Lyceum Closes Season with Shakespeare

Truman's 2011-2012 Kohlenberg Lyceum Series will culminate with the American Shakespeare Center's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at 7:30 p.m. March 20 in Baldwin Hall Auditorium.

One of Shakespeare's most popular works for the stage, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a mischievous comedy of lovers, heroes, fairies and rude mechanicals in Shakespeare's tribute to humankind's power of imagination. It portrays the events surrounding the marriage of the Duke of Athens, Theseus, and the Queen of the Amazons, Hippolyta. The events include the adventures of four young Athenian lovers and a group of amateur actors who are manipulated by the fairies who inhabit the forest.

Tickets will be available March 13. Students may pick up their free ticket at the Student Activities Board Office in the Student Union Building. Faculty and staff may get their free tickets at the information desk in the Student Union Building. General admission tickets cost $7 and are available at the Truman Cashiers Window in McClain Hall or downtown at Edna Campbells. Tickets may also be purchased online at lyceum.truman.edu.

The Arnold and Alanna Preussner Fund is providing additional financial support for this event. For more information, visit lyceum.truman.edu or contact 785.4016.

New Members Appointed to Board of Governors

The Truman Board of Governors has three new alumni serving on the Board. The appointments were made by Gov. Jay Nixon in February and they were confirmed recently by the Missouri Senate.

Sarah (Hartmann) Burkermer is a certified public accountant and a certified financial planner in her own practice. She served as the public administrator for Lincoln County (Mo.) for 12 years, retiring from the position in December 2008.

Burkermer was a Pershing Scholar at Truman and graduated cum laude with two bachelor's degrees and a master's degree in 1992. She was named Outstanding Graduate Student in Accounting by the Business and Accountancy Division in 1992 and went on to receive a master's degree in International Affairs from Washington University in 1997. Burkermer was honored as Truman's Alumna of the Year in 2006. She currently serves as president of the Truman State University Foundation and previously served as a member of the Truman Board of Governors from March 2001 to June 2007.

A resident of Troy, Mo., Burkermer is a graduate of the CORO Women in Leadership program. She serves on the board of Community Opportunities (the county's Senate Bill 40 board) and as Chair of the Lincoln County Health Foundation board. She fills the vacant term of Mike Greenwell.

Jim O'Donnell is a licensed funeral home director and serves as president of James O'Donnell Funeral Home in Hannibal, Mo. He has an Associate of Arts degree from Hannibal LaGrange College and a Bachelor of Science degree in history from Truman. He also has an Associate of Mortuary Science Degree from Kansas City, Kansas Community College, and is a licensed funeral director and embalmer in both Missouri and Illinois.

O'Donnell is a member of the Missouri Funeral Directors Association and the National Funeral Directors Association. Additionally, he is an active member of the Hannibal Park Board, Hannibal Arts Council Board, Farmers and Merchants Bank and Trust Company Advisory Board, Early Bird Kiwanis, Hannibal Elks Lodge, Hannibal Knights of Columbus Council #907 and of Holy Family Catholic Church. He is a past member of the board of directors for the Hannibal YMCA and the Hannibal Area Chamber of Commerce. He succeeds Mark Wasinger whose term has expired.

Susan Plassmeyer is the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Alumni and Development, Administration and Development Services for Washington University in St. Louis. She also serves as an adjunct faculty for University College, which is a continuing education and professional studies division of Arts & Sciences at Washington University.

A Pershing Scholar at Truman, she graduated summa cum laude from the University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science in business administration/finance and a Bachelor of Arts in economics. Plassmeyer holds the distinction of being the first student representative to the governing board of the University following the enactment of legislation in 1984 permitting student representation. In 1990, she received a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in finance from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. She currently serves on the Truman Business Division Board of Advisors and the board of Trailnet, a non-profit in St. Louis. Plassmeyer served on the Truman State University Foundation and the Truman State University National Alumni Association Board. She succeeds John W. Siscel, III whose term had expired.
FORMER CEO TO GIVE EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE LECTURE MARCH 20

Author and retired executive Harlan Steinbaum will deliver the Bentele-Mallinckrodt Executive-in-Residence Lecture at 3 p.m. March 20 in Violette Hall 1000.

