“Spoon River Anthology” comes to life at RCC

The Rogue Community College Theater Arts program will present Edgar Lee Masters’ classic “Spoon River Anthology,” March 11-14, as its Riverside Campus winter production.

“Spoon River” is based on the inhabitants of the small Midwestern town and river valley of Masters’ youth. The production features 24 RCC acting students along with former Oregon Shakespeare Festival actor Jimmy Garcia.

Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8 p.m., a Sunday matinee is scheduled at 2 p.m., and a final show is set for 2:30 p.m. Monday. Performances will be in H Building, located at the corner of Ninth and Bartlett. Tickets are available for a $4 donation at the door or by calling 245-7520.

Instructors John Cole and Ron Danko have created the script by selecting and adapting 60 monologues from Masters’ original “Spoon River Anthology,” first published in 1915, and from his later work titled “The New Spoon River,” which came out in 1924.

“We will begin on The Hill, where the spirits from the grave will bring us back to the living and reveal their concealed values, motives, and actions through unflinching self-reflection on life,” Cole said. “The result is an unforgettable portrayal of a small American town and the painful clash of conflicting values in American life.”

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