

Play features public health talks

By JEWISH REVIEW

article created on: 2011-05-01T00:00:00

The Jewish Theatre Collaborative will present three free performances of “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Well Being” in May, each performance followed by a town-hall discussion.

“Open the Door to your Understanding of Public Health and Become a Part of the Conversation” is the theme of the 5:30-7 p.m. programs May 16 at Providence Willamette Falls Community Center, 519 15th St. in Oregon City; May 17 at David Douglas High School Lecture Hall, 1001 SE 135th Ave. in Portland and May 25 at the Beaverton Library Auditorium, 2375 SW Fifth St. in Beaverton.

Learn how one woman, a pioneer of public health 100 years ago in the tenements of New York, took on adversity and revolutionized the way we approach health and wellbeing in this country.

JTC will present the 45-minute biographical play to lay a foundation for the community town hall to follow. Community leaders, public health professionals and policy makers will speak and then join the audience in opening the conversation on public health.

Written and developed by Doren Elias and Sacha Reich, the play stars Jamie M. Rea and Jason Glick. It is the story of Lillian Wald (1867-1940), a young Jewish girl who became a nurse and champion of the vulnerable in society.

The JTC’s presentation of “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Well Being” attracted more than 100 people to the Mittleman Jewish Community Center March 29, when it was performed to celebrate the contribution of Jewish past and present during Women’s History Month.

Eddie Shulman opened Act 2 of the evening with a moving drash on Jewish roots of caring for the vulnerable in our community.

JTC developed “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Well-Being” with the National Council of Jewish Women, Portland Section and the Northwest Health Foundation to jumpstart conversations about public health around the city.

The March event was sponsored by the MJCC, Oregon Jewish Museum, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation, with funding from the Regional Arts and Culture Council and Work for Art.

“Life Liberty and the Pursuit of Well-Being” also was presented on April 28 at Portland State University.

Interested persons can bring the performance to their community. Visit jewishtheatrecolaborative.org or call 503-512-9JTC (582) for more information.