

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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*****NEWS ADVISORY*****

**Actors Elizabeth Marvel and Reed Birney to raise the curtain in NIDA's
Addiction Performance Project**

Elizabeth Marvel and Reed Birney will lead an impressive cast in the [Addiction Performance Project](#), an innovative continuing medical education (CME) program for doctors and other health providers, on October 20 in Philadelphia, Pa. The performance is a project of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health, and is designed to help doctors and other health professionals better identify and help drug-abusing patients in primary care settings, and to break down the stigma associated with drug addiction.



Actors Elizabeth Marvel and Reed Birney

The program will begin with a dramatic reading of Act III of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night*, with Elizabeth Marvel reading the part of Mary Tyrone, the morphine addicted matriarch of a family devastated by addiction. Ms. Marvel joins other notable leading ladies, including Dianne Wiest, Debra Winger, Blythe Danner, and Kathryn Erbe, in reading this role as part of the Addiction Performance Project. The reading will be followed by an expert panel reaction and facilitated audience discussion to explore the challenges for providers in working with addicted patients and the experience of these patients and their families. The performance is free, although conference registration is required.

WHAT: NIDA's Addiction Performance Project

WHEN: Saturday, October 20, 2012, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Scientific Assembly
Pennsylvania Convention Center, 114
1101 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
www.paconvention.com/explore-philadelphia/directions-and-parking

Registration is required. Members of the media who wish to attend should contact media@nida.nih.gov.

WHO: Featured Actors (subject to change)
Elizabeth Marvel (Mary Tyrone)
Reed Birney (James Tyrone)
Bob Braswell (Edmund Tyrone)
Julianna Zinkel (Cathleen)

Featured Panel Members

Russell Breish, M.D. (Fellow, AAFP; Chestnut Hill Hospital)

Lee Carter, M.D. (Fellow, AAFP; University of Tennessee)

Leonard Reeves, M.D. (Fellow, AAFP; Medical College, Georgia Health Sciences University)

Lisa Soldat, M.D. (Fellow, AAFP; Broadlawns Medical Center Family Health Center)

Moderator:

Jack Stein, Ph.D., Director of NIDA's Office of Science Policy and Communications

This presentation of NIDA's Addiction Performance Project is in cooperation with AAFP's Scientific Assembly CME program. The project is part of [NIDAMED](#), NIDA's outreach to practicing physicians, physicians in training, and other health professionals. The Addiction Performance Project has a limited run through 2013. For more information, visit: www.drugabuse.gov/nidamed/APP.

Follow Addiction Performance Project news on Twitter at [@NIDANews](#), or join the conversation by using: #nidaAPP.

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The National Institute on Drug Abuse is a component of the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIDA supports most of the world's research on the health aspects of drug abuse and addiction. The Institute carries out a large variety of programs to inform policy and improve practice. Fact sheets on the health effects of drugs of abuse and information on NIDA research and other activities can be found on the NIDA home page at www.drugabuse.gov, which is now compatible with your smartphone, iPad or tablet. To order publications in English or Spanish, call NIDA's DrugPubs research dissemination center at 1-877-NIDA-NIH or 240-645-0228 (TDD) or fax or email requests to 240-645-0227 or drugpubs@nida.nih.gov. Online ordering is available at <http://drugpubs.drugabuse.gov>. NIDA's media guide can be found at <http://drugabuse.gov/mediaguide/>, and its new easy-to-read website can be found at www.easyread.drugabuse.gov.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH): NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov.

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