

VILLAGE PLAYERS THEATRE OPENS "WOMEN ON THE CUTTING EDGE" STUDIO SERIES  
WITH WILLIAM GIBSON'S "THE MIRACLE WORKER"  
PRESS OPENING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th, 2009

For Immediate Release

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"The Miracle Worker" by William Gibson, directed by Oak Park's acclaimed story-telling artist Megan Wells opens Village Players "Women on the Cutting Edge" Studio Series on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The cast features Marilyn Darnell, Penny Galazkiewicz, Karen Gerbig, Alex Griffin, Kevin Meece, Jocelyn Mills, Zia Okocha, Rachel Pospisil, Vito Petruzzelli, Brian Rabinowitz, Eden Strong, and Jake Walczyk.

First presented on stage in 1959, "The Miracle Worker" by William Gibson is about Annie Sullivan's heroic effort to give the blind, deaf and mute 12-year-old Helen Keller the gift of language and in so doing, she also strives to free herself from her own dark past so that she can love again.

VPT's production is special in that it intends not to just tell a story we know from history far too well, but focuses instead on the universal aspects of the story - that of the human need for both personal dignity and compassionate love.

"The Miracle Worker" by William Gibson is the first of a four play Studio Theatre season at VPT this year, aptly titled, "Women on the Cutting Edge". "Women" is a play series of four contemporary American works showcasing either women playwrights with a certain 'edgy' sensibility or plays by men with an edgy female central character.

Following "The Miracle Worker" in the Studio Theatre will be "Savage in Limbo" by John Patrick Shanley (January 21- February 21, 2010), then "Mud" by Maria Irene Fornes (March 26 – April 25, 2010), and finally "Polaroid Stories" by Naomi Iizuka (June 10 – July 18, 2010).

"The Miracle Worker" opens Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and runs through October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and \$16 for seniors over 65 and students (with valid ID); group rates are available for parties of six or more. All tickets for Thursday and Sunday performances are two for one. All performances of "The Miracle Worker" will be presented at the Village Players Performing Arts Center, located at 1010 Madison St., Oak Park. The theater is easily accessible by CTA, using either the Green or Blue line. Plenty of parking is available on the street. The theater is handicapped accessible; please call ahead to arrange for special seating. More information is available at [www.village-players.org](http://www.village-players.org) or 866-764-1010.

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