

Dillard University Theatre's 76th Season



August Wilson's  
**The Piano Lesson**

Directed by Ray Vrazel  
Feb. 3-4, 10-11, 2012 @8pm  
Feb. 5 & 12 @ 3pm  
box office-504-816-4857

The Dillard University Theatre Program will continue its 76th season this February with a six---performance run of August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*. Winner of the 1990 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, *The Piano Lesson* is the fifth play in Wilson's "Pittsburgh Cycle," which chronicles the African American experience in the 20th century. The show opens Friday, Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. and runs through Sunday, Feb. 12.

"August Wilson was one of the greatest American playwrights of the 20th century," says director Ray Vrazel, who also helmed Dillard University's 2010 production of August Wilson's *Fences*. "Please come enjoy and be inspired by a great play brought to life by our wonderful company of student actors and technicians."

Set in Pittsburgh during the Great Depression, *The Piano Lesson* explores the troubled relationship of a brother and sister and their struggle over an extraordinary family heirloom, a piano carved with images of their African ancestors. The

carvings, done by their enslaved grandfather, imbue the piano with a metaphysical legacy – one the siblings avoid or even take for granted, but come to accept and embrace. The piano ultimately brings together a family long torn apart by slavery, violence and murder.

Mr. Vrazel is available for interviews, as are other members of the show's cast and crew.

Tickets are \$15, and \$10 for seniors and students. For ticket information, call the Dillard University Box Office at (504) 816---4857. Several school matinees will also be produced.

[Listen](#) to a radio interview with Director Ray Vrazel!