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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**FYT'S *THIRD* EXAMINES STEREOTYPING, POLITICS AND FAMILY**

Flint, MI...Flint Youth Theatre presents *THIRD*, Wendy Wasserstein's candid and uncompromising portrait of a woman entering the third part of her life. This staged reading, the sixth and final in FYT's 2008-09 OFF THE PRESS SERIES, will be performed Sunday, April 19 at 6:00pm at Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 East Kearsley Street. The \$5.00 admission includes the staged reading, a talk-back with the performers and refreshments provided by Fandangles'. Tickets are available at FYT by calling 810.237.1530 or at the door beginning one hour before the performance.

A college professor at a prestigious New England college finds her liberal convictions challenged by a student athlete who she suspects of plagiarism when he turns in a brilliant paper. The ensuing scandal causes her to examine everything in which she believes. *THIRD*, Wendy Wasserstein's final play, discovers hypocrisy where you least expect it – in the heart and mind of a modern, female, politically correct educator. *The New York Post* said *THIRD* "... displays Wasserstein's gift for dissecting the emotional and social states of a certain breed of upscale, highly educated women." *Variety* commented "Wasserstein's new play—her best in years—is thematically richer and more emotionally satisfying than any mere political screed."

"When Laurie, the college professor in *THIRD*, brings charges against the student, she is forced to question her own ideology and standards, giving rise to the play's central theme – the danger of becoming the very thing you have been battling against," commented Walter Hill, FYT Associate Artistic Director in charge of programming and producing the OFF THE PRESS SERIES. "Sadly, Wendy Wasserstein died in 2006 but she is remembered as the theatrical voice of a generation of women."

The OFF THE PRESS SERIES includes some of the latest plays from Broadway, Off-Broadway and the American Regional Theatre. Readings in the OFF THE PRESS SERIES are recommended for adults and older teens. *THIRD* includes explicit language and could be offensive to some viewers. The OFF THE PRESS SERIES is presented by The Flint Journal and sponsored by Fandangles'.

Dedicated to changing lives through a life-long continuum of music, theatre and dance, the Flint Institute of Music includes the [Flint Symphony Orchestra](#), [Flint School of Performing Arts](#) and [Flint Youth Theatre](#). A professional orchestra led by world-renowned music director Enrique Diemecke, the FSO enjoys a more than 90-year history. The FSPA is the eighth largest community arts school in the U.S. and provides outstanding music and dance opportunities for all ages and abilities, and offers tuition assistance. FYT is a nationally-acclaimed, award-winning resident theatre company and drama school, providing inter-generational, live theatre arts since 1957. A nonprofit organization, the FIM receives support from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

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