

For Immediate Release



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Adam Sandler will *not* be performing in Freeport in January

December 24, 2008, Freeport – Paint Fumes Productions' *BEDTIME STORIES*, which opens at Freeport Performing Arts Center on January 16, should not be confused with Disney's recent movie release. There are no gumballs falling from the sky, no spit takes or prat falls. Instead, adult audiences will be treated to snippets of human experience in five one-act plays by modern American playwrights, all performed on a stage with nothing on it but a bed.

Beds are central locations in our lives. We sleep, dream, and have sex in them. We may spend hours tossing and turning in them, wrestling with the problems faced during the day. We may be conceived in them, be born in them, and die in them. John Lennon and Yoko Ono made a bold political statement in one. We eat crackers and annoy our partners in them. We laugh in them; we cry in them. We crawl into them for comfort when we are sick or unhappy. When we are kids (or letting our inner child run wild) we jump on them. Monsters live under them next to the dust bunnies. They are found in our homes, but also in hotels, hospitals, prisons, disaster shelters ... even on boats and in RVs. They are focal points, they can trigger emotions and memories, and in the hands of a gifted writer they are powerful symbols.

Artistic director Elizabeth Guffey formed Paint Fumes Productions as a vehicle for experimentation and collaboration and to bring "pet projects" to the stage. The idea for this production came after seeing Mad Horse Theater's *Of Mice and Men*, which was staged with minimal props and no sets. "I was struck by the emotional connection I had as an audience member when I didn't have a lot of "stuff" on the stage to distract me. Minimalism invites the audience to use their imaginations to fill in the visual gaps, and that leads to more of a collaboration between audience and cast in the overall experience of the play."

The ensemble is led by Guffey and directors Julia Langham, Laura Graham and Adam Klein. They selected works by Lanford Wilson, Shel Silverstein, Charles Leipart, Peter Tolan, and Yvonne Adrian for the creative opportunities and strong human connections the scripts provided. It is a co-production of the fledgling Paint Fumes and theater veterans Freeport Community Players.

BEDTIME STORIES will be performed at Freeport Performing Arts Center January 16-26, 2009; Fridays & Saturdays @ 7:30pm, Sundays @ 2pm. Tickets are \$10, available online at www.fcponline.org or at the door. Seating is limited. *This show contains adult language and themes and is not suitable for children.*

For more information about *Bedtime Stories*, visit www.fcponline.org/bedtime.

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