

Map of My Kingdom

One of two plays by
Mary Swander
Iowa's Poet Laureate



Who's going to get the farm? And what are they going to do with it? Will your future plans for your land create harmony or strife for your family? Or have you even started to think that far ahead? *Map of My Kingdom*, a play commissioned by Practical Farmers of Iowa and written by Iowa's Poet Laureate Mary Swander, tackles the critical issue of land transition. In the drama, Angela Martin, a lawyer and mediator in land transition disputes, shares stories of how farmers and landowners she has worked with over the years approached their land successions. "Some people literally killed each other over this issue," Martin says. Others almost came to blows, struggling to resolve the sale or transfer of their land, dissolving relationships. Others found peacefully rational solutions that focused not only on the viability of the family, but also of the land.

"We only have a sliver of time to make sure the land is understood."

Wednesday
March 4, 2015 8pm
Bowker Auditorium
UMASS Amherst

Open to the public
\$8 in advance / \$10 at the door
Students are free

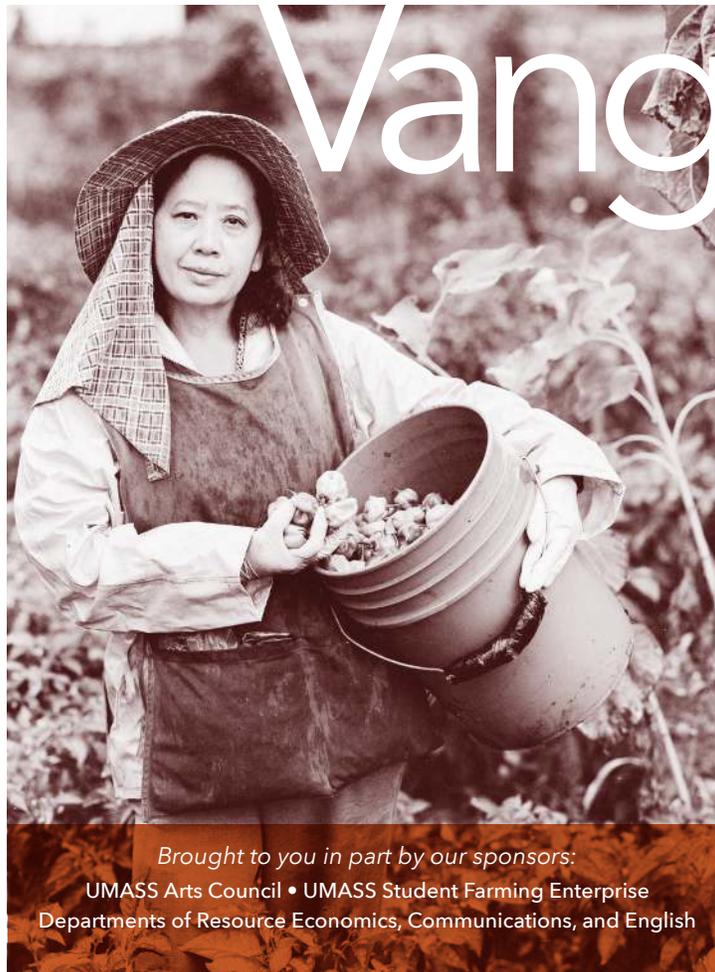
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Departments of Resource Economics,
Communications, and English

"It isn't possible to witness this play and not be changed by the gut-wrenching experiences of these recent refugees and immigrants, by their ability to survive in the face of the horrific."

~ Dr. Judith A. Conlin,
Executive Director, Iowa International Center

Tuesday
March 3, 2015
8pm
Bowker Auditorium
UMASS Amherst

Open to the public
\$8 in advance / \$10 at the door
Students are free



A Hmong family who fled Communist bullets and wild tigers through the jungle of Laos and across the Mekong River to the refugee camp in Thailand. A Sudanese man who was thrown into prison in Ethiopia for helping the Lost Boys and was left gasping for air through a crack under the door. A Mexican woman who taught herself English by looking up the meaning of the profane words that were hurled at her at her first job in a meat packing plant. A Dutch boy, dressed as a cowboy, who put the flag of the Netherlands through the paper shredder and declared, "I am an American." These are some of the characters brought to life in *Vang*, a drama about recent immigrant farmers.

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