



~The Marquee~

The Newsletter of the Department of Performing Arts, Elon University

Volume XII, Issue 1 – Summer, 2008

The Marquee, 2800 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244; e-mail: rubeck@elon.edu



Fall Performance Schedule

Don't Miss These Great Shows!

Location Guide: MCT= McCrary Theatre; YRH= Yeager Recital Hall; BBT= Black Box Theatre; DSA=Dance Studio A

October

8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 – The Pavilion, 7:30, BBT
11, 12 - *The Pavilion*, 2:00, BBT
22, 23 – Dance Salons, 6:00 & 8:00, DSA
30, 31 – *Sweeney Todd*, 7:30, MCT

November

1, 7, 8 - *Sweeney Todd*, 7:30, MCT
9 - *Sweeney Todd*, 2:00, MCT
16, 17, 18 – Act. Senior Seminar: *Boeing Boeing!*, Times TBA, BBT
21, 22– *Fall Dance Concert*, 6:00 & 8:30, BBT
23 – *Fall Dance Concert*, 2:00, BBT
23 – *Freshman Acting Showcase*, 8:00 & 9:30, BBT
24- *Freshman Acting Showcase*, 6:00 & 7:30, BBT

December

7, 8, 9 – MTE Senior Seminar: *A Chorus Line*, Times TBA, BBT

PROFESSIONAL COMPANIES SLATED TO HOLD AUDITIONS ON CAMPUS

Busch Gardens will return to campus once again to conduct auditions and interviews on December 2. **Stiletto Entertainment** will join us for their auditions on March 11.

Professional Master Classes

We are already off to a busy year of master classes! In September alone we hosted the following: **John Basil**, Producing Artistic Director and founding member of American Globe Theatre, was with us for a weekend master class on Shakespearean Acting, including a scene study intensive and monologue workshop; British playwright **David Edgar** (*Pentecost*, *Nicholas Nickleby*) spoke to our playwriting class. His visit was in conjunction with the American premier of his new play *The Prisoner's Dilemma* at Burning Coal Theatre in Raleigh; alumnus **Kat Lowery** spoke to various classes on her experience working as a professional lighting designer in NYC. New York Casting Director **Dave Clemmons** worked with the senior class on their auditions and spent the evening with the department in an Audition and Pop/ Rock workshop. He will be returning in the spring for his annual master class and audition.

But wait! We aren't anywhere near done yet! We still have scheduled alumnus **Hannah Campbell**, who will be talking about working in LA, and **Lisa Goldstein** will talk about her work on *One Tree Hill*, while fellow alumnus **Jay Briggs** will discuss his work as a director in NYC in October. Choreographer **Liz Maxwell** will be here in January to set a Laura Dean piece on our majors. Composer **John Bucchino** will return to campus in February to teach a series of master classes. **Olympia Dukakis**, Academy Award-winning actress, will be back with us for the second year teaching a weekend intensive of master classes in March. **Anthony Zerbe**, award-winning actor of film, stage, and TV, will be performing his one-man show, and teaching a master class in April. Other special guests for the year are still pending final arrangements.

Faculty News and Notes

Polly Cornelius presented vocal recitals of “Songs By American Composers” in the American Episcopal Cathedral in Rome and the “Universitata per Straneri” in Perugia, Italy.

Lynne Formato just returned from Moscow where she spent a week teaching Master Classes in Musical Theatre to students and professionals from all over Russia at the Third Annual Musical Theatre Festival. This summer she choreographed Disney’s *Beauty and the Beast* at Artpark; the cast included several Elon student and graduates. In October, she heads to Dollywood to choreograph her sixth installment of “Christmas in the Smokies”; the production runs annually from November through January.

Lauren Winslow Kearns received the 2008 NC Dance Alliance Choreography Fellowship and is premiering a new work from her company, Kearns dance project, on October 18. Her company is also touring in the 2008-2009 NC Dance Festival. Kearns was elected to the National Board of Directors for the NC Dance Alliance.

Catherine McNeela will be presenting an Audition Workshop and an Evening of Music Theatre at the North Carolina National Association of Teachers of Singing Fall Meeting on November 14th and 15th.

Kirby Wahl recently appeared in *The Prisoners Dilemma* at The Burning Coal Theatre in Raleigh. He played the role of Dr. Hasim Majdani and served as the Dialect Coach.

You’re Invited – Scholarship Fund-Raising Dinners Set for 08-09!

In an effort to increase scholarship fund, and to provide scholarships for program that have previously been unfunded, Steven House, the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences launched the idea of hosting pre-theatre scholarship fund-raising dinners for each of our productions in McCrary Theatre.

Tickers for the fund-raising dinners are \$150.00 each and include a served dinner and premium reserved seating for that night’s performance. Profits from each will provide scholarships to worthy students in Music Theatre, Acting, Dance, and Design & Production. Below are the dates for this year’s events. Please note which program(s) are supported by each dinner.

