



Curtains Up!

A new bachelor of arts degree in theater has been added to the curriculum at St. Bonaventure, offering a balance of theater text and production history, and performance technique and technical theatrical application.

The bachelor's degree in theater requires 48 hours of coursework and production in theater. Text-based courses in global production history and aesthetics, surveys in American and European theater history, the history of musical theater, and the combined research and performance-oriented senior capstone project, offer theater majors at SBU the opportunity to fully explore the foundations and applications of theater arts.

"Practical studies in acting, voice and movement, period styles, directing and technical theater and design provide students with a true 'hands-on' understanding of how theater is created and presented," said Dr. Ed. Simone, chair of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and director of the theater program.

"The establishment of the bachelor's degree in theater is the realization of a dream of offering a degree to complement our century-long theater production history and the strong presence of the arts in our liberal arts curriculum," said Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., president of the University.

The theater program currently offers 15 courses, two to three professionally directed production opportunities annually, as well as extensive scene and monologue work, and a cast of the national theater honor society Alpha Psi Omega.

Theater productions are rehearsed and staged in two fully equipped performance spaces: the intimate 114-seat Garret Theater and the larger Rigas Family Theater in The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. Other facilities include a large rehearsal and classroom studio, a fully equipped scene shop, and a computerized sound cue editing and playback system.

"St. Bonaventure's facilities for teaching and producing theater exceed many other institutions our size already offering the degree," Simone said, "and we're already planning for new spaces for workshops, offices and classes."

Recent SBU Theater productions have included "A Christmas Carol," "The Devil's Disciple," "The Cover of Life,"

and "Reckless," as well as original productions, including "The Inner Above," a play based on Shakespeare's works, and "What Are You Thinking?" by Mexican playwright Xavier Villarrutia. SBU Theater also performed the area premieres of Mary Zimmerman's "Metamorphoses" and a production of "Dog Stories" by the award-winning Chicago playwright Keith Huff, who came to SBU to see the production and teach theater workshop classes.

Huff was amazed to learn the University didn't offer a theater major at the time.

"To have encountered the level of commitment and skill from students actors who were concentrating in other academic disciplines was absolutely astounding," he said.

Records of theater performance at SBU go back to 1875, when the first theatrical performances took place. Theater courses, first offered in the early 1970s, and the establishment of a theater minor in 1999 have already provided a solid foundation for students seeking a firm foundation for further study in theater and for students who wish to apply this knowledge to other areas, including studies in literature, education, pre-law, political science, philosophy and history.

"My connection with theater at SBU impacted my college experience in a very positive way, and enhanced my academic career greatly," said Patricia Ryan Lampl, a member of St. Bonaventure's Class of 1977 and an Emmy-nominated TV producer and author. "Theater provides the same relationships people generally associate with sports — teamwork, friendship and discipline. My enthusiasm for a theater major at SBU is boundless."

Approved by the University's Faculty Senate last fall, the major has recently been approved by the New York State Department of Education.

"We have made a strategic decision to increase the presence of the arts on campus, and this program follows closely on the heels of the approval of the music major and in advance of the art history major, which will be submitted for state approval later this semester," said Dr. Stephen D. Stahl, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. "I am excited that we are developing programs to take full advantage of our spectacular facilities."

Work to Begin in April on rare books addition to SBU library

Construction will begin in early April on the new Paul and Irene Bogoni Rare Books Library, an impressive addition to St. Bonaventure University's Friedsam Memorial Library.

Additional gifts for this library addition were received from Leslie C. Quick III and the estate of John R. McGinley Sr., allowing University officials to finalize construction plans. The construction schedule includes a planned hiatus during final exam week in May to minimize noise, said Brenda Snow, vice president for business and finance.

A \$2 million gift from the Bogonis laid the financial foundation for the project. The uniqueness of the University's Rare Books Collection prompted the initial gift.

"The collection actually consists of nine discrete collections of rare books and manuscripts which had been gathered over more than a century, primarily by past directors and librarians of the Franciscan Institute," said Fr. Michael F. Cusato, O.F.M., director of the Institute.

"More recently, the collection also came to be bolstered through the acquisition of the libraries of several Franciscan provinces in North America that could no longer care for their precious tomes," Fr. Michael said. The rest of the rare book collection consists of volumes gathered by the University over the last century, he added.

In an early review of the collection, scholars from the National Endowment for the Humanities described it as "a unique national asset of great value to American humanistic scholarship." Since that time, the collection has doubled in size and includes the most important collection of Franciscana in North America.

The library expansion will protect this stunning collection with state-of-the-art mechanical, electrical, security and fire suppression systems. The design also provides the required vault storage space incorporating high density shelving to maximize floor space and efficiency.

The design of the addition, rather than replicating the existing structure, will complement both the original library and the 1970s addition with an assem-

blage of materials and textures.

The terra cotta roofing that for decades has helped distinguish the St. Bonaventure campus will be incorporated into the design, with high-performance glass offering a way to safely open the reading rooms to natural sunlight as well as to integrate the structure with the glass and brick of the 1970s addition.

The addition will be set back from the main north facade, eventually providing an outdoor contemporary garden area. At night, the glass walkway surrounding the inner building core will be lit up, highlighting the unique collection contained therein.

Duggan & Duggan of Allegany, N.Y., has been selected as the project's general contractor, Snow said.

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts presents Senior Thesis Exhibition at the QCA

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts at St. Bonaventure University will present Identity, a senior thesis exhibition, at the Quick Center. The exhibition opens on Thursday, April 12, in the Kenney Gallery of the Quick Center and will remain on view through May 12. The four seniors represented in the exhibition are: Catherine Kwiatkowski, Denise Moran, Steven Smaldone and Ardyth Van Scoy. A gallery talk, as part of the graduating requirement, will be given by the four artists on Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m., on the second floor of the Quick Center, with a reception to follow.

Spring clothing drive

Have a box of winter clothes you're planning on taking home over break? Don't know what to do with your clothes that don't fit anymore? Raid your closets! It's time for the Spring Clothing Drive! Stop by the drop boxes in U-Min, Shay-lo and Townhouse 133. All clothing collected will be taken to the Salvation Army in town. Please consider making a donation today! Contact Bridget Fraize, Lauren McGovern or Jayme Pfaff by SBU e-mail for more information.



CABNEWS

2007

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

3 p.m. **11**
Baseball vs. Canisius

7 p.m.
Appalachian Voices program on mountain top removal

7:30p.m.
Find-A-Roomate
Campus Ministries

12

3:30p.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Cornell

7:30 p.m.
Senior Thesis Gallery Talk
QCA Second Floor

13

4 p.m.
Women's Tennis

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

14

TBA
Women's Tennis

15

16

Tuesday

17

3 p.m.
Softball vs. Niagara

3 p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Niagara

4 p.m.
Women's Lacrosse vs. Binghamton



ST. BONAVENTURE
UNIVERSITY

Valuing Knowledge, Integrity, Community

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