

Futures Theatre Company presents

***Fear to Bully***

Norwich Playhouse

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2006 at 1:00pm & 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2006 at 10:00am & 1:00pm

“Stunning, very powerful” Anti-bullying Alliance

Following its sell out London success last year, Futures Theatre Company are now nationally touring their forum theatre production *Fear To Bully* written by Kerry Brabant. Aimed at ages 10 – 13 this powerful interactive play equips young people with the skills and confidence needed to deal with bullying.

Using a combination of dance, performance, fashion and art *Fear to Bully* tells the story of Jules, a happy and confident young girl whose life is destroyed by bullying when she starts a new school. This moving performance is accompanied with a forum workshop, allowing the audience to get involved as actors or directors in order to change the course of events and triumph over Jules’ tormentors, giving the audience an invaluable opportunity to ‘rehearse for life’.

Futures Theatre Company have a long record of creating high quality drama, tackling cutting edge social issues and dealing with poignant, real stories that affect young people and their families. This work has led to Futures working with acclaimed writers such as Andrea Ashworth whose brilliant autobiography, *Once in a House on Fire*, was adapted for the stage by Brabant and toured to theatres and schools throughout the UK in 2001 and 2002 to great acclaim.

Futures are not afraid to deal with serious topics head on and *Fear to Bully* is no exception. Focusing on the destructive nature of bullying the play explores the insidious nature of text and cyber bullying and how the use of it creates feelings of isolation and persecution.

The tour, which coincides with National Anti-Bullying week 2006, hopes to help raise awareness as bullying has never been a bigger or more crucial issue; it is estimated that 16 to 21 children commit suicide because of bullying every year, and 50% of pupils experience some form of bullying every term.

Having already reached over 3,000 young people across London with its message of self belief in overcoming obstacles *Fear to Bully* hopes to reach as many children as possible around the UK during their autumn tour.

For further information/images/interview please contact Futures Theatre Company on 020 7928 2832 or email: [info@futurestheatrecompany.co.uk](mailto:info@futurestheatrecompany.co.uk)

Fear to Bully is funded by Arts Council England, the national development agency for the arts, through its Grants for the arts programme for individuals and organisations.

**For tickets to Norwich Playhouse please ring the box office (based at the Theatre Royal) on 01603 598 598.**

**All tickets £4. For ages 10 – 13.**

**One hour show followed by a short interval and a 40 minute forum workshop.**