

PINE VIEW HIGH PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

HUEBENER

Pine View High School Presents HUEBENER

ST. GEORGE, UT—In a rare opportunity, southern Utah residents will have a chance to witness the high school premier of a truly moving historical drama when the Pine View High School Theatre Department presents HUEBENER.

HUEBENER (a true story) is the powerful real-life drama about a young LDS teenager, Helmuth Huebener, who started and led the Nazi youth resistance movement in Hamburg Germany in 1941. The risk Huebener and his friends took on was perilous. Author Thomas F. Rogers wrote, "By 1941 Hitler's Nazi regime had seized unbelievable control over the German people, dictating what they read, what they said—even what they believed. A whispered criticism of the Nazi Party could lead to a Gestapo interrogation and prison."

The play chronicles the dangerous and intricate story of how three young men carefully distributed flyers throughout Hamburg denouncing Hitler and his propaganda machine.

Some considered Huebener's resistance to the Nazi's foolhardy, others viewed it as treacherous and morally wrong, but in his heart and through his deep religious convictions Huebener felt he had to stand for what he knew to be true.

Pine View will be the first high school to present this powerful drama, but the story has been the subject of several literary, theatrical and documentary works including a first hand account written by Huebener's accomplice Karl-Heinz Schnibbe titled: "When Truth was Treason," which later became a documentary featured on PBS. The play has been performed at several locations including Dixie State College in 2005, and Brigham Young University. Schnibbe and Heubener's other accused friend Rudi Wobbe attended the BYU performances.

Pine View has showcased a string of entertaining and award winning productions and Director Ani Rogers says HUEBENER will keep that string in tact. "Of all the shows I have directed, this production is the one I am most excited about," she said.

"Producing theatre like this truly changes the lives of the actors and all those involved," said Rogers. "It has been very meaningful to watch cast members go deeper to answer some of the difficult questions that the show brings to light. I am proud of their tender hearts and their desires to bring honor to the story and the lives it revolves around. I really feel lucky to have found this story and to have the opportunity to present it on stage."

The plays author is planning to attend on opening night and that makes the director even more excited. "Having the playwright here will bring even more meaning to the students who are involved in the production – and that is one of the key purposes of high school theatre," she said. "This show connects students and audiences to history. It deepens our understanding of the trying circumstances and decisions in our world. The storyline will challenge us to honestly and fully consider where we stand and what we are willing to fight for."

HUEBENER will be staged in an intimate theatre setting with limited seating. The play opens Wednesday February 19 at 7:30pm and runs through Feb. 22 on the stage at Pine View High School. Tickets are \$8.00 each and can be purchased using the link found online at the www.pineviewtheatre.org main page.

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