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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—Oct. 21, 2009

GUERIN PREP TO BRING HOMER'S EPIC POEM *THE ODYSSEY* TO LIFE

The greatest adventure story of all time will come to the stage when the theatre department of Guerin College Preparatory High School presents Mary Zimmerman's *The Odyssey* a dramatic adaptation of Homer's epic poem.

Performances are Friday and Saturday, Nov. 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. both nights in the Guerin Prep Auditorium.

Zimmerman's play, considered an exciting and accessible adaptation of the ancient text, will take the audience on an amazing voyage complete with magic, monsters and feats of great bravery.

The performance begins as a modern young woman struggles to understand Robert Fitzgerald's translation of *The Odyssey*. When a classical Muse emerges, the young woman is transformed into the goddess Athena, a tireless advocate for Odysseus in his struggle to get home.

With a twist on this classic work, Zimmerman brings to life the story of Odysseus's ten-year journey to get home after 10 years of war in Troy. They battle the Cyclops, outwit the bewitching Sirens and brave the wrath of Poseidon so that Odysseus may, at last, return home to his loved ones. When he finally arrives, there is yet one more obstacle to overcome.

"This play is a great story about perseverance as a man struggles to get home to the ones he loves," explained Kristen Mackie, director of the performance and theatre teacher at Guerin Prep.

(MORE)

2—Guerin Prep Fall Play

Athena is played by Junior Vicky Giannini while Anthony Norman, also a junior, plays Odysseus, the hero of *The Odyssey*. Both are Chicago residents.

Senior Jessica Arroyo plays Penelope, faithful wife of Odysseus and mother of Telemachus, a secondary hero played by Sophomore Gabriel Medina. Both students are from Chicago.

Sophomore Jenna Zacharias of Elmwood Park plays Calypso, the beautiful nymph who detains Odysseus for eight years. Odysseus's sailors are played by Freshman Brandon Chavez and Senior Max Gutierrez, both of Chicago.

The following students play a major role in addition to taking on various subroles.

Senior Megan Romberg of Chicago is Circe, the enchantress who turns men into swine and who detains Odysseus for a year.

Junior cast members include Anthony Huspen of Norridge as Zeus, the king of the gods; Ryan Donnelly of River Grove as Menelaus, the King of Sparta; and Bryan Worman of Chicago as Mentor, Odysseus's old friend who is the frequent disguise of Athena.

Sophomore Jayson Acevedo of Chicago plays Poseidon, the immortal antagonist in the play.

Freshmen include Chicago residents Ronald Johnson as Hermes, Shannon Manzella as Eurycleia, Mark Medrano as Neoman, Jelissa Rangel as Helen, Jessie Roman as Nausicaa and Kyle Schwaba as Cyclops. Also, Freshman Gina Lindemann of Elmwood Park plays the Muse.

The crew is headed by Junior Lindsay Pitts of Elmwood Park as stage manager. She is assisted by Zoei Benzoni, Emma Brkic, Sadie Burke, Natalia Chuchecko, Sylvia Goczol, Andy Hayes, Angeline Motzny, Vanessa Negron, Gianna Parlich, Oksana Petty, Paulina Wojtach and Rita Zapata, all of Chicago.

Other members of the crew include Asalah Boulos, Daniella Dibari and Mike Hennon of Elmwood Park; Angelica Ortiz of Melrose Park; and Christine Padernal of Cicero.

Tickets are \$8. Guerin Prep is located at 8001 W. Belmont Ave. in River Grove. For more information, call 708-453-6233, ext. 4762.

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