



Inside Bona's

The E-Newspaper for the
St. Bonaventure University
Campus Community

Sept. 25, 2008

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SBU Theater announces cast for fall production of 'Dead Man Walking'

St. Bonaventure University's Theater program will delve into a serious theme — the death penalty — for its fall production of "Dead Man Walking."

"Dead Man Walking" is the stage version of Sr. Helen Prejean's Pulitzer Prize-nominated book by the same name. It was also made into an Academy Award-winning movie directed by actor and activist Tim Robbins, who worked with Prejean in developing the 1995 film.

"Dead Man Walking" tells of Prejean's early experiences ministering to inmates on Louisiana's death row. It focuses particularly on Prejean's relationship with inmate Matt Poncelet, on death row for rape and murder.

Playing the roles of Prejean and Poncelet in the campus production are students Erin Lowry, '11, of Shanghai, China, a theater and journalism and mass communication major, and Alex Sanders, '09, a journalism and mass communication major from Howell, N.J.

"I chose Lowry and Sanders to play Sister Helen and Matt Poncelet because they brought emotional reality and resonance to the text, which I recognized as having potential to grow through the rehearsal period and become, in performance, living character," said Dr. Ed. Simone, chair of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts. "I am also confident in their dedication and commitment to the emotional and physical processes of developing a role."

Sanders is a first-timer with SBU Theater, but a veteran of theater classes, while Lowry has appeared in two previous SBU Theater productions: "Revenge of the Space Pandas" and "Scary But True: One Act Festival IV."

"I was excited (to be chosen to play Sr. Helen), but it was also a little overwhelming," said Lowry who said she is generally cast in more humorous roles.

"Dead Man Walking" will run at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 5-8 in The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. The production was chosen as the theater program's contribution to St. Bonaventure's 150th Anniversary Celebration because of its strong social justice and nonviolence themes.

"I hope people come in with an open mind," Lowry said. "Our goal is to make them think about their own views."

One talkback for audience members is scheduled after the Nov. 6 performance.

The stage version of "Dead Man Walking" is part of the national Dead Man Walking Theatre Project, which is only available to colleges, universities and some secondary schools. Its goal is to educate and promote social action. Thus, in conjunction with the theater production, St. Bonaventure will offer special death penalty and social justice lecture opportunities.

Dr. Barry Gan, associate professor of philosophy and director of the Center for Nonviolence on campus, is offering a special topics philosophy course on the death penalty. In addition, "Dead Man Walking" was chosen as the fall selection for Alle-Cat Reads, making the book a topic for discussion and debate among readers in Allegany and Cattaraugus counties.

On Nov. 11, Prejean will be on campus for a lecture, "Dead Man Walking: The Journey Continues," and book signing. The event, which is free and open to the public, will start at 7:30 p.m. in the Reilly Center Arena and is sponsored by the University's Franciscan Center for Social Concern.

Lowry said she plans to attend Prejean's lecture and would love to meet her in person.

Tickets for the November theater production of "Dead Man Walking" are available by calling the Quick Center for the Arts Box Office at (716) 375-2494. "Dead Man Walking" contains adult subjects and language.

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All Bonaventure Views Film Festival begins Oct. 1

The public is invited to join the St. Bonaventure University community for the upcoming All Bonaventure Views Film Festival.

The film topics were chosen to complement the All Bonaventure Reads selection for incoming freshmen: "Left to Tell," a memoir by Immaculée Ilibagiza, is a story of survival and faith set in the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

All of the films will be shown at The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts free of charge. Due to the films' content, the movies are recommended for mature audiences.

FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

"Beyond the Gates," 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 1 (Unrated): The film, set during the Rwandan conflict in 1994, is based in a school that became a refugee camp for 2,500 Tutsi citizens. Within hours of UN troops withdrawing from the school, almost all of the Rwandans were killed.

"Schindler's List," 7:30 p.m. on both Oct. 6 and Oct. 8 (Rated R): Based on the story of the Holocaust, Oskar Schindler, a member of the Nazi Party, saved the lives of more than 1,000 Jews during the Holocaust.

“Lost Boys of Sudan,” 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 15 (Unrated): This movie is set during the perilous Civil War in Sudan, when young Dinka tribesmen fled the area. Trying to reach a refugee camp, they risked thirst, starvation and animal attacks.

“Screamers,” 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 23 (Rated R): “Screamers” is a campaign to end genocide by System of a Down, a popular rock band. This movie is a combination of concert and film, and is somewhat reflective as it traces history and modern-day genocide.

“Hotel Rwanda,” to be shown at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Nov. 12 (Rated PG13): This film takes place in the Rwandan capital of Kigali in 1994. The main character, Paul Rusesabagina, saved 1,200 Rwandans during the clash between the Hutus and Tutsis.

All Bonaventure Reads is a book program for incoming freshmen organized by the University’s First-Year Experience program. The students are given the title of the book during summer Orientation and encouraged to read it before classes begin at the end of August.

The FYE program will welcome “Left to Tell” author Immaculée Ilibagiza to campus Thursday, Nov. 20, for a 7 p.m. program in the Reilly Center Arena. That program is also free and open to the public.

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SBU School of Education receives accreditation for counseling

The St. Bonaventure University School of Education has been accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for entry-level programs in community counseling and school counseling.

This accreditation adds St. Bonaventure to a long list of schools and universities throughout the country that offer CACREP-approved programs in the field of counseling.

