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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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### **"Phallacies" explores masculinity, messages, misinformation**

AMHERST, Mass. – For more than 25 years, UMass Amherst students have gotten the facts about sex at performances of the peer education theatre troupe the Not Ready for Bedtime Players (NRBP). But this month, facts will share the stage with Phallacies!

The NRBP's April 22 show marks the debut of Phallacies, a performance ensemble focusing on masculinity. The act examines the messages and misinformation men receive, and their impact on personal and community health.

Tom Schiff, Ed.D., group coordinator and a University Health Services (UHS) health educator, explained that Phallacies began as part of a men's health practicum, but may continue beyond this semester's performance. "As the opening act for the Players, we're performing for an audience that's engaged and interested in health. Our intention is to stimulate ongoing conversation about what it means to be a man, and to do so in an entertaining way that has the potential to grow and evolve."

In addition to guiding the group, Schiff is also among its cast; other members are Dennis Canty, Boris Domantovsky, Jamie Lyon, Taj Smith, Roy Ribitzky, Chris Watkins and Alex Weiner.

The show begins at 8 p.m. at the Washington residence hall, followed by a full-length performance by the NRBP. Each semester, the NRBP brings their funny, sexy, moving show to locations on and off the UMass campus. The spring schedule includes performances April 8, on the 19th floor of Coolidge; April 15 in Johnson basement; April 29 at Van Meter; and May 6, on the lawn at the Durfee Conservatory. The current cast includes students Jeff Bielat, Shauna Burke, Nick Delaney, James Dean Fetcho, Rachel Frank, Brendan Nelson, Malcolm Pradia, Christine Renaud, Adrianna Rosembert and Kenny Vasques.

UHS, UMass Amherst's fully accredited health center, serves students, faculty and staff. The center offers comprehensive care, referral and education services, with a special focus on the health needs and concerns of students. For more information, visit [www.umass.edu/uhs](http://www.umass.edu/uhs), or call (413) 577-5000.