Sweeney Todd- Saturday, November 1 (*benefits Music Theatre and Design & Production*)

Nine – Saturday, February 14 (*benefits Music Theatre and Design & Production*)

Noises Off – Saturday, April 25 (*benefits Acting*)

Vibe: Spring Dance Concert – Saturday, May 9 (*benefits Dance*)

For more information or to make your reservation for one of the dinners, contact Kimberly Rippey at 336-278-5600 or via email: krippy@elon.edu.

Support the Department of Performing Arts

Your kind donation can help us “make the magic!”

Your Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

\$ _____ Amount of Donation – *Thank You!*

Please tell us how you would like your gift applied

_____ **Annual Gifts** (*to support Performing Arts’ operation & productions*)

-or-

_____ **Talent Scholarships** (*please specify which program*)

___ Acting ___ Music Theatre ___ Dance ___ Design & Production

-or-

_____ **Endowed Scholarship Funds** (*please specify which fund*)

_____ Catherine H. McNeela Music Theatre Scholarship
(*in support of worthy Music Theatre majors*)

_____ Mel Wooten Theatre Scholarship
(*in support of Senior Theatre and Music Theatre majors as they pursue internships, study abroad, conferences, professional auditions, etc.*)

Please Contact Me to Discuss:

_____ *I would like to establish a new endowed Performing Arts scholarship.*

_____ *I would like to include the Performing Arts in my estate planning.*

Please send this form and your check, payable to Elon University, to Elon University, 7600 Campus Box, Elon NC 27244

Questions?

Contact Fred Rubbeck, Department Chair @ 336-278-5695;
rubeck@elon.edu

Alumni News & Notes

Jay Briggs has started his second season as Assistant to the Artistic and Managing Directors at the Off Broadway Classical Company, Theatre for a New Audience. He is also serving as literary intern for the company, The Civilians.

Kevin Hoffmann has been cast as Snout in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Globe Theatre, where he is also enrolled in their MFA Acting program.

Corey Roberts is in NYC and working for the Random Farms Kids Theatre. Recently she was in the film *The Little Red Truck*.

Holly Hanson recently moved to NY and is looking forward to being made a Junior Member of the Laughingstock Company, Scott Eck's Improv Troup.

Mirai Booth-Ong recently finished a run of *Clue!* at the Hollywood Fight Club Theatre and has been directing *Teenage Love Story* for their children's theatre company.

Connie Renda is producing *The Last Five Years* at the Pullo Center at Penn State. She is also in a new web series (www.black20.com) and shot two more episodes for *Guiding Light*. She has recently filmed several commercials including Chili's, Best Buy, and Macy's, and has appeared on TV shows including *One Life to Live*, *As the World Turns*, and *Dove Fresh Takes with Alicia Keys*.

Julius John made a recent appearance on MTV's Real World: Hollywood.

Matt Millikin was recently ASM for *The Fly* at the LA Opera and will be ASM *The Magic Flute* in December.

Meredith Wood is working in Chicago and just finished the sketch comedy *Wait Till Next Beer*. She is happy to announce her recent engagement!

Danielle B. Tolley is a producer for WET (Women's Expressive Theatre) in NY. Additionally she is the resident Casting Director for Strait 90's Productions and is working on the film *Concerto* by fellow Elon Alum, Brian Goodwin.

Jess Barbour was just cast as Beth/ Imogene in NCT's tour of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* Her recent film *Will to Power* just went to DVD.

Daniel Marin starred in a short film last year, which has recently been circulating all the major film festivals.

Bree Sherry recently worked at Goodspeed Opera House and is enrolled in the graduate Stage Management program at Yale.

Buddy Hammonds was recently on the National Tour of *My Fair Lady*.

Ben Seay was in a recent episode of *Mad Men*. The film *Son's of Liberty*, which he was in last year, is now going to some film festivals.

Lauren Patten is in the ensemble of the National Tour of *The Wizard of Oz*.

Susan Slotoroff has just finished playing the lead in the show *Fag Hag* at the Manhattan Theatre Source. She is shooting a music video for the band Nostradamous.

Maggie Henry just shot an episode for the new CBS show 'The Ex-List' entitled 'Daphne's Wedding'; it will air in November.

Jen Forchelli is working as a special education teacher in Queens and continues to work on her music.

Andrew Frace is on the National Tour of *The Lion King*.

Lauren Adams is doing Improv at The Upstanding Citizens Brigade Theatre in NY and was recently cast in the new musical *Illyria* where she will play the understudy to both Olivia and Maria. See an article about the show at

www.playbill.com/news/article121910.html

Kiira Schmidt recently finished in the run of *No, No, Nanette* at the NY City Center and then went on to play Ellie in *Showboat* at Gateway Playhouse and Gertie in *Oklahoma!* at Papermill Playhouse. This winter she is appearing on Broadway in *White Christmas*.

Lindsay Northern is still working as the understudy for Glinda in *Wicked* on Broadway.

