

College of the Siskiyous

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PRESS RELEASE

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RUMORS TO OPEN NOVEMBER 6TH AT COS

"A light frothy and fun farce to perform at COS"

Written by Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Neil Simon

Weed / COS – The College of the Siskiyous Theatre Department is pleased to announce the opening of Neil Simon's *Rumors* on Friday, November 6 at 8 p.m. in the COS Kenneth W. Ford Theater. This fun-filled comedy is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc. and is directed by Tom Murdock. A reception will follow to celebrate the opening of the show, the Theater's 40th Anniversary and to honor COS Theatre Faculty Emeritus recipient, Jim Witherell.

The premise of *Rumors* is that four couples, friends of the deputy mayor of New York and his wife, are invited to a formal 10th anniversary dinner party for the two. The first couple that arrives discovers that something is seriously amiss—there is a gun mishap which left a hole in the deputy mayor's ear, while his wife and the help are nowhere to be found. To avoid a scandal, they try to conceal the truth from the evening's guests. There is yelling, eyeball rolling, fast witted rumor-mongering, hand wringing and plenty of good one-liners. Add in a near constant sense of a high-speed chase, even when the characters are standing still, and you are in for a great ride.

COS Artistic Director Tom Murdock adds, "Neil Simon is a brilliantly funny writer, and his plays are always a joy to work on. You will see a bunch of fresh faces in the cast of *Rumors* as well as a couple of COS theatre veterans. It has been a impressive process working with these eager new actors. This is our new theater faculty, Neil Carpentier-Alting's, first set here and he has designed a must see living area for the nouveau riche of Simon's play. As always, the set and lighting design has been completely student executed--this year by a notably large crop of theatre techies and volunteers. Please join us to appreciate the hard work of all these folks."

The COS Production of *Rumors* is essentially a family friendly comedy. However, there is some adult language. Run time is approximately two hours including one intermission. Show dates are November 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 8 pm, and Sunday, November 15 at 2 pm. Tickets may be purchased in advance from the COS Weed Campus Public Relations Office, as well as the hour prior to all performances. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$5 for seniors and \$5 for students with proof of enrollment. For more information contact the COS Public Information Office at (530) 938-5373.