

MEDIA ALERT

Contact: Andrea Tichy
Manager of Public Relations and Special Events
(773) 325-7819, atichy@depaul.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 15, 2008

The Chicago Reader Names The Theatre School's Dexter Bullard "Best Director of 2008"
Bullard to Direct Urinetown in Upcoming Season

The Theatre School at DePaul University is pleased to announce that Dexter Bullard, Head of Graduate Acting and the Artistic Director of The Theatre School Showcase, was named "**Best Director**" by the Chicago Reader in the BEST OF CHICAGO 2008 issue on June 26, 2008. Journalist Jack Helbig heralded him as "one of the Chicago theater scene's living treasures" and noted the "range and depth of his work." In addition to his role in the larger Chicago theatre community, Dexter's "drive to...explore new ways of making theatre" is heightened through his work with the young artists at The Theatre School. Dexter has also directed many productions for The Theatre School, and will direct the upcoming production of *Urinetown*, for the Showcase Series of Contemporary Plays & Classics in the 2008-2009 Season.

See the full article from the Chicago Reader at: <http://www.chicagoreader.com/bestofchicago08/theater/director/>.

Dexter Bullard (Head of Graduate Acting/Showcase Series Artistic Director) has taught acting, improvisation and physical theater throughout the city, including the University of Illinois-Chicago, Roosevelt University, Columbia College, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, The Second City Training Center, The Audition Studio, TVI, and The Actors' Center. Dexter is an award-winning director dedicated to directing new plays and creating original theater for Chicago. Most recently, he directed Craig Wright's *Grace* at Northlight Theater. In 2004, Dexter was awarded the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Direction Off-Broadway for Tracy Letts' *Bug* at The Barrow Street Theater, as well as a Drama Desk Nomination for Outstanding Director. In 1995 Dexter co-founded Plasticene Physical Theater, whose critically-acclaimed experimental works have been featured at The Steppenwolf Studio, The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, The Storefront Theatre, and in New York City. With the Plasticene company, he has directed and collaboratively created ten original works including *The Palmer Raids* (2003) and *One False Note* (2006). Since 1996, Dexter has directed with The Second City, developing revues at E.T.C. Chicago and at Second City Detroit. For three years, he led a Second City National Touring Company to many destinations including Vienna and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston. In 1990, Dexter founded The Next Lab at The Next Theatre where he directed *Bouncers*, for which he received a Jefferson Citation and an After Dark award for his direction. As Associate Artistic Director at Next Theatre, he directed and/or created eight shows for mainstage and Lab. He has also directed projects for Famous Door, American Theatre Company, The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Hartford Stage Company, and many times for A Red Orchid Theatre.