

# Extremities

Wendy Raquel Robinson is filling some pretty big shoes. As the lead in the play, "Extremities," she takes on a role that has been played by the likes of Oscar-winner Susan Sarandon and the late Farrah Fawcett, who also starred in a 1986 film based on William Mastrosimone's play.

Best known for her ability to generate laughs on sitcoms like "The Steve Harvey Show," and movies like "Something New," "Two Can Play That Game" and "Miss Congeniality," Howard University graduate Robinson shows her dramatic side in "Extremities," which has garnered its fair share of controversy since it was first staged more than two decades ago.

The story centers around a beautiful, young woman who turns the table on an attacker who breaks into the home that she shares with two roommates. But before she gets the upper hand, she is subjected to mental and physical abuse. She returns the favor after overpowering him and contemplates going even further.

**Aug. 4 at 8 p.m.  
Aug. 5 at 3 & 8 p.m.  
at the Summit School**

**Ticket Price: \$40**

Dorien Wilson, who plays the attacker, is also an actor best known for his comedic roles. He played Professor Oglevee on the hit series "The Parkers," a role that won him an NAACP Award for Best Supporting Actor in Comedy Series. Those with long memories may remember Wilson for his role as womanizer Eddie Charles on HBO's landmark series "Dream On," a show that paved the way for racy fare like "Sex in the City."

Wilson, Robinson and Marcus Joseph produce the play through their Amador Productions. It is directed by Brent Jennings, a well-respected actor who has had roles in the HBO films "A Lesson before Dying," "The Soul of the Game," "Don King: Only in America" and "Boycott."

Actress Denise Dowse co-stars in the show. She is perhaps best known as a stage director. She won an NAACP Theatre Award for her 1995 directing debut, "Long Time Since Yesterday." Many more NAACP Awards came after that, including another Best Director honor for Malcolm Jamal-Warner's "Love & Other Social Issues." Dowse, who is also a well-known acting coach, also has film and television credits on her extensive resume, including roles in "Coach Carter" and "Beverly Hills 90210."

Gigi Bolden rounds out the cast. The actress' credits include "General Hospital" and "The Bernie Mac Show." She brought her praised one-woman show "Ugly" to the 2005 National Black Theatre Festival. As a playwright, Bolden received an NAACP nomination for "Vanities, Applause, Feelings." Elle Johnson, who has worked on numerous stage productions and independent films, serves as stage manager.

Robinson is an NBTF veteran, having starred in several festival productions over the years. Two years ago, she starred alongside Wilson, Dowse, Michael Beech and Tommy Ford in "South of Where We Live."

- The Chronicle



Wendy  
Raquel Robinson



Dorien  
Wilson



Director Brent Jennings, State manager Elle Johnson and  
actresses Denise Dowse and Gigi Bolden