

For Immediate Release

Contact:

John Fries
412.760.2299
johnfries@comcast.net

Legendary Mirabal sisters, whose story will be told in Prime Stage Theatre's production "In the Time of the Butterflies" next month, featured on segment of "Badass Women in History" web series

Daughter of opposition leader, Minou Tavárez Mirabal to visit Pittsburgh March 8 - 10

(PITTSBURGH, PA - February 21, 2019) Minerva, Maria Teresa and Pátria Mirabal, the teenage sisters who went from living comfortable middle-class lives in the Dominican Republic in the 1950s to starting and leading a revolt against brutal dictator Rafael Trujillo using the code name "the Butterflies," have had their story told as part of the online documentary series "Badass Women in History."

The video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/hhdxHnau2FA>

Previously, the series featured Joan of Arc and Boudica, a Celtic queen who led a revolt against Roman occupation in Britannia in 60 or 61 AD.

The Mirabal sisters' story is told in Julia Alvarez' 1999 historical novel "In the Time of the Butterflies" and, in a 2001 film starring Salma Hayek as Minerva, the leader of the movement against Trujillo. Today the sisters are considered folk heroes in the Dominican Republic for the courage they demonstrated in fighting Trujillo's oppressive regime.

Mirabal sisters inspired United Nation to establish each November 25 as International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women

In 1960, the three Mirabal sisters were executed. In 1999, in the sisters' honor, the United Nations General Assembly designed each November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The day marks a 16-day period of activism against gender violence that ends on December 10, International Human Rights Day.

Prime Stage's Regional Premiere of "In the Time of the Butterflies," March 8 - 17, 2019, presented through a grant from the NEA Big Read

From March 9 to 17, Prime Stage Theatre will present the stage adaptation of "In the Time of the Butterflies" at the New Hazlett Theater Center for the Performing Arts. The professionally staged production features a Latinx cast directed by Ricardo Vila-Roger, an artist-in-residence of Caribbean descent at the University of Pittsburgh.

The production is being presented as part of the National Endowment of the Arts' Big Read and is accompanied by several community programs being held in February and March. Prime Stage's 2018-2019 season has been designated as the "Season of Courage."

Minerva's daughter, Dominican elected official and author, Minou Tavárez Mirabal, To meet Prime Stage audiences and local students

During the production's opening weekend, Prime Stage is delighted to announce that Minerva's daughter, Minou Tavárez Mirabal, will provide an opening night keynote address following the performance, then meet with audience members at a post-show reception.

Minou, an attorney, author and former elected official in the Dominican Republic, is herself a prominent figure in the Dominican Republic.

While in town, she will also visit three local schools to meet with students and attend a Sunday brunch and post-show discussion with audiences to be held in her honor that will be moderated by former WTAE-TV news anchor Sally Wiggin.

Additional information, as well as tickets for performances and the reception and brunch with Minou, are available at **www.primestage.com**.