

## **Hope College Theatre Newsletter For the Week of November 16, 2009**

### **We're looking for students interested in helping with a Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> DAA Day**

The day would begin with lunch with students and parents at 11:30, and then help to do some warm-ups with the DAA applicants around 12:30 in the theatre, finishing around 1:00pm. Contact Michelle Bombe or Ben Hertel if you are interested!

### **MidWest Audition Info**

#### **Midwest Unified Auditions will be held February 19-21**

There is now a poster outside the Theatre Office (222) with info about the Midwest Unified Auditions as well as audition forms. Don't hesitate to get your application in- they accept on a first come first serve deadline. PLEASE ask the faculty for advice NOW if you plan to attend this February!

### **Considering Grad School?**

The application and guidelines for the 2010 National Unified Auditions and Interviews (NUA/Is) are available to download from our web site at [www.urta.com](http://www.urta.com).

Please spread the word to your peers and to your students who may be interested in pursuing professional training at the graduate level. Please note the relevant dates and deadlines below.

NUA/I 2010 DATES:

New York: January 23 - 27

Chicago: January 29 - February 3

San Francisco: February 5 - 6

Applications must be postmarked by:

Directors/Stage Manager/Theatre Managers

October 31, 2009 (we are still accepting them with late fee)

Actors/Designers

November 16, 2009

Late Deadline with Payment of Late Fee

December 1, 2009

### **It's time to start thinking about auditions for next semester!!**

Auditions for the spring semester productions of *Much Ado About Nothing* and The 4th Production will be held on Monday, January 11th and Tuesday, January 12th. That's the Monday and Tuesday of the first week of classes (which start on Tuesday). Those going to ACTF will be returning midday on Sunday, and are encouraged to audition on Monday. Per usual, upper class persons are expected to prepare monologues but cold readings will be available for underclassmen.

### READING OPPORTUNITY

In collaboration with the English Department, the Theatre Department is co-sponsoring a memoir reading at 7pm in the DeWitt Theatre on Monday, December, 7. The script is being written and compiled by Beth Trembley's Memoir Writing Course. The Theatre Department is looking for people interested in participating as readers for this event. Please contact Michelle Bombe via email if you are interested in participating.

### STAGE MANAGEMENT

Please contact Michelle Bombe via email if you are interested in being part of the stage management team next semester either as a stage manager or an assistant stage manager. The qualifications to be a stage manager include serving as an A.S.M. for a Hope Production and it is preferred if you have taken the stage management course.

### THE SECOND THURSDAY SERIES

December 10th-5pm meet in the studio for the second play reading  
Future Play Readings

As part of our 2nd Tuesday series, this will be a time to come together as a group and listen to a work that you might not be familiar with or have heard about but haven't had a chance to read. We hope that this will spark an interest in reading plays on your own and perhaps even generate interest in producing one of these plays as a student production! Many will want to just show up and listen- but anyone is welcome to participate as a reader as well. Please contact Michelle at bombe@hope.edu if you are interested in reading.

**ATTENTION POTENTIAL MAJORS:** Please get your major declarations in soon!  
Set up an appointment with one of the theatre faculty if you don't already have an advisor in the department and they will be glad to help you.

\*\*\*\*Students with 75 or more credits should submit their forms to the Registrar's Office as soon as possible—if you have not declared a major you will have a registration hold for spring classes unless the major declaration form has been submitted!!!

### ELSEWHERE AT HOPE

Listed below is the link to the arts and humanities newsletter, which provides news and info regarding all of the arts and humanities departments here at Hope!

<http://www.hope.edu/academic/artshum/newsletter.html>

Rare course opportunity for next semester!! All arts and humanities students are encouraged to consider!

### **Knickerbocker Film Series**

The Hope College Knickerbocker Film Series will present "Lemon Tree" on Monday-Friday, Nov. 16-20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Knickerbocker Theatre in downtown Holland.

Widowed empty-nester Salma Zidane lives on the Palestinian West Bank, in a little house flanked by lemon trees planted by her great grandparents. Unfortunately, when the Israeli minister of defense builds a house adjacent to her own, her lemon trees are deemed a security risk. Salma hires a lawyer to prevent the powerful man from having her ancestral trees removed, but the odds are stacked against her, and to make matters worse, she begins to fall in love with her lawyer. Things seem bleak, but it looks like hope could shine in from an unexpected source, when the minister's neglected wife develops sympathy for Salma's plight.

Tickets are \$6 for regular admission and \$5 for students and senior citizens, and can be purchased at the door or in advance at the ticket office in the front lobby of the DeVos Fieldhouse. The ticket office is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be called at (616) 395-7890.

### **November 18th: The Cool Train: A One Man Performance**

A very special one-man performance featuring Hope alumnus Lunga Sinuka!

