The Stories

Dancing with Jimmy

The cliffs of the Black Hills inspire exploration and stupidity. What does a cold night trapped on a treacherous mountain teach about camaraderie, deliverance, and faith? (45 min)

Christians can be Sneaky

As a teenager, Hubbard was forced to attend church. He fought back with every weapon he had. Can mandatory church attendance reveal God? Or is it only a prison? (30 min)

John, Dad and Me

A bond between father and son emerges when the Denver Broncos sign a cocky young quarterback named John Elway. In this comic and tender monologue, Hubbard searches for redemption in broken relationships, losing seasons and one transcendent Sunday in San Diego. (25 min)

Blizzards, Floods and Other Acts of God

Can theatre heal? Through an out-of-the-ordinary service project in Post-Katrina New Orleans, community-partners and colleges students savor the sweet and fleeting refuge that theatre brings. (25 min)

Lovable Teenage Nerds

Life tends to build towards life in the real world. What can a trip down teenage memory lane teach about how to overcome the cynicism of the modern age? (20 min)

Praise for *Grace Notes*

"Hubbard's compelling tales share the stage in graceful harmony with the performer's delightfully self-aware telling. The performance is witty, and weighty -- surprisingly complex in its expression, entirely clear in its universal truth."

—James Bunzli, Ph.D. Professor and Coordinator of Theatre Arts, Loyola University, Baltimore, MD

"Laughter is good medicine. With healing humor and vivid imagery, Bob Hubbard tells marvelously exciting stories that celebrate the triumph, not of the human spirit, but of God's grace."

—Reverend Harlan Van Oort, Chaplin at Northwestern College, Orange City, IA

"Bob Hubbard's show is candid, fresh and funny...with a tiny bit of irreverence. Absolutely no clichés here. Bob is an artist whom I shamelessly recommend to all."

—Janine Calsbeek, the Director of the Orange City Arts Council

Solo·Drama·Worship

Grace Notes

Stories of Surprise, Regret and Renewal

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it.
John 1:5

There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in.
Leonard Cohen

Information on Grace Notes

In "Grace Notes: Stories of Surprise, Regret and Renewal" Robert Hubbard mingles traditions of storytelling and performance art. This earthy autobiographical one-person show consists of multiple stories in which a flash of grace shines through the cracks of otherwise desperate or broken situations. Accompanied with Scripture and slides, "Grace Notes" may be performed as a series of 20-30 minute chapel/worship presentations or as a single and adaptable theatrical event. If you wish to bring "Grace Notes" to your college, university, house of worship, or community center, please feel free to contact Robert Hubbard at rhubbard@nwciowa.edu

Robert Hubbard

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Information on Robert Hubbard

Robert Hubbard has worked in both academic and professional theatre as a teacher, performer, community-based drama facilitator, and drama critic. In 2005 Hubbard received a fellowship for the O'Neill Critics Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center. Hubbard first performed his solo show, "Dancing with Jimmy," in 2003. He has since performed solo work at dozens of venues across the United States and Canada. Hubbard holds a PhD in theatre from Bowling Green State University and has published articles and reviews in various academic books and journals. He is a Professor of theatre and chairs the theatre department at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa.

"Grace notes, those little licks attached to principle notes, especially suit a trombone's slide. Printed in smaller fonts, these musical ornaments subvert the principal note, playfully rendering a sense of glee into the notations. At least that's how I played them.

"As I delve into the unique orchestration of spiritual autobiography, I hear an embarrassingly jubilant if unfinished symphony. My Composer has undeniably blessed me. Certain movements in my life reflect brokenness and sorrow, symptomatic of a world that doesn't work the way it should. But even in these more somber compositions, I hear the grace notes lightly playing. They dance about, shining the gloom, teasing, reminding me that grace abides in cacophony."

—Robert Hubbard