



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Chance Theater Youth Workshop, *Speak Up – Take a ‘Chance’* introduces Anaheim youths to the power of Shakespeare and the opportunity to explore theatre as a means of self-expression, leadership and tolerance**

This summer, The Chance Theater, Anaheim’s only professional, non-profit theater, will once again be offering a summer theater intensive youth program for students of the Anaheim Union District High School. *Speak Up – Take a ‘Chance’* will give young students the opportunity to explore theater as a way to speak their minds and let their voices be heard.

Through teambuilding exercises, theater games, improvisation and the text of William Shakespeare, students from throughout Anaheim’s schools will come together to create their own original piece of theater and speak up!

Over 20 local teens from diverse backgrounds will be participating in this year’s program. Together they will focus on the work of William Shakespeare – exploring the relevance of his text to the issues teens face today. Then, the student will write, direct, design, produce and star in a show under the guidance of classically trained instructors, and the professional Chance Theater staff. As described by Kelly Todd, Education Director for The Chance Theater, “*Speak Up – Take a ‘Chance’* is about giving the youth of Anaheim the opportunity to speak their minds about issues that they feel are important in our community. It allows teens a positive means of self-expression and teaches them that the arts can be used to make a statement – to say how they feel about their world. Yes, we teach acting skills, but more importantly, we teach leadership, tolerance and community involvement.”

This year’s *Speak Up – Take a ‘Chance’* received special grant funding from the Deluxe Corporation Foundation and Kiwanis Club of Greater Anaheim. The Chance Theater is currently looking for more sponsors who wish to support educational theatre programs for Anaheim’s youth.

If you would like to arrange an interview with the Education Director or a staff member of The Chance and/or would like more information, please call 714-777-3033.

(more)

**“SPEAK UP – TAKE A ‘CHANCE’” GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Registration: FREE**

**Workshops and Rehearsals:**

**June 26 – August 2, 2007; Tue. and Thu. 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

**August 6 - 13, 2007; 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Performances:**

**Tuesday, August 14 and Wednesday, August 15 at 7:30 p.m.**

**For Information:**

**CALL: (714) 777-3033**

**WEBSITE: [www.chancetheater.com](http://www.chancetheater.com)**

**THE CHANCE THEATER: 5552 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807**

**About The Chance Theater**

A recent recipient of the 2007 Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle (LADCC) Special Award for Excellence, The Chance Theater is now in its Ninth Anniversary Season. A vital component of The Chance Theater’s mission has always been to intimately present personally meaningful, uniquely engaging stories that promote dialogue within our community and provide a visceral experience for theatergoers. As a constituent member of Theater Communications Group (TCG) and Network of Ensemble Theaters (NET), The Chance continues to bring national attention to Southern California theater through its recent achievement. In addition, The Chance has also received a 2006 GLAAD Media Award nomination for Outstanding Los Angeles Theater; recognition as the 2004 Arts Orange County Outstanding Arts Organization; and participated in the 365 Days/365 Plays National Theater Project.

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