SHIRLEY LAURO, playwright, a director of the Dramatists Guild Fund, New York City:

“The ‘on the verge’ Red Fern Theatre, along with its artistic director Melanie Moyer, deserves national recognition. It pairs with philanthropies whose work relates to the social themes of its plays, and the philanthropies receive a portion of the ticket sales. Red Fern will open its season with Good Egg, by Dorothy Fortenberry, directed by Kel Haney (Oct. 21–Nov. 7). The play follows a woman who has been the caretaker for her bipolar brother; when she decides to get pregnant through artificial insemination, she contemplates having her embryos screened for bipolar disorder, which starts a debate with her brother about bio-ethics.”