

ACTOR, EDUCATOR, MIME ADDRESSES RMC COMMENCEMENT 2011

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS -- Actor, mime, and educator Mr. Bill Bowers returns to his alma mater to deliver this year's 129th Rocky Mountain College Commencement Address, May 7, 2011.

Mr. Bowers graduated summa cum laude from the College in 1981, and was that year's President's Cup winner. He earned a Master of Fine Arts Degree from Rutgers University before launching a career as a Broadway actor and mime. He studied under legendary mime, Marcel Marceau.

As an actor and mime, Mr. Bowers has performed throughout the U.S., 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 acclaim.

Mr. Bowers will premiere his new solo play, "Moving Pictures," in New York this fall. Billings Senior High Drama Department, which performed Mr. Bowers' play "Heyokah" in April, will 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. Mr. Bowers will perform his play, "It Goes Without Saying," in Billings, at Venture Theatre, April 25-27, with a gala performance April 28.

Mr. 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. Mr. 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."

Mr. Bowers presently teaches at New York University and the Neighborhood Playhouse, and presents master classes in mime and movement throughout the U.S. He is the recipient of the Glidden Fellowship at Ohio University, and the Artist of Eminence Fellowship at the University of Wyoming.

Mr. Bowers was a recipient of the RMC Alumni Association Outstanding Achievement Award in 1999. In 2001, Mr. Bowers received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from RMC.

Commencement begins at 1:00 p.m. in the Fortin Education Center.

Mr. Bowers will also be the guest speaker at the annual RMC President's Dinner, which begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m., in the Great Room of Prescott Hall.

Commencement is free and open to the public. The President's Dinner requires a ticket, available for \$75, and may be purchased by contacting Vicki Davison, RMC director of development, (406) 657-1005
[/vicki.davison@rocky.edu](mailto:vicki.davison@rocky.edu).

Other events scheduled during Commencement week include:

* Friday, May 6: Reception for Graduates and their families, hosted by President and Mrs. Mace, in The Great Room, Prescott Hall, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

* Friday, May 6: Baccalaureate, at First Presbyterian Church, 2420 13th Street West, 7:30 p.m.

* Saturday, May 7: Graduation Brunch for Graduates and their families, McDonald Commons, Bair Family Student Center, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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