

**COURIER NEWS**

**April 28, 2016**

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**PLAINFIELD**

**Academy to perform 'A Song for Coretta'**

An all-female cast from Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies (PAAAS) will present, "*A Song for Coretta*," by Pearl Cleage. The play highlights the contributions of Coretta Scott King, wife of slain civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and her impact on a generation of women activists. Performances of a "Song for Coretta," will be held at the Plainfield High School Auditorium, 950 Park Ave., Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, April 30, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.

"A Song for Coretta," is directed by Othell J. Miller, Theater Arts instructor at PAAAS for over a decade.

"Considering how vital it is for each generation to understand the factors that led to both the major accomplishments and setbacks of the previous generations, it is noteworthy that a group of young artists are presenting a dramatic piece that highlights an icon of one of the most important movements in American History, the Civil Rights Movement. Not only are these young actors honing their artistic talents and being educated about historic events and people, through their participation in the play, they will also inevitably educate many who attend," said Miller. "That in itself is an amazing contribution by these dedicated students and we invite the entire community to attend."

According to Cleage's writings, the play was inspired by the long line of mourners who came by Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta to pay their respects to Mrs. King. Four of the five living United States presidents and over 10,000 people attended the funeral. The cast includes Yasmeen, Yancey, Montague Martin-Silas, Dale Harris, Annette Fornah and Aishah Sparrow.

For more information, contact Community Engagement Liaison Gloria Montealegre at 908-731-4333 or [gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us). Like on Facebook at Plainfield Public Schools. Follow on Twitter @PlainfieldBOE.