



## “TURF, A Concert in Black and White”

**A**n innovative radio performance about race and education in the U.S. will air on WRPI (91.5 FM) accompanied by a listener call-in. iEAR Studios will present *TURF: A Conversational Concert in Black and White*, a one-hour theatrical radio performance exploring issues of race, education, and class over the last two decades. Created by OBIE Award-winning artist Robbie McCauley, the program will air on WRPI at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26. A call-in session from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. will include

McCauley, actor Kristin Johnson, and listeners. *TURF* is hosted by Steve Pierce.

*TURF* incorporates drama, humor, and original music to examine the profound impact that school desegregation has had on communities throughout the United States. Set in Boston during and after that city's school busing crisis of the '70s, *TURF* is based largely on first-hand testimonies and dialogues with dozens of community residents who were affected by the pivotal event. In its unfolding, *TURF* celebrates and challenges

the similarities and differences of culture, race, religion, class, belief, and attitudes of Americans in the 1990s.

McCauley collaborated with 11 Boston-based actors, singers, and storytellers in the making and performing of *TURF* as a stage presentation in 1993 and now, as a radio performance. The cast are of different racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds, ranging in age from 16 to 58. They collected most of the first-person accounts and anecdotes used in the piece and also contributed their own thoughts.

