

It's The Straight Goods

The number of features in this our last newsletter for 2010/2011 is one indication of this year's journey and of what has emerged from all of our activities.

Our thanks to all of the wonderful guest artists Madeleine George, Jim Murphy, Lisa Fusillo and Bill Hastings-- for their contributions to our curriculum.

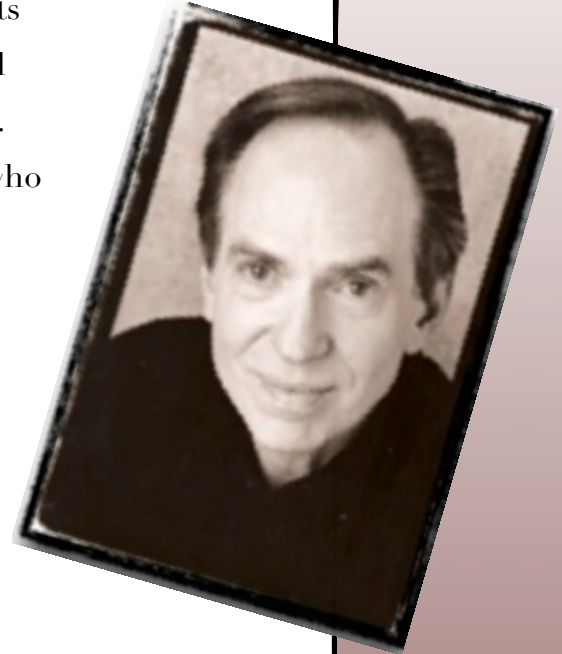
An expression of pride in our dance majors who excelled in the formal and informal showings at the ACDF in Kansas.

A note of congratulations to Lise Strigel who will be headed to New York and the New School for Drama for her graduate work.

A shout out to the award winning students who participated in this year's Undergraduate Research Exposition.

A welcome to Stacy and Scott's new progeny: Soren and Reid.

And finally, a note of sadness on behalf of a grateful department as Provost Belcher heads off to become the Chancellor of Western Carolina University. David and his wife Susan have served this program in any number of ways. The mere opportunity to collaborate with an administrator who is also a humanist and an artist is novel and memorable. Of all the help and support provided what has been most important to us is what comes naturally to David and Susan. Throughout their tenure one could stand on our stage for any of our season's selections and find the Belchers looking back at us from the audience. It's making art for people who crave it that makes us happy and fulfilled and appreciative. We wish them both great good luck and success in the adventure ahead.



Editor in Chief
Penn Ross Jackson, Jr.



Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks

We Announce Our New TAD Wizards!

The Department of Theatre Arts and Dance is excited and proud to announce that Mr. Stephen K. Stone will be joining the dance faculty in the fall of 2011. Stephen's primary responsibilities will be in the area of Jazz and Tap but he brings skill and professional experience in ballet and modern as well. In addition to his credits as a professional dancer and choreographer, Mr. Stone has taught at Wayne State University, Western Kentucky University, Towson University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In July, we will also be joined Mr. Joe Stafford, our new Technical Director. Joe comes to us from Chicago where he has worked with The Blue Man Group, the Live Wire Theatre and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Watch for our shop to become a place of all things magical, once again!

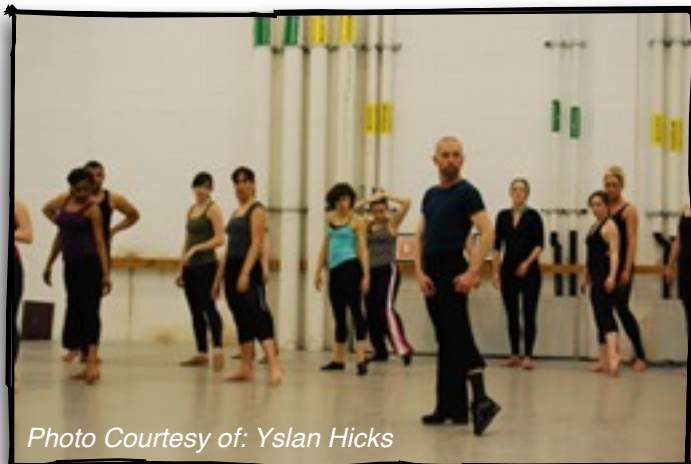


Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks



Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks

TAD Students Selected for the Undergraduate Research Expo!

