



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### Public Relations

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Contact: Tommiea P. Jackson  
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Administration Tower, Second Floor  
Post Office Box 17490  
Jackson, MS 39217  
Fax: (601) 979-5833  
Phone: (601) 979-2950  
(601) 979-2272  
Cellular: (601) 503-5749  
Web: [www.jsums.edu](http://www.jsums.edu)  
Email: [tommiea.p.jackson@jsums.edu](mailto:tommiea.p.jackson@jsums.edu)

### **Award-winning play ‘Fences’ to be performed at Jackson State University**

(JACKSON, Miss.) — Jackson State University will present “Fences,” August Wilson’s Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning Broadway play, Oct. 4-9 at Rose Embly McCoy Auditorium.

“Fences” is a story about a Pittsburgh garbage collector who, in the 1950s, was denied entry into baseball’s major leagues because he was black. The experience, coupled with lifelong struggles and discrimination, causes the main character, Troy Maxon, to erect emotional fences to distance himself from those close to him.

The department of speech communication and theater chose this play to remember the life and celebrate the work of Wilson, who died in 2005 at the age of 60.

“I believe any theater group who claims to have an African-American approach as their focus should pay tribute to him,” says Mark Henderson, director of theater at Jackson State. “He was one of our greatest black playwrights.”

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for senior citizens and students with IDs.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4; 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5; 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7; 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 8; and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9.

For more information, call 601-979-8612, e-mail [nadia.c.bodie@jsums.edu](mailto:nadia.c.bodie@jsums.edu) or visit <http://www.jsums.edu/~announcements/9.24fences.pdf>

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#### **About Jackson State University**

Jackson State University, founded in 1877, is a historically black, high research activity university located in Jackson, the capital city of the state of Mississippi. Jackson State’s nurturing academic environment challenges individuals to change lives through teaching, research and service. Officially designated as Mississippi’s Urban University, Jackson State continues to enhance the state, nation and world through comprehensive economic development, health-care, technological and educational initiatives. The only university in the Jackson metropolitan area, Jackson State is located near downtown, with three satellite campuses throughout the city. For more information, visit [www.jsums.edu](http://www.jsums.edu).