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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Los Angeles Southwest College students to show their nationally recognized play on campus

Performance has been recognized at Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Los Angeles Southwest College (LASC) theater students were victorious this past winter at a national competition for their original production entitled "Never Be What They Say!" Later this spring, they will present their production on the LASC campus as an encore showing.

All are invited to watch "Never Be What They Say!" at 7 p.m. May 18 in the state-of-the-art Little Theater. LASC students wrote and produced the show, which was directed by Assistant Professor Jonathan Pope Evans.

This past February, the students were awarded the prestigious "Strongest and Most Compelling Original Devised Work" award at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival on the campus of Mesa Community College in Arizona.

"The victory in Arizona really helped establish us as a strong presence on the national level as a theater school," Pope Evans says.

"Never Be What They Say!" is a short original play about the violence and history of south central Los Angeles. Told through narration, movement, and storytelling, LASC's students re-enact key events and characters from the early 1900s through today.

Using the very challenging Grotowski Technique, the students create theater rather than re-interpret a script that they have read and studied. Pope Evans specializes in devised theater and the Grotowski Technique.

As a result of their victory in Arizona, word has spread quickly about the talent of LASC's students, who have been invited to perform at shows at Whittier College and Long Beach City College.

On May 18, check out the LASC's award-winning theater students in their encore of "Never Be What They Say!" Seating is limited, so purchase your tickets today. The show will be followed by other short original works as well as a question-and-answer with Pope Evans and the students about the show and the creative process.

Tickets can be purchased at LASC's Bookstore in the Student Services Building. They are also available at the Little Theater's Box Office at 6 p.m. May 18. Tickets are \$7 for the general public or \$4 with student identification.

About Los Angeles Southwest College

Founded in 1967, Los Angeles Southwest College serves more than 8,000 students with associate degree programs in 34 disciplines, occupational certificates in 47 disciplines, community services and ESL/citizenship classes. Coupled with a strong focus on student success, the campus has undergone a massive expansion and technological upgrade that will make it a model for community college education in the 21st Century. Los Angeles Southwest College is part of the Los Angeles Community College District. For more information, visit www.lasc.edu.