

USI THEATRE TO PRESENT DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

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Fifty years after the fact, a young Jewish girl's diary of how she and her family endured 25 months in hiding in Nazi-occupied Holland during World War II continues to remind the world of the tragedies which befell her people, her country, and the world.

USI Theatre will present *The Diary of Anne Frank* as its first spring production, marking the 50th anniversary of the year the Germans learned about the Franks and took them from their warehouse hideout to a concentration camp. The production is being presented in conjunction with the exhibition, The Anne Frank Experience, which opens March 15 at the Evansville Museum of Arts and Science.

Anne's father, Otto Frank, survived the war and was given his daughter's diary and notes when he returned home. He first made copies for distribution and later published the diary as a book at home and in Germany. It was published in France in 1950 and in England and the United States in 1952. In 1955, Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett used the book as the basis for their play which received the Pulitzer Prize, the Critics Circle Prize, and the Antoinette Perry Award for 1956.

Elliot Wasserman, assistant professor of theatre, will direct the USI Theatre production. Kelly Fritz will portray Anne. Dr. Douglas K. Hubbell, veteran USI Theatre director, actor, and stage designer, will be Otto Frank. USI students Jacqueline Moore, Jeremy Beck, and Tara Taylor will respectively portray Anne's sister Margot; Peter, the youth who becomes Anne's friend in hiding; and Miep, a family friend. Annette Bower will be Mrs. Frank; she comes from community theater, as do Mark Atchison, Sue Schriber, Nick Faust, and Grant Carlton, who round out the 10-member cast.

The play will be presented at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, February 17-18-19 and 24-25-26, and at 2 and 7 p.m. Sundays, February 20 and 27, at USI Theatre at Barker and Igleheart avenues. Tickets are \$7 for general admission, \$5 for the USI community and for senior citizens. Call 812/465-1668 for tickets and information, or stop by the USI Theatre Office in the Mid-America Student Housing complex.

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USI student cast for The Diary of Anne Frank:

Evansville: Kelly Fritz, 6825 Springdale Jacqueline Moore, 4804 Stringtown

Bluffton, Indiana: Tara Taylor, 3776 E. 200 South

Newburgh, Indiana: Jeremy Beck, 7300 Oakdale

Ridgefield, Connecticut:
Jacqueline Moore, 21 Glen Road

The cast is doing free performances of *The Diary of Anne Frank* for Evansville elementary and high school students. The two performances, February 18 and 25, already have capacity attendance.