The event is part of The Belhar Confession, a statement of faith that arose in apartheid-era South Africa. The Belhar Confession has been studied in many different contexts over the last twenty years. This year, both the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church are deciding whether to make the Belhar an official standard-the first new creed for either denomination in 400 years. The Belhar speaks to Christians of all traditions, however, and to people of other faiths as well.

The performance of The Cool Train is at 7pm in the Dewitt Main Theatre. Following the performance, Mr. Earl James, coordinator of the Multicultural Initiatives and Social Justice for the Reformed Church of America, will lead a discussion with the audience. Admission is free!

For more information visit the Belhar study center at [rca.org](http://rca.org)

### **Great Performance Series**

The Hope College Great Performance Series will feature the Nathaniel Dett Chorale on Friday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel.

The Nathaniel Dett Chorale is a Canadian professional choral group dedicated to Afrocentric music of all styles, including classical, spiritual, gospel, jazz, folk and blues. The 21 classically trained vocalists have shared the stage with internationally recognized artists such as Juno Award-winning jazz pianist Joe Sealy; opera star Kathleen Battle; the Toronto Symphony Orchestra; and the Signal Hill Alumni Choir of Tobago, West Indies. The chorale has also performed at events honoring world leaders Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and personalities Muhammad Ali and Oscar Peterson.

Founder Brainerd Blyden-Taylor named the chorale after internationally-renowned African-Canadian composer R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943), who performed at prestigious concert halls such as Carnegie Hall and Boston Symphony Hall. Dett was

dedicated to the cause of Black music, winning the Bowdoin and Frances Boott prizes in 1920 from Harvard University.

Blyden-Taylor established the chorale to draw attention not only to Dett's legacy, but also to the wealth of Afrocentric choral music, and to be a professional choral group in which persons of African heritage could see themselves represented in the majority. The Nathaniel Dett Chorale's mission is to build bridges of understanding, appreciation, and acceptance between communities of people, both Afrocentric and other, through the medium of music. The chorale seeks to dissolve the barriers of stereotype, and to empower humans in general and those of African descent in particular.

Tickets for the performance are on sale at the ticket office in the DeVos Fieldhouse, and cost \$17 for regular admission, \$12 for senior citizens, and \$6 for children 18 and under. The ticket office is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be called at (616) 395-7890.

### **Women's Chamber Choir and Luminescence**

The Women's Chamber Choir of Hope College will perform with Luminescence and 12th Street Harmony on Monday, Nov. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church.

The program will include poetry by Emily Bronte and Leonora Speyer, accompanied on piano by Lannette Zylman-TenHave. Other pieces include two spirituals, "Nobody knows the trouble I see" and "Let Me Ask You," featuring soloists from the choir; a four-part setting of the Latin text "Jesu, dulcis memoria" ("Jesus, the very thought of thee"); an energetic Psalm 150; and an evocative work by Venezuelan composer Alberto Grau, "Kasar mie la gaji" ("The earth is tired"), in which the choir imitates the wind and navigates cross-rhythms and dissonances. The program will close with the choir's traditional song, "Blessing," by Katie Moran Bart.

The Women's Chamber Choir is directed by instructor and staff accompanist Jennifer Wolfe. She holds master's degrees in choral conducting and piano performance from Michigan State University and the University of Illinois.

### **Jack Ridl's Losing Season now available**

The world of high school basketball is shared through poetry in the latest collection by nationally-recognized poet Jack Ridl, professor emeritus of English at Hope College. Ridl's collection "Losing Season," by CavanKerry Press, follows a fictional, small-town high school team and its community in an experience lived out annually for decades across the country. Capturing the perspective of a mix of participants - coach, players, family, fans - and chronicling highs and lows along the way, the individual poems together create a composite view of a year of hope and defeat both on and off the basketball court.

Ridl was a member of the Hope faculty from 1971 until retiring in 2006. He has continued to stay involved in the life of the college, continuing to teach poetry for several

semesters and leading one of the college's week-long Summer Seminars, "Creative Writing: Poetry: Learning from Some Masters," in July. In 2008, he previewed "Losing Season" during the college's "Winter Happening" event in January.

"Losing Season" is available for \$16, and is on sale at the college's Hope-Geneva Bookstore, located on the ground level of the DeWitt Center, 141 E. 12th St., as well as at other area booksellers and Amazon.

#### INTERNSHIPS AND AUDITIONS:

Coming soon

This is the weekly edition of the Hope College Theatre Newsletter. If you have submissions you wish to see in it, please forward them by Thursday of the week before to [brittany.stock@hope.edu](mailto:brittany.stock@hope.edu). Keep up the beautiful art ☺