Steinbaum was president and CEO of Medicare-Glaser Corporation and was part of the company buy back from Pet, Inc., and its following listing on the NASDAQ in 1982. He served as the founding chairman of the Express Scripts board, a leading pharmacy benefits management company now ranked 55th among Fortune 500 companies.

Steinbaum is the author of "Tough Calls from the Corner Office," which shares individuals’ most important decisions of 39 top business, not-for-profit and government leaders. The book provides insight into the events, stakes and pressures surrounding the decision-making process.

Copies of "Tough Calls from the Corner Office" will be available for sale at the Executive-in-Residence Lecture and Steinbaum will sign books immediately following.

The Bentele-Mallinckrodt Executive-in-Residence Program was established in 1993 by Truman alumnus Raymond F. Bentele. Its purpose is to allow the School of Business to select an outstanding individual from business and industry each semester to spend two to three days on campus, engaging students both in and out of the classroom.

State Farm Partners with Truman SIFE Team to Promote Financial Literacy

State Farm has awarded a grant of $5,000 to Truman State University to assist a student organization that conducts financial literacy programs in the northeast Missouri region.

The grant was awarded to Truman’s Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) organization to provide support for a series of financial programs, including Hablidades Economicas, a bilingual financial literacy workshop designed to benefit the Latino community in Milan, Mo., and Planning for Success, college preparation workshops for students in La Plata High School. Some of the topics covered in the workshops include how to open a bank account, writing and recording checks, balancing a checkbook, use of debit and credit cards and instruction of basic financial terminology.

Truman’s Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team is a student organization within the School of Business that develops and implements projects that teach the principles of free market economics, entrepreneurial skills, financial literacy, personal success skills and business ethics with a vision of changing the world.

Overall, Truman’s SIFE team has impacted more than 2,000 individuals and volunteered over 3,200 hours toward improving the quality of life in the region. Last spring, the team captured the regional SIFE USA championship in Chicago and advanced to the national competition in Minneapolis, Minn.

Truman Nurses Visit State Capitol

Nursing students and faculty from Truman take a picture on the steps of the Capitol in Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 22. Approximately 40 senior students and four faculty traveled to the Capitol to participate in Missouri Nurses Association (MONA) Nurse Advocacy Day.

FAFSA Applications Available Now

The 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available at fafsa.gov. It is important to apply before April 1 to be considered for all available funding. The government allows filing with estimates in order to meet early state or institutional deadlines. The FAFSA is also required for Parent (PLUS) Loans. Contact the Financial Aid Office in McClain Hall 103, or call 785.4130 with any questions.
Einstein Collection Available at Truman

To commemorate Albert Einstein's birthday, Curtis R. Blakely, assistant professor of justice systems, will make a number of original Einstein items available for viewing during March.

Items include: an original Einstein signature; two original letters, one written by Frau Einstein and the other by her secretary Helen Dukas; a poem written to Einstein and one written by Einstein; more than 40 photographs including several originals taken by Orren Jack Turner, the official Princeton photographer; and other miscellaneous items.

Also included are autographs and/or letters by Harold Urey, Max Born, Arthur Eddington, Max Planck, Robert Millikan, Kip Thorne, Oliver Lodge and Edward Teller, all of whom are noted physicists and many of them were Einstein's associates.

A number of items owned by Boris Podolsky of EPR paper fame, a paper co-authored with Einstein and Rosen, will be featured as well.

Included among these items is the nameplate that ordained Podolsky's door during his tenure at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

This collection is available for viewing in Barnett Hall. Contact Blakely at cblakely@truman.edu to schedule an appointment.

Opera “Dido and Aeneas” to Run March 15-18

The Truman Department of Music and the Truman Opera Theatre will present Henry Purcell’s “Dido and Aeneas” with performances March 15-18.

The opera, based on Virgil’s “Aeneid,” tells the fateful love story of Dido, queen of Carthage, and Aeneas, a prince of Troy, who each must choose between their love for each other and their sense of duty—choices that will ultimately affect the course of history.

