

Ganymede Arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ganymede Arts PR Dept.
202.904.8418 / ganymedeartspr@yahoo.com

TV ANCHOR, COLLEGE STUDENTS SHINE AT FALL ARTS FEST Ganymede Salutes NBC 4's Wendy Rieger, Local Playwrights

WASHINGTON -- NBC News 4 anchor Wendy Rieger will star in *Dysfunction Spelled Backwards is... Family* on Thursday, Oct. 2 at 7:30 p.m. as part of Ganymede Arts' Fall Arts Festival at the Church Street Theatre. The play reading is directed by Michael Baron of Signature Theatre and is written by Carl Menninger, director of theatre at American University, who cast several of his students in featured roles.

"Carl is a fabulous writer and it's really cool to be part of such a fun play," says Rieger, who has covered news in the Washington area for more than 25 years. "No playwright could ask for a better collaborative team," Menninger says, noting that Ganymede has also given his students an incredible opportunity to get first-hand experience in script development and character creation.

Continuing the AU alliance, Ganymede Literary Curator John C. Bailey recruited students to direct and star in several short play readings. "Play development isn't just about the playwright and the script, it's about the directors, actors and audiences as well," Bailey says. "Having witnessed, in our recent Kennedy Center Page-to-Stage offering, the insight and passion these talented students bring to their work, the decision to get them involved was instantaneous."

Bite My Shorts, a collection of GLBT play readings directed by AU students will begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, which will be followed by *Butchers, a love story*, a play by Nathan McGaughey, directed by Ganymede's John Moletress. *Cemetery Plot*, also directed by an AU student, will debut Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m., followed at 9 p.m. by a reading of *Chicago Love Tapestry* by D.C. native Eric Powell. Steven Scott Mazzola of The Shakespeare Theatre Company and The American Century Theatre will read his play *Covered Dish* on Monday, Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m. It will be directed by TSTC's Alan Paul.

For a full list of events and ticket information, visit www.ganymedearts.org.

Ganymede Arts is dedicated to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (glbt) experience. Our mission is to provide high-quality, professional theatre and art (dance and musical performances, poetry readings and art shows) that fosters social and cultural awareness of and for the glbt community.