

NEWSLETTER

A JOYFUL CELEBRATION

UALR's Theatre and Dance Department launched the 2009/2010 season with our traditional Rally. The event is a chance for all of the returning students, faculty and staff to meet and greet incoming



and prospective students. This year the added excitement of introducing the new BFA program in Dance Performance made the evening even more important. New folks, great food, awesome entertainment, and door prizes for all characterized our "coming together" and set the tone for what we anticipate will be another great year!!



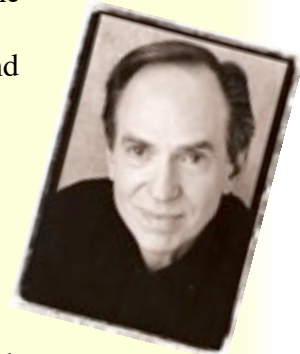
Special thanks to: Theatre and Dance Faculty for organizing the evening, T.J. Clark for his contribution to the entertainment, and T.J. Medel for his outstanding performance.

Contributing Editor

Ross Jackson

It's The Straight Goods

"And...we're off! The new BFA in Dance is officially launched and our first class has brought a special energy and talent and commitment to our studios. They are joined by a new faculty member, Ms. Nancy Happel, who we welcome-as we do all the new majors in both theatre and dance. Rehearsals for *Twelfth Night*, a partnership production with the Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, are underway and feature a cast of our students, the professional faculty, illustrious actors from central Arkansas and guest artists-as well as a most impressive creative staff. A student choreographed fall dance concert is also in process and promises to bring some interesting new "voices" to our attention. As the year unfolds, a number of guest artists will be dropping by, and we can look forward to the second new playwriting competition, an "awesome" production of *Kate Crackernuts* penned by Sheila Callaghan, a great friend of the department, and a continuation of bi-coastal updates from our alumni now in graduate programs! On behalf of the faculty and staff, here's to a wonderful new year!!"



TWELFTH NIGHT—Already a Big Deal!

The upcoming production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* (opening October 15 in the UT Theatre) is already a unique offering in a number of ways. UALR is partnering with the Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre and sharing resources and expertise in order to offer our students, as well as local audiences, a special opportunity.



The cast combines six UALR theatre majors, a talented young man from Little Rock Central High School, three faculty members, and three guest artists from across the state.

The creative staff of fourteen brings together, the department's professional design and technical staff, with student stage managers, the university's resident composer, a visiting artist in dance, the producer of the Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, and a guest artist who specializes in fight choreography.



All told, once the technical crews are assembled, some forty collaborators will have been called on to bring this show to our campus, community, and central Arkansas school audiences. Lots of folks, a really big and magical set, scores of Yslan's divine costumes., music, dance,

fighters---AND SHAKESPEARE!! Don't miss it!

An Addition to the Theatre and Dance Family!



We welcome 5 pound 13 ounce Rhiannon Sage Lyonsmith to the family! Born to our very own Sara Lyon (Lighting Director) and her husband Dave Smith on September 6, 2009 at 10:39 A.M. We send our love!

DONATE, DONATE, DONATE!

The UALR Student Government Association is doing a community service project to Reach 12,000 food items to be given to the Arkansas Foodbank. Right now, they still need 10,000 more non-perishable food items. The Office of Communications has challenged departments in the university to see who can collect the most items. Let's be that department! There is a collection box in the main hall of the building. Bring your non-perishable food items by Nov 1st. Students who donate to our department cause will be entered in a drawing by our department weekly from now until Nov 1st. So bring your non-perishable items today! The first drawing will be on Friday, September 18th at 1:00 p.m. See Karen Harris for details on the department weekly drawing.