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# Pro Rege

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## Editorial

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# Editorial

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The December 1978 issue of *Pro Rege* presented a variety of faculty contributions in the arts. This issue contains two distinct but related articles of commentary on the arts. I have in mind the articles written by James Koldenhoven and Nick Van Til.

One of the obvious differences between the two writings is that Van Til is concerned with the fine arts in general, whereas Koldenhoven focuses on theatre arts. Both, however, call upon us to acknowledge that Christians must carry on artistic work in obedience to the Lord. Van Til makes clear that culture-cultivating Christians

. . . will support all efforts to wrest cultural leadership from the apostate of this world and once again bring it under subjection to Christ. This includes all that comes from man's creative powers, not the least of which are the fine arts (p. 21).

Koldenhoven writes in a similar way about theatre:

It is my belief that the Reformed Calvinistic community has a God-given responsibility to direct the light of Scripture upon drama and theatre (p. 3).

Having made this observation, Koldenhoven goes on to observe that

there are "differences of opinion in the Christian community" (p. 5) about how the Christian artist should perform his or her task in the dramatic arts and theatre. These differences of opinion have caused intense controversies, preventing Christians "from developing common understandings about theatre" (p. 6).

Out of a concern to treat these differences of opinion and to promote a common, Biblical understanding about theatre arts, the Performance Council of Dordt College has appointed a Theatre Arts Task Force composed of the members of the Theatre Arts Department, as well as representatives from some of the other departments on campus. One of the primary duties of the Task Force will be to consider how to act responsibly in holding before the community theatrical, artistic productions which conform to the Biblical foundations which the College promotes.

Among other things, the members of the Task Force will be writing papers, which will reflect the nature and the results of their work. It is our hope that the work of the Task Force will be blessed, and that some of the proposed papers will eventually appear on the pages of *Pro Rege*.

J. B. Hulst