



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 30, 2011

Contact: Lesley Greene, Associate Producing Director, 607-272-0403, lesley@kitchentheatre.org

Kitchen Theatre Job Creation Program Gets Going

Four "Next Steps" trainees hired

The Kitchen Theatre Company's "Next Steps" job creation and training program has begun. The four trainees (Ruthy Lorenzana, Savannah Burdette, G-Quan Booker, and Julissa Avedevo) started at the Kitchen just in time to work on the upcoming show—IRMA VEP by Charles Ludlam, running Nov 30-Dec 18. This program, funded through a grant from the Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency, is an entry-level, 22- to 30-hours-per-week position. Trainees will learn and develop skills required for front of house management, audience services and community outreach. They will also have opportunities to work in other aspects of the theater's operation. Mentor and Director of Audience Services and Community Programs Rachel Burttram says, "We were thrilled with the response to our postings for these positions. Many people in the community helped us in finding the four young people selected. We're getting off to a great start, and I am personally so excited to be working with these energetic and committed young people. I anticipate they will make important contributions to the daily operation of the Kitchen Theatre and be wonderful ambassadors to the community. I hope everyone who comes to the Kitchen will make a point of introducing themselves to our new trainees."

Kitchen Theatre patrons will be greeted by Ruthy, Savannah, G-Quan, and Julissa most performance nights at the Kitchen. "We enjoyed our first staff meeting with our new staffers and look forward to the exciting potential this program offers," says Stephen Nunley, Kitchen Theatre Company Managing Director. Artistic Director Rachel Lampert adds, "Many thanks to the Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency for helping us get this program started."