Four students from the UALR Theatre & Dance department, Michael Bartholmey, Carrie Henry, Kazzie Cazort, and I, were selected to show off our work at the Undergraduate Research EXPO. Our entries titled “*Can You See Me Now*” were the final project from Theatre 1310: Intro to Theatrical Design. The project was described as “an experimental self-expression exercise that engaged critical and metaphorical thought by asking students to journey between color and black-and-white, and between projected and interpreted self, while discovering and applying the elements and principles of design. Students sought and selected a color resource (e.g., painting, photograph, advertisement, program from an event) for which they felt either an intuitive connection or a visceral response. The selected source became the first step in a process of re-imagining themselves in color and texture, juxtaposition and opposition, and shadow and light.”



Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks

I was honored to be chosen to represent our department in the EXPO. There were a lot of applicants this year so actually making the cut was really exciting. Going in I will admit that I was a bit

intimidated. I wasn't bringing in a project with something tangible that you could calculate. My piece was art. As artists we had to be able to articulate how we went through the research process that ended with this beautiful self portrait. I spoke with people from many of the departments at UALR and the feedback I received was very encouraging. A lot of people were blown away by the fact that all of the work was by hand. For me, as I learn to develop various skills as a designer, the



Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks

research EXPO was a great challenge in terms of articulating my process. I hope to be a part of the EXPO again next year.

Article Written by: Mikita Thompson

Britney Greenfield Selected for ACDF Gala!

The American College Dance Festival for 2010/2011 was held in Wichita, Kansas and we all had a fabulous experience! For four days we took classes in a variety of techniques from a variety of teachers, saw lots of performances, and visited with our peers from within outside of the region. Indeed, we met a company from Taiwan.

The piece I had choreographed for the fall Harvest Dance Concert and had continued to develop was chosen to be presented at the festival for adjudication. All told, forty-eight pieces, including Marisa Kirby's *Disordered* were shown to the audiences at large and were judged by a panel of three professional choreographers and teachers. We received valuable feedback and support from the judges. Ultimately, the panel chose ten selections to be repeated on the final night in the Gala concert and my dance, *What If You Were Gone* was one of the ten! For me and for the dancers, it was a thrilling opportunity.

Our department was well represented by the two selections in the formal showings and also by Calvin Chester's exciting offering, *Feelin' It* which was shown to a full house in an informal session.

Article Written by: Britney Greenfield



Photo Courtesy of: Michael Heavner



Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks



Photo Courtesy of: Mark Matthews

TAD's Fantastic *Finale* Presentation!

Every year the UALR College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences presents *Finale*; a large fund raiser to support the college. This year our talented and ever-expanding department was

selected to perform as the evening's entertainment. Two Theatre students, Shannon Lamb and TJ Medel, narrated an exciting Broadway Review featuring numerous students from our Dance Department choreographed by Rhythm McCarthy, Don Bolinger, and Bill Hastings. Ms. McCarthy also conceived and directed the evening's event. Meanwhile, more of our TAD students proudly appeared at the cocktail reception



Photo Courtesy of: Mark Matthews

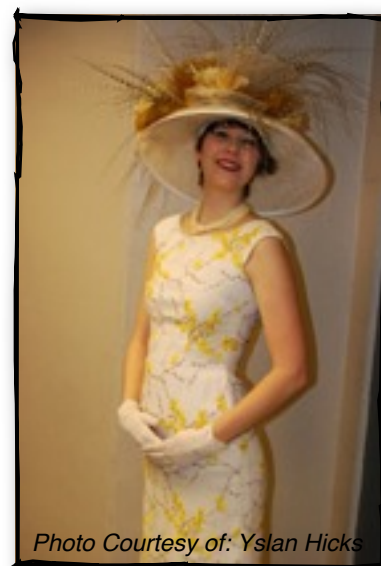


Photo Courtesy of: Yslan Hicks

which preceded the *Finale* dinner sporting beautifully constructed Costumes designed by Yslan Hicks.



Photo Courtesy of: Mark Matthews



Photo Courtesy of: Mark Matthews