

# DAILY TARGUM

## Celebrating theatre all 365 days of the year

Joy Pressman, *Daily Targum*

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Media Credit: Randy Illum/Associate Photography Editor  
Actress Cory Egreczky, a member of the Cabaret Theatre, performs a scene from "Santa Ana." The short play is one of 365 plays that are part of a nationwide festival. The Cabaret Theatre, located on Douglass campus, is performing Week 12 of the year-long project.

It takes some playwrights months to write plays. For others, it may even take a year or more. How difficult must it be to write a play in a single day, or better yet, to write a play every day for an entire year?

"365 days/365 plays," a unique series of plays chronicling writer Suzan-Lori Parks' quest to write a new, original play every day, opened its week-long stay at the University Monday and will run through Feb. 4 at the Cabaret Theatre on Douglass campus.

In November 2002, Parks, a Pulitzer-prize winner, had the idea to write a play each day for the next calendar year. She stayed true to her goal, and completed one play every day from Nov. 13, 2002 to Nov. 12, 2003. The plays themselves varied in length, with some being shorter than a page.

News of Park's accomplishment spread, and as a result the 365 National Festival was formed. The 365 Festival,

which is co-produced by Parks, established a mission to perform each of Parks' plays on the day it was written. To do this, however, they needed the support of artists across the nation. According to the project's Web site, [365days365plays.com](http://365days365plays.com), the Festival set up 15 regional networks. Community groups inside the hubs volunteered to help perform one week of Parks' plays each.

The 365 National Festival began performing the plays on Nov. 13, 2006, the same day Parks wrote her first play. The project will run through Nov. 12 of this year, when Parks' last play will be performed.

The Cabaret Theatre on Douglass campus is performing Week 12 of the 365 Festival.

Monday's show began with "The 2nd Constant (Action in Inaction)," a play about a person in mourning.

Another notable play featured was titled "If I Had to Murder Me Someone," which featured an artist in handcuffs musing over the idea of murder. Other pieces included "Turtle Soup," in which a couple ate a soup consisting of live turtle because there weren't any matches or a fire to prepare them.

An interesting facet to the performance was the singing performances that were featured between each play. In addition, the singers also served as a stage crew, aiding in setting up the minimal props that were used throughout the whole production.

**Celebrating theatre all 365 days of the year** (continued)

The last piece, called "The 3rd Constant (Inaction in Action)," consisted of an alarm clock buzzing while each of the actors performed different tasks including ironing, eating cereal, and painting a wall. The piece went on to have the artists interacting with the audience members by offering them cereal and sitting with them. The audience sat there, slightly bewildered, as the production came to a close.

Daniel Swern, who had to apply to take part in the 365 Festival, directed the Cabaret Theatre's production. The performances will change from evening to evening, with different artists, direction styles and dynamics. Through the constantly changing atmosphere, the plays will hopefully provide a different experience to each audience.

The plays, which are free and open to the public, will be performed each day at different student centers throughout this week. The complete set of the plays will be performed every night at the Cabaret Theatre at 8 p.m. The theatre is located on the corner of Nichols Street and Suydam Street on Douglass campus.