

Words Players Meets Rushmore

Eugene O'Neill, Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Thornton Wilder. Together they have been referred to as the Rushmore of American drama.

In April, Words Players Theatre will pay tribute to one of those icons. The Sixth Thornton Wilder Short Play Festival will feature performances and dynamic discussions of the works of Wilder, an American playwright considered one of the most influential writers of the 20th century. Two performances of selected short plays and a one-day literary symposium will introduce Wilder's works to the newly curious and expand understanding of them to aficionados. A specific focus will be on how Wilder is relevant to audiences in the 21st century.

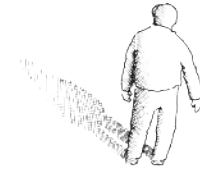
With special guest TAPPAN WILDER

Tappan is Thornton Wilder's nephew and has served as the literary executor and manager of his uncle's intellectual property since 1995. He plays a similar role for the literary legacies of Thornton Wilder's three sisters and brother, all of whom were also writers.

In 2006 Tappan completed work on a nine-volume HarperCollins re-issue of Thornton Wilder's novels and major plays. For each volume in this series he has contributed an Afterword containing a short history of the work together with selected readings, many from unpublished sources. Earlier he served as co-editor (with Donald Gallup) of the two-volume edition of Thornton Wilder's short plays. He is now engaged in preparing new or revised acting editions of all of Wilder's dramatic works, including a collection of his uncle's translations and adaptations, for publication. Most recently he launched the first Thornton Wilder family website: www.thorntonwilder.com

THORNTON WILDER SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL
WORDS PLAYERS THEATRE
59451 390 Ave
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

GETTING WILDER IN OUR TOWN



Rochester's Birth

THORNTON WILDER

SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL

Performances of Eleven Short Plays

April 8 & 9 7:00pm

Studio Academy Theatre
415 16th St. SW - Rochester

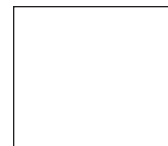
Symposium & Illustrative Lectures

April 9 9:00am - 5:00pm

Plummer House of the Arts
1091 Plummer Lane SW - Rochester



Rochester, MN
(507) 216-6431
www.northlandwords.org/wilder



Speakers

In addition to Tappan Wilder . . .

Emilio DeGrazia, Professor Emeritus at Winona State University, has had two collections of fiction, two novels, a book of essays and a memoir published. He and his wife Monica also have co-edited *Twenty-Six Minnesota Writers* (1995) and *Thirty-Three Minnesota Poets* (2000). His short stories, *Seventeen Grams of Soul* (1995), was winner of a Minnesota Book Award, and his recent memoir *Walking on Air in a Field of Greens* was one of three finalists for a Midwest Book Award.

Lise Kildegaard is a Professor of English at Luther College, where she teaches a wide variety of courses in British and American Literature, and Women's and Gender Studies, including Victorian Literature, Feminist Theory, and Young Adult Literature. She earned a BA at Carleton College, and a PhD in English Literature at the University of Chicago.

Lise's current research interests focus on human geography and the politics of space, particularly as they are represented in Victorian and modernist fiction. She is also interested in Scandinavian children's literature. On a recent sabbatical, she spent three months in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she worked on translating into English the marvelous "Square Stories" of the award-winning Danish author, Louis Jensen.

Daved Driscoll, BA, MFA, is the founder of Words Players Theatre, a local theatre troupe. He has taught and/or directed theatre, music, literature and philosophy in high schools and colleges since 1984 and has directed over 40 plays.

Festival Schedule

The Thornton Wilder One Act Play Festival will offer two evenings of performances and a one-day literary symposium.

Friday

7:00pm Performance @ Studio Academy Theatre— 415 16th ST SW, Rochester
9:15pm Post-play discussion

Saturday

9:00am Symposium Registration & Coffee @ Plummer House of the Arts – 1091 Plummer LN SW, Rochester
9:30am Introduction
9:45am *Thornton Wilder: Why Here? Why Now?*
Dr. Emilio DiGrazia
10:30am Break & Performance
10:45am *Thornton Wilder: Yesterday and Today*
Tappan Wilder
11:50am Performance
12:00pm Lunch & Informal Discussion
1:00pm Performance
1:10pm *Thornton Wilder: The Modernist/Post-Modernist*
Dr. Lise Kildegaard
2:00pm Break & Performance
2:15pm Panel Discussion
3:45pm Illustrative Lecture & Performance
Daved Driscoll
7:00pm Short Play Festival @ Studio Academy Theatre - 415 16th ST SW, Rochester
9:15pm Post-play discussion

Symposium Registration

Registrations due by April 4, 2011

Registration fee includes lunch and evening performance ticket for each person.

Individual - \$30

Families - \$30 for first person; \$10 for each additional family member

Students - \$10

Performance only tickets (\$6) available online or at the door.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1. _____	
2. _____	
3. _____	
4. _____	
5. _____	

Total \$ _____

Please make checks out to *Northland Words*

Any dietary restrictions or preferences? _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail completed form to:
Words Players Theatre
Thornton Wilder Short Play Festival
59451 390 Ave
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

OR

Online registration available at
www.northlandwords.org/wilder

Questions? 507-216-6431