Laurie Cutler got married last May and is moving to Virginia Beach where she will be performing in *Aida* at the Sandler Center for Performing Arts.

Lauren K Redmond has finished her internship in Company Management at Baltimore's Centerstage and received her MFA in Performing Arts Management from the NC School of the Arts. She is now the Assistant Company Manager for the Hartford Stage in Connecticut and will be getting married next June!

Alex Ellis is now playing Kate/Chutney and Vivienne U/S for the First National Tour of *Legally Blond*. She has also recently been in *All Shook Up* at Maine State Music Theatre and in *Edges, A Song Cycle* with Music Theatre of CT.

Mark Ludden recently finished up the National Tour of *Evita* and worked at the Merry-Go-Round Theatre this summer where he played in *Les Miserables* and *The Producers*. He is now playing as Bishop and Jean Valjean in *Les Mis* at Arkansas Repertory Theatre.

Maurice Whitfield finished his internship at B Street Theatre and went on to play in the ensemble of *Sweeney Todd* and *Evita* at the California Music Circus in CA. You can check out his newest tunes at www.reverbNation.com:80/smoovmo9

Jen De Minco just finished shooting for the film *The Colony* and was cast in the film *Sweet Water Creek* and the TV show *Eleventh Hour*.

Tara Sissom recently closed *Jack Goes Boating* and *Go, Dog, Go!* at the B Street Theatre. She is now studying Improv at The Annoyance Theatre in Chicago.

Kelly Dynan is currently singing at Ellen's Stardust Diner in Times Square.

Liz Marion is currently playing Charity Barnum in *Barnum* with the Alpha Omega Players in PA.

Allison Spratt just finished *Cry Baby* on Broadway and is now performing the role of Miss B. in the hit show, *Enter Laughing* at the York Theatre off Broadway.

Mary Margaret Anderson has had a busy year starting with the role of Vivian in *State Fair* at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia. She then went on to the SurfFlight Theatre in NJ where she performed in *Chicago* (Velma Kelly), *The Miracle Worker*, *Kismet*, *All Shook Up*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Silver Dollar*, *The Producers*, and *Oklahoma!*

Katie Lester is dancing with the Caroline Calouche dance company in Charlotte, NC and is teaching dance and pilates at a Charlotte dance studio.

Hannah Campbell recently wrapped up the role of Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* and is currently starring in a series of webisodes called "Backstage".

Joleen Neighbours has been selected to direct an exchange choir/ performing arts group in England.

Katie Padgett Miller lives with her husband in Fairfax, VA where she is Associate Director of Metropolitan Fine Arts Center. She was invited to perform at the Lincoln Center in May 2008, with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

Marissa Pepple shot a Burger King commercial (Spike Lee, Dir). She is also working on NBC's *Kings*, and had a featured

role on HBO's *Flight of the Conchords*. She has also worked on the film *Everybody's Fine* and the Fox show *Damages*.

Katie McCrystal is working for Dance Space in Washington, DC as their PR & Marketing Director.

Kimberly Sanders recently passed the North Carolina Bar Exam.

Heather Haley Morris is living in Danville, VA teaching theatre at Dan River High School. She is also acting and directing at the Little Theatre of Danville. She and her husband Jason are proud parents of a baby girl, Haley Mae.

Turn Yourself In!

Please send your alumni news and notes to Fred Rubeck – rubeck@elon.edu and we will include you in the next edition of *The Marquee*. You may also send items via USPS: Fred Rubeck, *The Marquee*, 2800 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244.

Want to Join Us?

Here's How....

We are currently looking for the next great generation of students to join us in the Department of Performing Arts!

- Students wishing to major in **Acting, Dance, or Music Theatre** must audition to be accepted to those programs.
- Students wishing to major in **Theatrical Design & Production** must complete an interview/portfolio showing to be accepted to that program.
- No audition or interview is required for those wishing to enter the **Theatre Studies program**.
- No audition or interview is required for those wishing to minor in **Theatre Arts** or in **Dance**

The following dates can be used for your department audition/interview:

October:

- 10 – Acting, Dance, Theatrical Design & Production
- 24 – Acting, Dance, Theatrical Design & Production
- 31 – Music Theatre, Theatrical Design & Production

November:

- 7 – Acting, Music Theatre
- 14 – Dance, Theatrical Design & Production
- 21 – Acting, Dance, Music Theatre, Theatrical Design & Production

February:

- 6- Acting, Dance, Music Theatrical Theatre, Design & Production
- 13- Acting, Music Theatre, Theatrical Design & Production
- 20- Acting, Dance, Music Theatre, Theatrical Design & Production
- 27- Acting, Dance, Music Theatre, Theatrical Design & Production

March:

- 13- Acting, Dance, Music Theatre, Theatrical Design & Production

Please contact our Audition coordinator, Kimberly Rippey at (336) 278-5600, or via email: krippy@elon.edu for more information, including audition forms.

Please be advised that all department forms and fees must be **received** at least two weeks prior to your desired audition date.