

## ACTOR BILL BOWERS WILL SPEAK AT RMC COMMENCEMENT

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ATTACHED: Photos courtesy of Bill Bowers

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS – Actor, mime, and educator Bill Bowers will be the featured speaker at the 129th Rocky Mountain College Commencement, Saturday, May 7, 2011, in the Fortin Education Center, at 1:00 p.m. He will also be guest of honor at the annual RMC President's Dinner, which raises money for student scholarships. Commencement is free and open to the public.

Bowers, who returned this past February to Billings to perform a fundraiser for the Billings Senior High School Drama Department, graduated from RMC in 1981. He earned a Master of Fine Arts from Rutgers University before launching a career as a Broadway actor and mime. He studied under legendary mime, Marcel Marceau. He was a recipient of the RMC Alumni Association Outstanding Achievement Award in 1999. In 2001, Bowers received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from RMC.

As an actor and mime, Bowers has performed throughout the US, Canada, Europe and Asia. He appeared on Broadway as Zazu in "The Lion King," and Leggett in "The Scarlet Pimpernel." His award winning solo play, "It Goes Without Saying," opened in New York to rave reviews, and has since been performed in 48 cities in 20 states. His acclaimed original mime shows, "Night Sweetheart, Night Buttercup," and "Under a Montana Moon" were also produced Off Broadway and received critical raves.

He will premiere his new solo play, "Moving Pictures," in New York this Fall. Billings Senior High Drama Department will perform Bowers' play "Heyokah" in April, and then take the production to the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland this summer. "Heyokah" has also been produced at the University of Wyoming, Manitou Art Theater in Colorado Springs, and will have several more productions in the coming year.

Bowers has performed on the stages of Radio City Music Hall, Madison Square Garden, and the Kennedy Center.

He can be seen in the feature film, "Two Weeks Notice," starring Sandra Bullock and Hugh Grant.

Bower's television/video credits include "All My Children," "One life to Live," "Law and Order," "The Onion News Network," and Disney's "Out of the Box." While on Broadway, he was also featured on "The Today Show" and "The Tony Awards."

RMC Baccalaureate will be celebrated Friday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m., at First Presbyterian

Church, 2420 13th Street West.

The annual RMC President's Reception and Dinner -- with Bowers as honored guest -- is hosted by President Michael Mace and his wife, Karen, and raises money for scholarships. It will be held Saturday, May 7, in the Great Hall of Prescott Commons, beginning with the reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for this event are available through the RMC Development Office by calling Vicki Davison, director of alumni relations and annual fund, 406-657-1005. Tickets are \$50 per person.

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