



STEPPINGSTONE THEATRE

For Youth Development

55 Victoria Street North, St. Paul 55104

For immediate release

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Images available.

World Premiere

Four Little Girls: Birmingham 1963

by Christina Ham

February 4-27, 2011

A brand-new play about a pivotal moment in the Civil Rights Movement, the production explores the lives of the four girls who were killed in the church bombing in Birmingham in 1963. Profoundly moving and yet filled with hope, this is a must-see.

Every child imagines what they want to be when they grow up. The four girls who attended the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church were no exception. Multi-talented and bursting with promise, these girls share hopes and dreams against the backdrop of the Civil Rights Movement, with the story culminating in the fateful events of September 15, 1963.

Although a serious subject, SteppingStone Theatre's production is uplifting; it focuses on the hope and promise of both the girls and the Civil Rights Movement. This World Premiere production personalizes the event, looking at the lives, interests and friendship of Denise, Carole, Cynthia and Addie Mae, the four little girls who were killed in the bombing. Through historical footage and song, the play puts the lives of the quartet into context, and shows how children's civil rights began within the Civil Rights Movement.

Richard Hitchler, SteppingStone's artistic director says, "These four girls were contemporaries of Condeleeza Rice and Oprah. By telling this story, we are celebrating their lives as expressions of hope and promise. If we never learned who they were, that would be the worst outcome. We are honoring their lives through Christina Ham's wonderful dramatic production."

Presented with great skill and commitment by the professionally auditioned and trained young actors of SteppingStone Theatre, *Four Little Girls* is a production to make audiences think, to move them profoundly, and leave them filled with hope.

About SteppingStone Theatre

SteppingStone Theatre is Saint Paul's professional theatre for young audiences, serving tens of thousands of diverse youth, families and educators each year. The theatre has become a premier destination for affordable theatre education and entertainment, and has received numerous local and national awards including the Aurand C. Harris Children's Theatre Award, Sally Ordway Irvine Award

for Education, the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Award, and won Nickelodeon's Parents Connect "2010 Parents' Picks" Award for Best Kid's Theatre. A theatre serving nearly 70,000 youth, families, and educators from diverse ethnic, social and economic backgrounds each year, SteppingStone has become a premier destination for interactive, youth-centered theatre.

Performance Information:

All performances of *Four Little Girls* are in SteppingStone Theatre's new home, a beautifully renovated 100-year-old architectural gem located at 55 Victoria Street North, one block north of Summit Avenue in the Historic Hill District of St. Paul.

Four Little Girls is appropriate for all ages. SteppingStone Theatre is fully-accessible to persons with disabilities, and has regularly-scheduled ASL & Audio Described performances. Interpreters can be scheduled for other performances at no additional cost upon request. For information, call 651-225-9265.

Ticket Prices:

Adults: \$14.00, Children & Seniors: \$10.00

Groups 20+: \$7.00 (scholarships available)

Purchase your tickets in advance online and pay just \$9.50 per ticket

Performance times and tickets are available at (651) 225-9265 or www.steppingstonetheatre.org.

Dates & Times

Friday, Feb. 4 – 7 pm

Saturday, Feb. 5 – 3 pm

Sunday, Feb. 6 – 3 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 9 – 10 am & noon

Thursday, Feb. 10 – 10 am & noon

Friday, Feb. 11 – 10 am & noon, 7 pm (Audio Described performance)

Saturday, Feb. 12 – 3 pm

Sunday, Feb. 13 – 3 pm (ASL Interpreted performance)

Wednesday, Feb. 16 – 10 am & noon

Thursday, Feb. 17 – 10 am & noon

Friday, Feb. 18 – 10 am & noon, 7 pm

Saturday, Feb. 19 – 3 pm

Sunday, Feb. 20 – 3 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 23 – 10 am & noon

Thursday, Feb. 24 – 10 am & noon

Friday, Feb. 25 – 10 am & noon, 7 pm

Saturday, Feb. 26 – 3 pm

Sunday, Feb. 27 – 3 pm

*SteppingStone Theatre – Magic Happens Here!
Affordable, High-Quality Theatre for All Ages*