

# ASBURY PARK PRESS

## Two River Theater and local coalition present mock trial on climate change

Lynn Dash, Reader submitted

The Monmouth Community Climate Coalition (MC3) and Two River Theater invite the community to join them for a reading of *Mother Earth vs. World's People: A Mock Trial on Climate Change* to be presented Monday, January 30 at 7:00 PM at the Two River Theater, Red Bank. Climate change is one of the themes of the Two River's current production, *Hurricane Diane*, a world premiere play written by Madeleine George and directed by Leigh Silverman.

*Mother Earth vs. World's People* will dive deeper into this theme and will invite the audience to decide whether or not Mother Earth has made her case. Admission is free, but space is limited and anyone planning to attend should reserve a seat by calling the Two River box office at [732-345-1400](tel:732-345-1400) or on the web at [tworivertheater.org](http://tworivertheater.org).

The mock trial, written by Doug Stewart, will be presented as a community event by the Two River Theater's Metro Scholars, a talented group of students from area high schools. Lynn Dash, a Monmouth Community Climate Coalition founding member, noted how significant it is to have the Metro Scholars doing the reading since their generation will face the growing challenges of climate change throughout their lives. Two River Theater's Director of Education, Kate Cordaro commented, "My students (Metro Scholars) and I are excited for the opportunity to collaborate with so many hard-working environmental organizations. What a wonderful way to engage the next generation - by synergizing activism, awareness, and theater." Ms. Dash added, "We volunteers in this new community climate coalition are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate on this event with the professional Two River Theater, a jewel in our community."

Following the performance and the audience's verdict, Ms. Dash along with *Hurricane Diane* playwright Madeleine George and Tony MacDonald, Director Urban Coast Institute at Monmouth University, will engage the audience in a conversation that explores ways to learn more about climate change and identifies opportunities to share what is learned through the arts, education and involvement in local organizations. Following the discussion, members of MC3 will be available to answer questions about the work they do and how individuals can get involved in local initiatives.

The Monmouth Community Climate Coalition is a grassroots, volunteer, non-partisan organization with the goal of raising awareness about the climate crisis and taking action toward solutions for a livable world. The group of multi-faith, civic and environmental organizations, was started in 2016 by community members who wanted to act locally on the global issue of climate change. For more information about MC3, the member organizations and other upcoming events visit [monmouthclimate.org](http://monmouthclimate.org).