A NOTE FROM PIECE OF MIND CO-DIRECTORS/EDITORS

Theatre is a powerful art form; it not only serves to entertain, but also often provokes emotions and sparks conversations and debates, and occasionally it asks the audience to consider under-represented individuals or issues. *Piece of Mind* falls into the last category. This project has been developed over five weeks with 18 curious, open-minded undergraduate and graduate actors who have taken the time to interview a wide variety of individuals whose lives have been affected by mental health issues—their own or those they love.

Some of these pieces are close to verbatim from the original interview. Other pieces are inspired by that meeting, or by issues that arose while working in class. This has been a powerful experience for us all. We are deeply indebted to the volunteers who were so open and generous in sharing their personal stories.

We hope that you will listen to the voices of these individuals and that their “truths” will help all of us rethink, reconsider and renew our own beliefs and practices that all people deserve respect and consideration.

—Cynthia Bassham and Jane Page

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORT BY

Entertainment Industries Council, Inc.
www.eiconline.org

National Alliance on Mental Illness
Orange County, CA
www.namioc.org

Community Volunteers • Congresswoman Grace Napolitano • Office of Community & Government Relations—Kathy Eiler • Claire Trevor School of the Arts—Interview Project Performers, Ian Daelucian, Dean Joseph Lewis, Gary Busby, Cynthia Bassham, Jane Page • Urban Confessional—Benjamin Mathes • Rachel Randall • Entertainment Industries Council (EIC)—Sabine Sighicelli, Scott Dorman, Kirwan Rockefeller • Office of the Vice Chancellor Student Affairs—Thomas Parham, Edgar Dormitorio, Cindy Love, Kevin Lam, Jean Lee • Robert Moeller • National Alliance on Mental Illness, Orange County—Steve Pitman, Traci Sturms • Student Center & Event Services—Sarah Prom, Erin Lane • Office of Campus Counsel—Kyhm Penfil • Materiel & Risk Management—Rachel Gamby, Nida Niravanth • Office of the AVC Wellness, Health & Counseling Services—Sheena Danesh, Jamie De Leon, Brenda Lapinid, Nancee Randall • Veteran Services—Adelí Durón, Veterans • Counseling Center—Jeanne Manese, Negar Shekarabi, Tina Romero, Peer Educators • Health Education Center—Doug Everhart, Jasmine Blackburn, ActiveMinds • Campus Assault Resources & Education—Mandy Mount, Zabie Khorakiwala, Winnie Tse • Videographers & Photographers—Kyle Good, Joseph Chavez, Kathia Rabelo • Hospitality & Dining Services • Guest & Event Services

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA • IRVINE
Wellness, Health & Counseling Services
and
Claire Trevor School of the Arts
present

PIECE of MIND

Performances addressing mental illness and its stigma
with summary remarks by
Congresswoman Grace Napolitano
California 32nd District

Friday, May 16, 2014 • 4:00 P.M.
UC Irvine Student Center • Pacific Ballroom C
PIECE OF MIND | Inspired by Congresswoman Napolitano’s dedication to increasing awareness of mental health issues, drama students interview and depict stories of UCI community members affected by mental illness.

For the drama students, the project is designed to help them think creatively and critically about their identities as individuals and artists, and how they fit into the larger picture of American society. For the volunteers, we hope the opportunity to tell their story will allow them to feel heard, and drop the veil of silence and shame that often accompanies mental health issues.

Through viewing the performances, audience members are invited to explore issues around stigma and “invisible” mental health challenges affecting people within their communities. Our intention is to use the medium of theater to reflect the diverse experiences of mental illness, as well as pathways to hope.

4PM—WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS
Marcelle Holmes, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Wellness, Health & Counseling Services

PERFORMANCES

Checking In ................................................................. Maribel Martinez
We Are All Those People ............................................ Craig Brauner
Twin Bridges .......................................................... Daniel Song
27 Reasons to Stay Alive ............................................. Grace Morrison
Trauma ................................................................. Leslie Yacopetti
Sutures ................................................................. Kevin Shewey
The Man in Me ....................................................... Cara Call
Drown ................................................................. Jessica Do
Anxiety ................................................................. Adam Schroeder
Defined ............................................................ Gillian Kelleher
Spring Quarter ...................................................... Jade Payton
Roommate Wanted ................................................ Claire Edmonds, performed by Kelly Doran
Parents Just Don’t Understand … Kelsey Jackson, performed by Grace Morrison
This IS Me ............................................................ Adam Schroeder
Not a Drop to Drink ................................................ Gillian Kelleher
The Need ............................................................. Kyle McCluney
Highs and Lows ...................................................... Jade Payton
To an Extent .......................................................... Craig Brauner
She Could Have Been Gone ................................. Tanya Thompson
Bird ................................................................. Leslie Yacopetti
Tattoo ................................................................. Kelly Doran
Tanda ................................................................. Misa Mooskeian
Mommy’s Lament .................................................. Blake Morris
Checking In... Again ............................................... Maribel Martinez

“We must continue to work toward erasing stigma and promote mental wellness so all who are suffering know it is okay to seek help.”
—Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (CA-32)

5PM—KEYNOTE: REPRESENTATIVE GRACE NAPOLITANO
Introduction: Thomas Parham, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

First elected to Congress in 1998, Rep. Napolitano is currently serving her eighth term. Her Los Angeles County-based district covers several cities and communities in the San Gabriel Valley and East Los Angeles County areas.

Along with Representative Tim Murphy (R-PA), Napolitano co-chairs the bipartisan Congressional Mental Health Caucus, where she promotes access to mental health for children and adolescents, improved mental health resources for veterans, and increased mental health coverage by insurance providers.

DISCUSSION PANEL

Moderator: Dr. Holmes

Panelists:

Robert Moeller, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of History
UC Irvine

Thomas Parham, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
UC Irvine

Steve Pitman
President, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Orange County

6PM—CLOSING & RECEPTION

Please join us outside Pacific Ballroom for a light reception following the event.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR GENEROUSLY GIVING THEIR TIME, SHARING THEIR STORIES AND HELPING TO START THIS IMPORTANT CONVERSATION.