

Birth & Beyond

Advocates for Woman Centered Healthcare

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Cincinnati Gets BOLD to Promote Childbirth Choices for Mothers with Performances of the Play BIRTH

JULY 16, 2008, CINCINNATI - Birth & Beyond: Advocates for Woman Centered Healthcare and BOLD, the global movement to create childbirth choices that work for mothers, collaboratively bring together artists, community groups and childbirth leaders for BOLD Performance events to bring the issue of childbirth choices for mothers center stage in Cincinnati. Performances of playwright/BOLD founder Karen Brody's play *Birth* will take place on August 29 and 30 at 7:30pm and August 31 at 2pm at The Know Theatre located at 1120 Jackson Street downtown.

Birth is a critically-acclaimed documentary-style play that tells the birth stories of eight women, painting a picture of how low-risk, educated mothers are giving birth today. Hailed "The Vagina Monologues for birth" by women's health expert Christiane Northrup, MD, over 100 performances of the play *Birth* are happening in cities across America over Labor Day weekend and the month of September to raise awareness and money for childbirth choices that work for mothers. Proceeds from performances of *Birth* in Cincinnati will go to Birth & Beyond to assist their mission of providing education and resources to women on healthcare options in the greater Cincinnati area.

"Through BOLD we have seen how art can influence change. The time is now to be bold and make childbirth choices work for mothers, to create a movement that supports birth choices and helps women access the powerful experience available to them when giving birth," stated BOLD founder Karen Brody.

Since BOLD's founding in 2006, education about the issue of choices in childbirth - through watching the play *Birth* and the post-show talkback - has been at the heart of BOLD's efforts. Locally, post-performance BOLD talkback panelists are expected to include local midwives, physicians, nurses, doulas, childbirth educators and more.

Tickets for *Birth* are \$15 in advance, \$12 students and seniors, and \$18 at the door. Ticket sales begins August 1st and are available through www.birthnbeyond.org or by calling 513.300.KNOW(5669). The Cincinnati production is sponsored by USBank.

A paperback edition of the play, including a foreword by Dr. Christiane Northrup and emails and stories from BOLD locations, will be available in August 2008.

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BOLD is a global arts-based movement to create childbirth choices that work for mothers. To learn more about BOLD, visit www.boldaction.org.