

Spotlight shines on USD students, faculty at regional theatre festival

Students and faculty from the University of South Dakota Department of Theatre were honored at the Region V Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Ames, IA, Jan. 15-21.

Cody Juttelstad was honored for special effects and his design of a projectile vomit device he created for the comedy, "God of Carnage." Juttelstad, of Yankton, received the SPAM Award for National Design Technology and Management. As a recipient of this honor, Juttelstad also receives an all expenses trip to Las Vegas to observe and learn from industry professionals in crafts and properties.

Devon Muko was one of two students who were recognized for "Outstanding Portfolio" in the Portfolio Review competition. Muko is a theatre design/tech major from Rapid City.

Several students received commendations at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, including Nicholas Amundson of Vermillion for achievement in scenic design; and Ben Kramer of Sioux Falls received a commendation for stage management for "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead" and a commendation for scenic design for "Avenue Q."

Graduate student David Mancini of Los Angeles, CA, received a commendation for achievement in stage direction for "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead" and the Student Theatre Cooperative's production of "Evil Dead: The Musical," received a commendation for achievement in artistic

collaboration.

Additionally, for the first time in USD Theatre Department history, five USD students advanced to the semifinals of the regional theatre festival's acting competition.

Kendra Bolan of Lincoln, NE, Steve Schaeffer of Sioux Falls and their acting partners Lindsay Qualls of Portland, OR, and Ceci Quintero of Centennial, CO, advanced to the final round of 16 actors competing for an opportunity to perform at the national finals of the Irene Ryan Acting Competition.

Ty Hudson of South Sioux City, NE, and his scene partner Rachel Heisterkamp of Sioux City, IA, and Natalie Polisson of Cedar Lake, IN., and Jessie Atkinson of Sioux City, and their acting partner Tim Huggenberger of Sioux City, advanced to the semifinal round of 64 actors competing for a place in the regional finals of the Irene Ryan Acting Competition.

"God of Carnage," originally performed as part of the USD Department of Theatre 2011-12 Season, Sept. 29 through Oct. 3, was one of five productions - out of nearly 40 competing university productions in the region - invited to perform at the festival, an honor recognizing artistic collaboration and quality of production.

"God of Carnage," a Tony Award-winning comedy, featured cast members Bolan, Cody Strand of Brandon, Patrick Beasley of Lincoln, and Emily Dorsett of Sioux City.

The artistic team included

professors Tim Case (scenic), Scribner (costumes), Anthony Pellicchia (lighting), Scott Mollman (technical direction) and Eric Hagen (stage direction). James Hovland, a graduate student from Yankton, was sound designer.

Faculty members Linda Scribner, associate professor of theatre, and Priscilla Hagen, professor of theatre, were also honored at this year's festival. Scribner's costumes for the wedding scenes in "Avenue Q" were showcased in the Costume Parade, an event that featured some of the finest work in the area of costume design, and Hagen received commendation for actor and dialect coaching in "God of Carnage." Hagen was also a preliminary round judge for the Irene Ryan Acting Competition while Patricia Downey, assistant professor of theatre, was on the festival management team as associate director of Summer Stock Auditions, and Case and Mollman were adjudicators for design/technical portfolios.

The regional festival brought close to 1,700 students from colleges and universities in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota to Ames to showcase their talents in all areas of theatre. Students also auditioned for summer employment opportunities and attended several workshops throughout the week.

For more information about University Theatre at USD, visit www.usd.edu/theatre or call (605) 677-5418.



Pictured are members of the cast and crew of "The Hairy Ape," which recently competed at the State One-Act Festival. Fourth row: Mary Begley, Megan Vlasman, Leah Geis, Adam Ahmed, Meghan Cameron and Will Card. Third row: Nathan Ford, Emma Martineau, Edward Martineau, Sam Pearson, Derek Iverson, Randy LaMie, Sara Marker, Ellen Hanson, Allison Howe and Kelly Stone. Second row: Miguel Piper, Jacob Ford, Mateo Piper and Paul Granaas. First row: Angie Molina, Dustin Fischer, Savannah Kirsch and Katie Zimmerman. Not pictured: Rachel Axtell, Willhelm Getzin, Zach Hamilton, Sarah Johnson, Meghan Sauder and Mackenzie Stone.

