

From: [News Services](#)
To: [Shelly L Armstrong](#); [Archive](#)
Subject: Ferris Theatre Announces Season
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Included below is a press release regarding Ferris State University Theatre's upcoming performance season. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

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Ferris Theatre kicks off year with 'Dead Man Walking'

BIG RAPIDS – This year's Ferris State University Theatre season looks at society from three different perspectives, beginning with the stage version of Tim Robbins' "Dead Man Walking." The series continues in January with the vice and folly of "Tartuffe" and ends in April with "The Full Monty."

"Dead Man Walking" is the emotional story of a convicted murderer on Death Row and Sr. Helen Prejean, a nun who befriends and counsels him. The play, written by Tim Robbins, prompts discussion and reflection on the death penalty as part of the Dead Man Walking School Theatre Project. The production runs Nov. 1 through 4.

Ferris Theatre's studio show this year is Moliere's biting comedy "Tartuffe," a controversial play in its time, banned from public performance for a number of years. The character of "Tartuffe" is a con who takes advantage of religious piety to line his pockets. The play is set in the realm of 17th century Parisian high society during the reign of King Louis XIV, yet such characters are still common in post modern society. Running Jan. 31 to Feb. 3, seating is on stage, creating an intimate theater experience.

This year's musical is "The Full Monty," the story of unemployed steelworkers, seeing how much their wives enjoy watching male strippers during their "Girls' Night Out," who come up with a bold way to make some quick cash. In the process they find renewed self-esteem, the importance of friendship and uncover their true potential. The show has great heart despite its racy connotations. "The Full Monty" will be presented April 10 through 13.

Ferris Theatre Director Katherine LaPietra is excited about this year's season, saying, "I'm looking forward to the intensity of "Dead Man Walking," the slapstick of "Tartuffe" and the bawdiness of "The Full Monty. It is going to be a very provocative and stimulating year."

All Ferris Theatre productions are held in G. Mennen Williams Auditorium. Tickets for "Dead Man Walking" go on sale Oct. 1. For more information, call (231) 591-5600.

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