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'CRIMES OF THE HEART' TO OPEN AT UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

DAYTON, Ohio, January 4, 1989--The University of Dayton's Performing and Visual Arts Department will present the Pulitzer Prize-winning bittersweet drama "Crimes of the Heart" as the second production of the 1988-89 theatre season.

The production will be staged Jan. 19-21 and 26-28 in the Kennedy Union Boll Theatre on campus. Each performance will begin at 8 p.m. and tickets will be available at the box office in Kennedy Union. Tickets are $5 and may be reserved by calling 229-2545 from noon to 5 p.m. weekdays.

"Crimes of the Heart," written by Beth Henley, uses humor, compassion and conflict to examine the plight of three Mississippi sisters betrayed by their passion. Winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize and the New York Drama Critics Award, it was also produced as a film.

"This is a very timely play," said director Lawrence Selka, a resident of Kettering and assistant professor in the theatre division of UD's Performing and Visual Arts Department. "Each character has his or her own way of escaping life until they are forced to take life as it is. They learn to adjust, to take hold of life.

"The entire play is staged on just one set, a realistic kitchen," Selka said. "These characters each have a unique personality, and there has to be a great deal of interplay. It requires ensemble playing and the actors are doing very well at that."

Freshman Jody Bartman will portray Babe Botrelle, with senior Angela Gelineau as Meg Magrath and freshman Deborah Dungin as Lenny Magrath. Graduate student Frederick Gorney will portray Doc Porter, freshman Lisa McDaniel will appear as Chick Boyle and freshman Jason Seifert will portray Barnette Lloyd.

For further information on "Crimes of the Heart," contact UD's theatre division at (513) 229-3950.