CACREP accreditation contributes to the unity of the counseling profession by bringing together practitioners, teachers and students in the vital activity of setting standards for the preparation and education of entry-level professionals and of continually improving professional preparation, educational research and scholarship, and practice.

The process has taken Dr. Peggy Burke, dean of the School of Education, and her staff more than four years to complete.

“This is not the sort of thing you complete with one person overnight,” she said. “You need a team of individuals working together over a long period of time.”

The first step in the process is self-evaluation. Burke and her staff began working on an in-depth report on the School of Education four years ago when the University hired a specialized consultant to help with the process. The finalized report was submitted to CACREP at the end of the spring 2008 semester.

“The report itself is about six inches thick,” said Burke. “They don’t take your word; it is the program’s responsibility to prove everything with the proper documentation.”

After the report was submitted, CACREP sent a team to the campus to do its own evaluation of the programs up for

accreditation. They submitted their report to the CACREP board and the programs were approved for accreditation.

The accreditation will last for a two-year period, standard for schools being accredited for the first time. CACREP will approve the accreditation for two years and then evaluate the progress the school has made. If all goes well for two years the school will then be accredited for eight years.

For potential students, consumers and counselor credentialing boards, CACREP accreditation provides recognition that a program meets or exceeds national standards as well as quality assessment and enhancement without resort to governmental control of or interference in the content of education for the profession.

According to the CACREP Web site, graduates from CACREP accredited schools score higher on the National Counselor Exam for Licensure and Certification (NCE) than graduates from schools that are not accredited.

“People looking for college programs in counseling look for CACREP accreditation,” said Burke. “It’s exciting to know that we now have those programs here at St. Bonaventure.”

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Newsmakers for Fall 2008

Dr. Joel Horowitz, professor of history, presented the paper “Argentine Historical Writing since 1945” at a conference “Globalizing the History of Historical Writing: The Plenary Conference of the Oxford History of Historical Writing,” which took place in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The conference was sponsored by the University of Alberta as part of its 100th anniversary celebration and by Oxford University Press. The papers that were presented at the conference will be published in five volumes as the Oxford History of Historical Writing.

Dr. Rodney J. Paul, associate professor of economics, presented two papers at the Symposium of the Southern Economic Journal on Gambling, Prediction Markets, and Public Policy in Nottingham, England. The two papers presented were “Are Behavioral Biases Consistent Across the Atlantic?”, which compares behavioral biases in European Soccer to biases seen in North America, and “Sportsbook Behavior and Television Coverage in NCAA Football: Tests of the Traditional and Levitt Models of Sportsbook Behavior,” which explores the role of television coverage in behavioral biases and offers explanations of the findings in relation to Levitt’s (Freakonomics) model of sportsbook behavior.

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Recent grad named assistant director of communications at St. Bonaventure

Mark J. Inman has been named assistant director of communications at St. Bonaventure University.

Inman’s tasks will essentially revolve around updating and modifying the St. Bonaventure University Web site, as well as writing feature stories for various University print and Web site publications.

Inman started in the Office of Communications in May 2007 as a work-study student, where he familiarized himself with many of the same tasks that he is assigned to in his new position.

“Since I began working in this office last summer, I have learned a lot about the expectations and commitments required in the communications field. The opportunity to complement job experience with formal classroom learning is phenomenal,” Inman said.

He will report to Tom Donahue, director of print and electronic publications, and Dr. Emily Sinsabaugh, vice president for University Relations.

“Mark has been a valued contributor to the Office of Communications, both as a writer and a Web content developer and editor. We are pleased that he will continue to lend his expertise to the production of print and electronic publications,” Donahue said.

Inman, a native of Allegany, received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English this past May.

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Career Center News ...

The Career Center’s On Campus Recruiting continues to move forward! Resume submission deadlines are fast approaching for companies such as Kersey & Associates, Dresser-Rand, and Lumsden & McCormick! To view the current recruiting calendar, [click here!](#)

Next week’s programming includes the Interviewing Strategies for Accounting & Finance Majors workshop on Monday, Sept. 29 from 4 – 5:15 p.m. in the Hall of Fame Room , Reilly Center. Additionally, the Greater WNY Law School Fair will be held Thursday, Oct. 2 in Buffalo. Please contact the Career Center for additional details on these programs.

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Friday Forum

All SBU faculty, staff and administrators are welcome to all the Friday Forums.

Date: Friday, Sept. 26, 2008

Speaker: Bro. Ed Coughlin. O.F.M.

Time: Lunch starts at noon, Forum goes from 12:20 to 1:30 p.m., including Q&A

Place: University Club - Above Hickey

Title: Compassion: Can it be Taught, Caught, and/or Learned?

In the SBU statement of distinction (2007), we promised to “foster the development of knowledgeable, skilled, compassionate and ethical individuals by mentoring our students within vitally engaging learning environments.” Our Friday Forum will explore the challenges of fulfilling one dimension of that promise.

Drawing on the resources of the Franciscan intellectual-spiritual tradition, we will consider the dynamic process through which St Francis became a man known for his compassionate and loving service of those who were in need according to our patron St. Bonaventure. The wisdom of the tradition will also be used as a resource in helping us to think through the challenges of educating and forming students with the vision and the skills to build a more just and compassionate world in the 21st century.

Cost: \$3

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