"The Zeitgeist Chronicles" by local playwright Stephen Montagne, will premiere at Dillard's Samuel DuBois Cook Performing Arts Center on **Saturday, September 15,** 2012 at 8:00 p.m., and run through September 29. Four years after one of the most remarkable events in American and global history, the timely world premiering play revisits the "Change" election of 2008.

In three acts, the play presents the stories of an Alabama-born progressive reporter/staunch Hillary Clinton supporter (played by Jennifer Schemke) in Los Angeles who interviews her reformed racist uncle (Ray Vrazel) now campaigning for Barack Obama; four comedians in New York, including a 25-year-old, Mormon standup comedian (Taylor McClellan) and his Rat Pack era mentor (Janet Shea) who now lives in a retirement home; and several generations of a New Orleans African-American family (Martin "Bats" Bradford, Kari Cojoe, Robert Doqui, Spencer Howard, Damien Moses) trying to keep its elderly patriarch alive through the November 2008 election. These generationally, politically and racially diverse viewpoints will have audiences talking all the way to the voting booth.

Featuring a 13-member cast of all-local talent, the fast-moving production follows three multi-generational storylines that ultimately collide as the United States elects its first African-American president. The three-weekend run includes Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances, along with previews on Tuesday, September 11 and Wednesday, September 12.

Dillard faculty and alumni participate in this production in many capacities. Alumni Martin "Bats" Bradford and Kari Cojoe star in the new production. Assistant Professor of Theater Ray Vrazel also plays an important role in the production.

“The Zeitgeist Chronicles” production is working with actors, artists, activists, athletes, musicians, political figures, film makers, and other celebrities to lend their voices in raising awareness to the resiliency of New Orleans, the need for supporting the arts, and the importance of participating in the political process.

Tickets are available now online at https://.zeitgeistchronicles.com. The site also includes complete cast and crew list and preview video directed by San Francisco-based filmmaker Will Harper.

Watch DU Chair of Humanities, Cortheal Clark, discuss "The Zeitgeist Chronicles" in this video.