



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

MEDIA RELEASE

January 24, 2006
For Immediate Release

No Offense: **Acerbic New Comedy Heats up Winnipeg Winter**

WINNIPEG— The University of Winnipeg's Department of Theatre and Film stages its second production of the 2005/06 theatre season with *No Offense*, by Winnipeg playwright Michael Nathanson (Collegiate '84, BA Hons. '91). The new play was penned especially for this UWinnipeg Acting III: Honours Class. Following last year's hilarious success with *City of Destiny*, this year's *No Offense* marks the second consecutive year in which Nathanson has geared his writing to accommodate a specific group.

No Offense—running February 7 – 11, 2006 at the Gas Station Theatre—takes a biting comedic look at the consequences of our overly polite, “no offense” society. In his new play, Nathanson examines what transpires when we have so much to say but lack the ability to actually communicate the truth. People with delicate sensibilities should stay far away from this play. No offense.

The Assistant Director for *No Offense* is Stephanie Plaitin. Set and costumes are designed by Lisa Hancharek. Lighting Design is by Jerry Augustin. This fully-mounted show is produced with technical support from senior production students in the UWinnipeg Department of Theatre and Film.

Nathanson is the author of 12 plays including Fringe Festival hit *I Took Your Name* (Top Pick by the Montreal Gazette and a juried selection in the New York International Fringe Festival). Working with long-time dramaturge and director Per Brask, Nathanson tackled the daunting task of creating a play for 13 actors in *No Offense*. Having such a large cast allowed him to deal with such diverse storylines as the dissolution of friendship, a theatre company's struggle with on-stage nudity, and an alternative newspaper's interview with a contentious figure.

Performances take place Tuesday, February 7 through Saturday, February 11 at 8:00 p.m. nightly at the Gas Station Theatre, 445 River Avenue. Admission is free but reservations are recommended. Please call the 24-hour Reservation and Information Line at 204.786.9152, or visit The University of Winnipeg Theatre and Film Department website at: <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca>

The Department of Theatre and Film at The University of Winnipeg offers programs in Acting, Design, Drama in Education, Filmmaking, Playwriting, and Production/Stage Management. Our classes are small and our programs practical. Our faculty is comprised of highly respected and award-winning professionals who are experienced teachers and remain active in their disciplines, bringing relevant and up-to-date instruction to our students.

Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Home to more than 9,200 full- and part-time students, UWinnipeg has been ranked by our graduates in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their “Entire Educational Experience” (Maclean’s Graduate Survey, November 2004). The Globe & Mail 2005 Report Card gives The University of Winnipeg an overall ‘A’ grade in the areas of teaching quality, class sizes, faculty-student interaction, and the availability of faculty outside classroom hours. Find out why. Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca

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