NOTABLES

Amber Johnson, associate professor of anthropology, and Amanda Langendoerfer, head of Special Collections in Pickler Memorial Library, have received a Historical Archives Grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for $15,000 to fund the initial transfer of Lewis R. Binford’s primary material to Special Collections.

Plamena Koseva, a romance language major, recently created and published “Reviews of Language-Learning Websites” on her blog, which contains an analysis of various features of the most common language-learning internet resources. Koseva’s research was supported by a Fall 2011 award from the Grants-in-Aid of Scholarship and Research of the Office of the Provost. Her blog is posted at languagelarningwebsites.blogspot.com.

Donald Krause, assistant professor of communication, was recognized by Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority as February’s professor of the month. Alpha’s program “Professor Payday” acknowledges one of Truman’s outstanding professors every month.

Zhong (John) Ma, associate professor of biology, and Yu-yu Ren, a Truman biology graduate, had their paper, “Ethylene Interacts with Auxin in Regulating Developmental Attenuation of Gravitropism in Flax Root,” published in the Journal of Plant Growth Regulation. The research was supported in part by Truman’s grant from the National Science Foundation’s Interdisciplinary Training for Undergraduates in Biology and Mathematics Program. The work also received help from Truman biology graduate Meghan Whitaker.


John James Quinn, professor of political science, had a chapter accepted for publication entitled “The Nexus of the Domestic and Regional within an International Context: The Rwandan Genocide and Mobutu’s Ouster.” It shows how violence diffused from Rwanda to Zaire, escalated, and led to Mobutu’s overthrow. It will appear in Amy Freedman, ed., Threatening the State: the Internationalization of Internal Conflicts.
The faculty forum continues with “Fallen Women and Daring Speech: Victorian Devotional Poetry” by Heather Cianciola, lecturer in English, at 6:30 p.m. March 13 in Violette Hall 1000. Cianciola will discuss how Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Christina Rossetti offer a new perspective through which to view Victorian women’s religious verse.

Native American spirit dancer Dennis Rogers will perform at 7:30 p.m. March 13 in Baldwin Hall Auditorium. An enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, Rogers has been working to promote multicultural education since 1987. He is internationally known for his spirit dancing and his unique style of teaching Native American culture. He demonstrates traditional Navajo crafts, including beadworking, feather work and sand paintings.

“Kony,” a documentary movie by Invisible Children, will be screened at 8 p.m. March 13 in the Student Union Building Down Under. The event is free of charge and following the screening, a young man or woman from Africa that has been personally affected by the conflict will speak briefly and field questions from the audience. Residence Life, Truman in Africa and Alpha Kappa Lambda are sponsoring this event.

The State of the District Address will take place at 8 a.m. March 15 at the Adair County Annex Building. This event is sponsored by the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce, Governmental Affairs Committee. For more information, go to kirkvillechamber.com.

A candidate’s forum for the April election will take place March 15 at the El Kadir Shrine Club. Candidates for City Council and the Kirksville R-III School Board have been invited to attend. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. to meet the candidates. The forum begins at 6:30 p.m. For more information, go to kirkvillechamber.com.

The Early-Vreeland Lecture will take place at 7:30 p.m. March 15 in the Student Union Building Activities Room. Rev. Wilson Miscamble, CSC from Notre Dame University, will discuss his recently published book “The Most Controversial Decision: Truman, the Atomic Bombs, and the Defeat of Japan.”

“O Excellent Motion: Directing Through Text,” a workshop by actors from the American Shakespeare Company, will take place from 3:45-5 p.m. March 20 in Baldwin Hall. Participants will learn how to find performance clues in Shakespeare’s plays and direct the actors in a scene from the repertory. Space is limited to 40 participants. For more information email bdelmoni@truman.edu.

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) will host a discussion of issues of interest to the University at 12 p.m. March 22 in the Student Union Building Georgian Room A. This meeting is to address and give input on the Guiding Coalition. All faculty and staff are invited. Contact Marc Becker at marc@truman.edu or call 785.6036 for more information.

Beta Alpha Psi will provide free income tax assistance to students and the community from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. March 24 and March 31 in Violette Hall 1424. For complete details visit bap.truman.edu or email lmd6224@truman.edu.