

Paul Green Foundation

NEWS – February 2016



The Paul Green Foundation is participating in the **Pulitzer's 100th Anniversary in 2016**. Humanities Councils around the country are working in collaboration "to highlight the way Pulitzer Prize-winning journalism, literature and drama record, analyze, critique and therefore impact our world."

On **April 4, 2016**, Green's 1926 *In Abraham's Bosom* will be performed as a staged reading at the **Paul Green Theatre at 7 p.m.** A panel discussion will follow the reading. Two UNC English professors will introduce Green's play in their classes – playwriting and Southern Literature. The Sonja Haynes Stone Center on campus will partner with the Foundation as will the UNC Department of Drama.



Marsha Warren at the New York Public Library researching pictures from the 1926 production of In Abraham's Bosom.

The play's original Broadway run premiered on December 30, 1926, at the Provincetown Playhouse in New York City. It starred Charles Sidney Gilpin as Abraham, an African-American farmer from North Carolina whose efforts at self-improvement are thwarted by segregation.

The story opens in and near the Turpentine Woods in Eastern North Carolina in the summer of 1885.

Green received the **Pulitzer Prize for Drama** in 1927. The play was included in Burns Mantle's *The Best Plays of 1926-1927*.



Darryl Hunt to Receive Paul Green Award

The 2016 Liberty Awards Protecting Democracy will be held on Saturday, April 2 at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. This annual award is given by the Paul Green Foundation and the ACLU of North Carolina to an individual or organization working to limit or abolish the death penalty.

At 19 years old, Darryl Hunt was arrested, charged and convicted of a 1984 North Carolina murder he didn't commit. Although DNA results proved his innocence in 1994, it took another 10 years of legal appeals to exonerate him.



In 2005, Hunt founded the Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the public about criminal justice reform opportunities, advocating for the wrongfully convicted, and providing resources to support individuals who were recently released from prison. ACLU-NC info: (919) 834-3466

PGF Position on the Death Penalty

The Foundation's opposition to the death penalty mirrors that of Paul Green. In a 1945 letter to then Governor R. Gregg Cherry, who had just commuted a capital case for mental illness reasons, Green states his opinion very clearly:

"...I'm opposed to capital punishment on any ground, for it is part and parcel of the old Mosaic Law and of a perverse and pessimistic philosophy of mankind. I will not live to see it, but perhaps my children will – the relegation of such instruments as the electric chair, the gas chamber (the pellet and the bowl) relegated to the museum as an inspiration to a new age and a warning to our young people as to the blindness in which a former generation walked."

Paul Green Foundation
Marsha Warren, Director

P.O. Box 2624, Chapel Hill, NC 27515

(919) 942-6434

paulgreenfdn@gmail.com; www.paulgreen.org