

Lifeline Benefit “Mystery³” Features Chicago Mystery Writers
Sara Paretsky, Sean Chercover and Julie Hyzy
With Limited Ticket VIP Book-Signing Reception and
Special “New Sayers Story Endings” Performance
On April 16, 2009, at the Chicago Cultural Center

WHAT: Chicago mystery writers Sara Paretsky, Sean Chercover and Julie Hyzy will appear at Lifeline Theatre's 26th Anniversary Benefit, called “*Mystery³*” (or “Mystery Cubed”), to sign copies of their books and meet with their fans during a special VIP champagne reception. The evening also includes a live performance of a classic Dorothy L. Sayers short story “*The Man With No Face*” by the Lifeline ensemble, featuring three fascinating new endings for this Lord Peter Wimsey mystery penned by Paretsky, Chercover and Hyzy, each in their own signature styles. Classic Chicago food will be provided by Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, and dessert by Eli's Cheesecake.

The evening will also feature a “very mysterious” silent auction, with items including:

- Ft. Lauderdale travel package (airfare for two and one week in a luxury condo)
- Samsung 40” high definition LCD TV (with installation)
- Magellan Maestro 4350 GPS 4.3
- iPod Nano
- Cubs and White Sox tickets
- Downtown Chicago hotel/dinner/theatre packages (including Hotel Allegro Chicago/Lettuce Entertain You/Chicago Shakespeare Theater)
- Museum passes (MCA, Field, Science & Industry, Chicago Architecture Foundation)
- Photo session with Suzanne Plunkett
- Acting and music classes (Acting Studio Chicago, Old Town School of Folk Music)
- Theatre tickets (Remy Bumpo, Eclipse, House, Goodman Theatre)

WHERE: Chicago Cultural Center
78 E. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602

WHEN: Thursday, April 16, 2009, 6:30-10 p.m.
VIP Champagne Reception from 6-7 p.m.

TICKETS: Publish this number – 773-761-4477, Lifeline Theatre Box Office
\$100 advance purchase; \$135 at the door
\$200 includes VIP Champagne Reception with the mystery authors from 6-7p.m. –
this reception is limited to 40 tickets only, so please purchase early

BIOS: Sara Paretsky is the award-winning creator of the V.I. Warshawski detective novels. When Paretsky introduced V.I. in *Indemnity Only* in 1982, she revolutionized the mystery novel by creating a female investigator who uses her wits as well as her fists, and challenged a genre in which women were traditionally either vamps or victims. Paretsky first came to Chicago in 1966 to do community service work in the same neighborhood where Martin Luther King was organizing. She has always felt that that summer changed her life forever, and when she finished her undergraduate degree at the University of Kansas, she came back to make Chicago her home. She received a Ph.D. in American History, an MBA from the University of Chicago, and founded “Sisters in Crime” in 1986 to support women readers and writers in the mystery world. To give back to the community, Paretsky established the Sara and Two C-Dogs Foundation, which primarily supports girls and women in the arts, letters, and sciences.

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Paretsky has endowed several scholarships at the University of Kansas, and has mentored students in Chicago's inner city schools. She serves on the advisory boards of Literature for All of Us, a literacy group for teen moms, and Thresholds, which serves Chicago's mentally-ill homeless. Paretsky has received numerous awards, including the Diamond Dagger for Lifetime Achievement from the British Crime Writers Association, the Gold Dagger for best novel for her book Blacklist, and the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from several different universities. Her books have been translated into almost 30 languages.

Sean Chercover is the acclaimed author of Big City, Bad Blood and Trigger City, both set in Chicago and featuring private detective Ray Dudgeon. Formerly a private investigator in the Windy City and the Big Easy, Chercover has since written for film, television, and print. He's held a motley assortment of other jobs over the years, including video editor, scuba diver, nightclub magician, encyclopedia salesman, waiter, and truck driver.

Julie Hyzy is the author of the White House Chef mystery series, as well as other award-winning mystery novels and stories. Her heroine, White House Chef Olivia Parras, feeds the First Family and saves the world in her spare time. Hyzy had dreams of becoming a writer but family friends and her frat brothers at Loyola University's chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, convinced her otherwise. Having since held positions as junior officer at a bank, office manager at an architectural firm and financial advisor at a wealth management company, she realizes that the business degree was probably a good choice. But with some well-earned life experience behind her, she's delighted to finally make writing a priority in her life.

ALSO: Lifeline's 2008-2009 MainStage season concludes with "*Busman's Honeymoon*" from May 1–June 21, 2009. KidSeries shows conclude with the family musical "*Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle*" from March 14 – May 3, 2009.

Lifeline's 9th annual summer drama camp will run July 13–24, 2009, where the theatre's professional artists teach drama skills to ages 7-12 that emphasize self-esteem building, artistry and teamwork in an atmosphere of mutual encouragement and respect. For information and to register, call 773-761-4477.

The 8th Annual Glenwood Avenue Arts Festival will run August 22-23, 2009, and takes place on 6900 – 7000 North Glenwood Avenue (between Farwell and Lunt), and the 1400 block of Morse Avenue, steps from the Morse Ave stop on the CTA Red Line, with free parking nearby. This popular Northside festival features arts and crafts, theater, music, food and drink for the whole family on the brick streets of historic Rogers Park. Artist applications and information at 773-761-4477 x701 and www.GlenwoodAve.org

INFO: Theatre marketing info – Robert Kauzlaric, Marketing Director
773-761-4477 x704, rob@lifelinetheatre.com
Lifeline Theatre's programs are partially supported by **The Albert Pick, Jr. Fund; Alphawood Foundation; The Arts Work Fund; Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation; The Chicago Community Trust; CityArts 3 grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs; Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; The Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Grover Hermann Foundation; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Mayer and Morris Kaplan Family Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture and the Prince Charitable Trust; The Polk Bros. Foundation; S&C Foundation;** and the annual support of **businesses and individuals.**

MISSION: Now in its 26th season, Lifeline Theatre is known for specializing in original literary adaptations. Its ensemble of artists uses imaginative, unconventional staging to portray sprawling stories in an intimate space. Lifeline is committed to promoting the arts in its Rogers Park neighborhood and is an anchor of the Glenwood Avenue Arts District. We aspire to create art that is relevant to our culturally diverse, increasingly youthful neighborhood. Lifeline Theatre – Big Stories, Up Close.

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