(Submitted photo)

VHS Drama Dept. wraps up successful one-act season

Congratulations to the VHS cast and crew of "The Hairy Ape" by Eugene O'Neill for being one of two schools selected at the regional competition to perform at the state festival.

The cast and crew traveled to Aberdeen for the State One-Act Festival on Friday, Feb. 3-4.

Regional Superior Acting awards were given to Randy LaMie, Edward Martineau and Nathan Ford. VHS was one of five A division schools to receive a State Superior Play award.

In addition to this, Randy LaMie received an Outstanding Acting Award and Leah Geis, Rachel Axtell, Savannah Kirsch, Sam Pearson, Edward Martineau, Nathan Ford, Paul Granaas, Derek Iverson, Dustin Fischer, Jacob Ford, Adam Ahmed, William Card, Willhelm Getzin, Mateo Piper, Meghan Cameron, Katie Zimmerman, Allison Howe, Emma Martineau and Zach Hamilton received an Outstanding Ensemble Acting plaque.

Spring 2012 Theology Institute scheduled March 24

Sacred Heart Monastery announces its Spring Theology Institute, to be held in the Monastery Chapter Room in Yankton on Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to noon. S. Dawn Nothwehr O.S.F. will present "Moral Matters: A Brief Introduction to Key Concepts of Catholic Moral Theology." S. Dawn will introduce us to basic principles of moral decision making and apply these to the ecological issues that we face today.

This institute will be the first in the series entitled, "Faith Impacting Action." S. Jeanne Weber, event coordinator and

sub-prioress at Sacred Heart Monastery, said "As followers of Christ, we are faced with complex moral issues which require thoughtful decisions informed by our faith. The purpose of this series is two-fold: to present the foundations of moral decision-making in the Catholic faith tradition and to apply these to particular issues facing us today."

S. Dawn is the professor of Catholic Theological Ethics and director of the Certificate Program in Healthcare Mission Leadership at Catholic Theological Union of Chicago, where she teaches courses in moral theology and ethics. She

holds an M.A. in Religious Studies from the Maryknoll School of Theology and a Ph.D. from Marquette University. Her current area of research is global climate change and environmental ethics. S. Dawn is a member of the Sisters of St. Francis, Rochester, MN.

All are welcome to attend this free event. For planning purposes, please register by e-mailing S. Jeanne at jweber@mtmc.edu or calling 605-668-6000. For further information or to print out a flyer, you may find the Theology Institute page at http://www.yanktonbenedictines.org/PC_TheologyInstitute.html.

TransCanada discussion set for Feb. 21

The Living River Group will have their February meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m., at the W.H. Over Museum. Professor James Heisinger will present information regarding the TransCanada XL pipeline, its positive and negative impacts on U.S. energy policy, gas prices and jobs. The public is invited.

Clay Rural Water System elects directors

The Clay Rural Water System has completed its director election process. Each year the water system elects three Directors to serve on the water systems nine-member board.

Three incumbent directors filed the necessary paperwork to run for re-election. No other members filed paperwork. As a result, no district meetings will be held to hold formal elections.

The three directors who will serve a three-year term are: District I, Tom Manning of Beresford; District II, Glen

Gilbertson of Vermillion; and District III, Randy Erickson of Spink.

The Clay Rural Water System is a non-profit, member-owned corporation that supplies water service to 2,205 farms, residents, and businesses in parts of five counties in southeast South Dakota.

The Clay Rural Water System will hold its 33rd annual meeting on Saturday, March 24 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Agnes School Auditorium in Vermillion.

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KIDS' BIRTHDAY BASH AT THE DOME

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE YOUR BIRTHDAY!
CELEBRATE WITH CHARLIE AND COYOTE BASKETBALL

ESPN BRACKETBUSTER
COYOTE MEN vs. TEXAS STATE
Saturday, February 18 at 7 p.m.

Charlie Coyote invites kids (12 and under) to celebrate their birthday during the game.

Features:

- FREE ticket when you redeem this coupon at the South Box Office
- Birthday Cake at halftime
- Voucher for FREE Dome Dog courtesy of Aramark
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