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Contact:

ENOUGH! Hopkins Graphic ENOUGH! Flyer

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Stages Theatre Company Joins Nationwide Reading of ENOUGH! Plays to End Gun Violence

October 6, 2025 | 6:30 pm | Hopkins Center for the Arts

HOPKINS, Minn. – September 10, 2025 – Stages Theatre Company in partnership with <u>Washburn Center for Children</u>, is honored to take part in the 2025 *Nationwide Reading of ENOUGH! Plays to End Gun Violence* on **Monday, October 6 at 6:30 PM** at the Hopkins Center for the Arts.

Teens are saying ENOUGH and it's past time for us to listen. This nationwide initiative brings together more than 31 communities across the country to stage readings of six winning short plays written by teens, each confronting the urgent issue of gun violence through their own powerful perspectives. ENOUGH! is recommended for ages 14+. Admission is free, though reservations are encouraged: https://stagestheatre.org/enough.

"ENOUGH! is about more than just theatre — it's about empowering young people to speak out, be heard, and inspire change," said Michael Cotey, creator of *ENOUGH!* and Joaquin Oliver Artistic Producer. "These plays cut to the heart of what it means to grow up in America today and remind us that youth voices are essential in driving change."

This year, ENOUGH! received 127 submissions from teens from across the country. A distinguished panel — including New York Times-bestselling author Jason Reynolds, former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords, and nationally recognized playwrights — selected six bold, diverse works that explore the many dimensions of gun violence, from schools to families to communities.

"Gun violence is not a distant problem - it's exists across the United States and here at home in Minnesota" said Sandy Boren-Barrett, Stages Theatre Company's Artistic Director. "We're honored to present the work of teens who have been affected by gun violence. They



are passionate, creative, inspiring young people that have turned to theatre to tell the world how gun violence is affecting them every day. By bringing *ENOUGH!* to Hopkins, we're creating a space for truth, for action, and for healing - so that together, we can **be the CHANGE our community needs**."

Content Advisory: The plays address sensitive themes including school shootings, officer-involved shootings, suicide, and domestic violence. While not graphically depicted, these topics will be difficult for audience members. Recommended for ages 14+.

<u>Washburn Center for the Children</u> will be providing therapists along with two licensed counselors as resources for rehearsals and performances. Stages Theatre will have a quiet space for those who need it during and after the performance.

This event is free but reservations are required.

For more information, visit: https://www.enoughplays.com/

About ENOUGH! Plays to End Gun Violence

ENOUGH! empowers teens to confront gun violence by writing new 10-minute plays that spark conversation and inspire action in communities nationwide. Each fall, organizations across the country stage readings of six selected works, amplifying teen voices and connecting audiences to local solutions. Learn more at enoughplays.com.

Stages Theatre Company was founded in 1984 and since then has grown to become one of the largest professional theatres for young audiences in the country. We engage young artists with themes relevant to their lives and involve them in creating magical works featuring young pdeople in meaningful roles. Through on-stage production, education programs, and other outreach opportunities, Stages Theatre Company annually serves more than 150,000 young people and their families. For more information visit www.stagestheatre.org.