

Rome Monument Co-Sponsors Black Angels Over Tuskegee

Black Angels Over Tuskegee to Play at Byham Theater

01/25/2011

Co-sponsors Rome Monument, INC. and Savoy Restaurant have contributed to bring Layon Gray's Black Angels Over Tuskegee to Pittsburgh. "This is an inspiring story of patriotism that not only needs told, but more importantly honored and remembered by society today", stated John Dioguardi president of Rome Monument. "It is our family's privilege to help bring this story to Pittsburgh."

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the Tuskegee Airman and the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Project Presents "Black Angels Over Tuskegee" at the Byham Theater. Performance will be on Sunday, February 27th and Monday, February 28th. The Sunday performance will be at 4:00 pm while on Monday there will be a 7:00 pm performance.

Black Angels Over Tuskegee depicts the lives of six men who struggle through the Jim Crow era and emerge with distinction as the first African-American pilots in the U.S. Army Air Forces. With courageous brotherhood, their intelligence, patriotism and strength propel a dream into flight while fighting both military and social wars. The captivating all-male cast delivers a powerful performance that will entertain, inspire and inform as audiences discover the story that provoked a monumental change in American history.

The production stars a stellar company of performers aptly named The Black Gents of Hollywood, an all-male ensemble driven to resurrect, redefine, and restore positive images of African-American men. Founded in 2007, this assembly of Actors, Writers and Directors aspire to change the paradigm and empower a generation through relevant storytelling and excellence in service.

The cast includes Playwright/Director Layon Gray; Screen Actor, Lamman Rucker, Derek Shaun, David Wendell Boykins, Demetrius Grosse, Thom Scott II, Steve Brustien and Thaddeus Daniels

Lamman Rucker states, "The Black Gents are honored to pay tribute to The Tuskegee Airmen and their distinguished legacy. We have been empowered by their tremendous service and extraordinary contribution to our community and have committed ourselves to continuing the movement for this generation. It's a privilege to humbly show our respect and honor toward those who have paved the way for us. "

Black Angels Over Tuskegee has been an official selection of the 2007 and 2009 National Black Theater Festival and recently won the 2009 NAACP Award for Best Ensemble, the 2009 Artistic Director Achievement Award for Best Play and 2010 Audelco Achievement Award.

The Black Gents and lead ambassador, Lamman Rucker are actively involved in several charities and community service projects. They are participants in the mentoring organization Tied to Greatness; literacy campaign, Project Read Aloud, The Black Aids Institute's Test 1 Million Campaign and Stephanie Starks Hope Charity.

The Gents lead an educational movement with youth (especially males); teaching theater, life skills, conflict resolution, team work, and self-discipline; empowering youth across the country. Tickets are available www.pgharts.org and for media contact: New York Living Hope Production 646.812.1557 or Pittsburgh MAA & Associates Contact Traci 800.920.7584