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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Mary's University College Drama Present's "A Wilder Evening: Two Plays by Thornton Wilder"

Directed by Joe-Norman Shaw and Lindsay Dawn Tingley

Set and lights design by Brad Leavit

Tuesday, April 2 – Thursday, April 4th at 7:00pm

St. Mary's University College Campus

Calgary, AB (March 26, 2013) – Drama students at St. Mary's University College explore the universal human experience with great humour and pathos, posing timeless questions about the meaning of love, life and death in their upcoming production of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*.

In this tale about life in the mystical village of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, an ensemble cast of nineteen students and two stage managers explore the lives of people living in a small, quintessentially American town.

Drama students will also put on Wilder's delightful one-act, *Queens of France* directed by Lindsay Dawn Tingley, veteran of the St. Mary's Drama Program.

"Ultimately, *Our Town* inspires us to appreciate each moment of our daily lives; to know how precious each moment and each person in our lives truly is," said Drama Instructor Joe-Norman Shaw. "It's an important message for our busy times- one we hope that everyone will take to heart."

Joe-Norman Shaw, an acclaimed actor/director and co-founder of Company of Rogues Actors Studio in Calgary, has worked with an eager contingent of students since assuming the role of drama instructor at St. Mary's in September 2011.

"This is my second year as Director of the St. Mary's Drama Program and it's been exciting to build on the momentum of last year's production of Tina Howe's *Museum*," he said. "My vision for this program is to provide students with some practical hands-on experience of the acting process in the fall term that they can apply to a Winter Production for a live audience."

A Wilder Evening Opens Tuesday, April 2 at 7:00pm in Fr. Michael J. McGivney Hall on the St. Mary's University College campus, 14500 Bannister Road SE. The production offers a performance on Wednesday, April 3rd and Thursday, April 4th at 7:00pm as well. Tickets are \$21.50 for Adults and \$16.50 Students & Seniors and available at www.stmu.ca/drama, from the St. Mary's bookstore, or at the door.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic post-secondary, liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution open to students of all faiths and traditions. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree and university courses in 34 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ca.

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