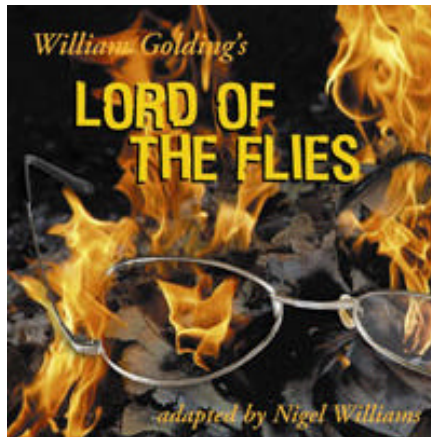


Contact:  
Elaine Poost  
[elaine@bcrac.org](mailto:elaine@bcrac.org)

570.268.ARTS (2787)



# Press Release

Schooltime Youth Series Presents “Lord of the Flies”:

Keystone Theatre

October 14<sup>th</sup> at Noon

Tickets are \$6. School groups \$5. Call 570-268-ARTS (2787) to reserve tickets

Bradford County Regional Arts Council’s Schooltime Youth Series opens its season with the National Players production of “Lord of the Flies” at the Keystone Theatre on October 14<sup>th</sup> at noon. Tickets are available to the general public for just \$6; school groups may attend for the special school rate of \$5.

“Lord of the Flies,” written by William Goldring, is a savage inquisition of civilization, role-played by a group of young children: groupthink versus the individual; rational thought versus emotional reactions; morality versus immorality. The play is a coming of age tale where school children are forced to grow up under a blanket of war.

David Gram, director the National Players production of “Lord of the Flies,” writes: “In the fifty years since the novel’s initial printing, we are still fascinated with the lengths humans will go in order to survive or come out on top. We watch reality programs like ‘The Amazing Race’ or ‘Survivor’ – which encourages contestants to ‘outwit,’ ‘outplay,’ and ‘outlast’ in order to win a million dollars. When people are put into high stakes situations – character is revealed. Their choices force us to question what we would do in similar situations. At which point do we betray those we care about in order to survive: Is violence justified in this pursuit? Are we willing to sacrifice ourselves, and/or our beliefs to live another day? Being

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stranded on a deserted island is the ultimate test of physical, mental, and emotional strength. Technology is useless. Money is worthless. All we have are our instincts, our value systems, and our will to endure.”

“Lord of the Flies” is BCRAC’s only offering for the middle and high school student in the Schooltime series. “We have chosen to present the National Players for close to ten years because of their consistent high quality productions. Bringing literature to life on stage is something many of our students have never, and may never have, the opportunity to experience.” according to Elaine Poost, Program Director for BCRAC.

Last year’s production of Shakespeare’s “As You Like It” received rave reviews from student and teachers alike. One Northeast Bradford High School wrote, “The most important part of the performance was the relationship between characters and how they learned to overcome their obstacles because it relates to real life relationships and the obstacles that people face. It makes me think about current issues among families and friends and how we approach our modern-day obstacles.”

An area drama coach wrote, “Students benefit from watching live performances. It informs their perception of the world, their insight into literature, and their pleasure from watching a difficult story come to life before them. I wish more students could attend. This is not just for the elite students. Shakespeare wrote for the common man.”

This year BCRAC is offering an additional package to the stage performance, an all day event where students participate in an interactive workshop with the National Players and a historic presentation and tour of the Keystone Theatre is available for an additional fee of \$3 per student. The Schooltime Youth Series is part of the Arts-in-Education mission of the BCRAC.

For additional information on this and other Schooltime Youth Series productions, contact the arts council at 570.268.2787. Tickets for this event may be reserved through the arts council as well. BCRAC’s Schooltime Youth Series is supported by funding from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the Untied Way of Bradford County.

Please see attached photos. Photo captions below.

LOTF1: Grace Trull a Rose, Glen Wall as Maurice, Drew Hampton as Jack and Kyle Blair as Bill in The National Players production of *Lord of the Flies*, directed by David Gram. Photo by Emma Strauss.

LOTF2: Kyle Blair as Bill, Phillip Reid as Piggy, Grace Trull as Rose and Glen Wall as Maurice in The National Players production of *Lord of the Flies*, directed by David Gram. Photo by Emma Strauss.

More information at <http://www.bcrac.org>

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