



Ensemble theatre with humor and heart

Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre

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Photo: A new play reading by Dreamcatcher Rep (credit: Steve McIntyre)

For Immediate Release

## **Dreamcatcher Offers “Meet the Artist” Free New Play Readings on May 21 & 28**

Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre, professional Theatre in Residence at the Oakes Center in Summit, will present its annual Meet the Artist free new play reading series on Wednesday, May 21 and Wednesday, May 28 at 7pm at Oakes Center.

The new play reading series is a chance for the audience to participate in the development of new works, both to hear the play read by professional actors and also to discuss the project with the playwright, director and actors afterward. Feedback from these evenings helps the playwrights to further refine their scripts and also gives them a first-hand experience of how the audience will respond to the finished work. These evenings provide a fun and lively way to interact with the creative process, and to receive a preview of plays that may be performed on Dreamcatcher’s mainstage in the future.

The first reading, *Parallel Lives* by Adam Siegel, will take place on Wednesday, May 21 at 7pm. In this play, high school senior Sam is grappling with not only the end of his childhood, but also with his sexual orientation. His two fathers, Ethan and Jason, are simultaneously discovering that their relationship is at a turning point as their children leave the nest. Siegel is a Maplewood resident whose play *The Legacy* was recently produced at the Garage Theatre Group in Teaneck. The reading will be directed by Laura Ekstrand, Dreamcatcher’s artistic director, and will feature Dustin Ballard, Harry Patrick Christian, Kevin Gilmartin, Scott McGowan, Conor McShane, Joe Piserchio and Jenelle Sosa.



*Then Let the Fish Go* by Nadine Bernard will be read on Wednesday, May 28 at 7pm. This play tells the story of three seekers, all of whom become embroiled in pyramid schemes as they search for a better life. Bernard is a resident of Glen Ridge who has worked in New York, New Jersey and nationally as both an actor and a playwright. The reading will be directed by John Pietrowski and will feature Laura Ekstrand, Eli Ganas, Billie Holmes and Beth Painter.

The readings are on the second floor of Oakes Center, located at 120 Morris Avenue in Summit. Admission is free and no reservations are necessary. The parking lot is accessible from Ashwood Avenue, behind the theatre. For information on any of Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre’s programs,

contact Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre at Oakes Center, 120 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901, 908-514-9654, [www.DreamcatcherRep.org](http://www.DreamcatcherRep.org).

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### **About Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre**

Founded in 1994, Dreamcatcher is a non-profit professional ensemble of actors who build community with the audience by sharing life-affirming stories in an intimate environment. We seek to expose theatregoers to ideas and lives like and unlike their own, to awaken their imaginations and create empathy for others. The company focuses on deepening the experience of our patrons by supplementing performances with personal contact through receptions, talkbacks and interactive programs.

Dreamcatcher's core company of professional local actors performs contemporary work that entertains and challenges, and has at its heart a belief in the essential goodness of people. The company's activities include mainstage productions, improvisational comedy and cabarets, new play readings and a variety of educational and senior outreach programs.

Dreamcatcher's programs are funded by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; Dramatist Guild Fund; The Summit Area Public Foundation; the Manley-Winsor Foundation; and many other corporations, foundations and individuals. Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre is a senior member of the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.

*Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey.*