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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM: SEX, DRUGS, VIOLENCE & FAMILY***  
***Two LA writers speak on issues that affect teens growing up in the system through their original play, "MASKS."***

**MASKS** is an award-winning psycho-social buddy dramedy about two men growing up in the juvenile justice system, struggling to make it into manhood, battling with their past to shed their masks as they deal with crucial life issues that young people face. The piece is written by award winning playwrights, Terryl Daluz and Mann Alfonso.

**MASKS** won an NAACP Theatre Award for Best Playwright-Local at a star studded event at the Kodak Theatre in the summer of 2008. **MASKS** was also a participant in the 2010 NYC International Fringe Festival where Broadway Producer, Kevin Davenport named it, "One of the top shows that stand out." The play was adapted into a short film, "The Fighter and the Clown," starring Enrico Colantoni (Flashpoint, Contagion) and was an official selection of the Hollywood Film Festival in 2010.

**MASKS**, addresses many issues that young people deal with every day. Mann Alfonso and Terryl Daluz know a lot about these issues because they have been working as residential counselors with group home kids for over a decade. *"We felt like the voices of these young people need to be heard because they rarely are,"* says Terryl. *"Most teenagers that live in group home facilities have been in and out of the system most of their lives." A big percentage of them end up in the adult penitentiary system, says Mann.*

The play chronicles the lives of 2 fictitious characters by the names of Jason Miller and Tonyo Geraldo, aka J Boogie and TG. They both were placed into the system at an early age for similar but different reasons. Their initial meeting at the group home starts off with a rocky start but through time their bond becomes unbreakable. Watch their lives unfold in front of you as they struggle to overcome their obstacles and persevere to reach their goals.

The irony of it all is, Mann and Terryl met and befriended each other working the graveyard shift at a group home in Northridge, CA. Terryl had the concept for the play but he needed a comedy edge, so he brought it to Mann and the rest is history. *"The play wrote itself,"* says Mann.

Come see this riveting piece of art that takes you on a journey through time, where music relevant to each era transcends each scene, where you'll laugh, cry, dance, and sing. *"We wanted to capture the true essence of the theater, where tragedy and comedy meet,"* says Terryl