Ah, the end draws nigh...but as always the level of activity is increasing!

With the opening of Bodyworks-2013 this week, TJ's recent presentation of his capstone production, the department's preparation to perform a bit of Chicago for Finale--the College's annual fundraiser, and the participation of many of our students in the university's creative and scholastic symposium, our halls have been alive with the sound of "activity."

And here's a heads up--our last issue for the year will feature news of our alums and a look forward for this year's graduating class. Watch for it!!
Capstone Project

"On Saturday, March 30, Timothy T.J. Medel presented his capstone project in the form of two very comical and unscripted hours. T.J., soon to be receiving his BA in Theatre, shared the improvisational form on which he has been working for the last two years. The improv showcase presented in two performances on one evening was mentored by Stacy Pendergraft. Medel commented that "Stacy has a great eye and offered a helping hand in formatting the show." The preparation involved playing improv games in workshops over a lengthy period; researching and exploring the form and how it is delivered. Impressively, the ultimate result was built within one week of rehearsal with a set of unique players including Medel himself and Carrie Henry, Danny Jimenez, Olivia Perry, Blake Worth, and graduate, Erin Anson. The mix of performance personalities provided a variety of comic responses. The two shows were similarly structured but were completely improvised. Audience participation and a variety of games (Change, Two Headed Professor, More Awesome, and the Three Line Scene) made for an entertaining evening. Overall, the research and planning ended on a note of laughter and exciting theatre." -Olivia Perry
Another Milestone for a Budding Program

9 Voices, this fall’s student dance concert proved to be yet another milestone in the growth and development of the dance program at UALR. Truly a testament to the outstanding training our professors offer, the concert was created and performed by dance majors under the facilitation and guidance of Rhythm McCarthy, as an outgrowth of the composition curriculum.

Though the tile clearly identifies the nine student choreographers, it does not indicate the many other artists who contributed to the finished works. Choreographer Emily Karnes commented that “...the most beneficial part was getting to work with stage manager, Samantha Key, lighting designer, Laura Dowling, an the costume consultants, Yslan Hicks and Don Bolinger. Olivia Perry added that her experience working with musical director, Michael Heavner was “challenging at first but ultimately very beneficial in that it brought a new respect for collaborating with other artists.” Indeed, the overall integration of the various areas is a perfect representation of the overall primary goal of the department. The ultimately comprehensive and cohesive experience is an example of the environment created in both theatre and dance-an environment that fosters exploration and personal development.

We continue to develop an ever growing audience as the community becomes aware of the department’s students and their accomplishments. This year we played to well over 200 patrons a night and received positive feedback from other students, community patrons, and professors across the campus. It is clear that the future is very promising for this budding program.

-Ali Herring
from *9 Voices*: Another Milestone

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**etiquette**  
Choreography: Olivia Nicole Perry  
Music: Iwasaki Taku– edited by Michael Heavner  
Costumes: Yslan Hicks and Olivia Perry  
Dancers: Heidee Alsdorf, Nina Harris, Elizabeth Hartzell, Jessica Hyde, Morgan McKinney, Lyndsey Rauls
Hello from Italy! Our departments Accademia dell’Arte scholar is approaching the end of her semester long term abroad in Arezzo, Italy. Elizabeth Hartzell has touched base with the department to tell us about her life changing experiences and her progression as a dancer. Though we are excited for her return home, it’s wonderful to see all the opportunities she has had so far.

-Olivia Perry

Hello All,

My time in Arezzo has been wonderful so far. We live outside of town on top of the hill in a bright yellow villa you can see from the city. The view outside my window is of the city walls, and the beautiful mountains surrounding the area. The landscape and architecture I see everyday are so inspiring. My classes run from 9am-7pm everyday. There are 9 dancers in my group so it is a very intimate setting. I’m also sharing my time with 22 acting students. We have the opportunity to eat meals together, go to events together, and we occasionally get to take classes together.

My classes include contemporary dance, composition, Tarantella, ballet, Laban, Italian, and philosophy of art. I’ve already learned so much from all my classes and really enjoy the difference in approach from my professors. I’m picking up on the Italian language, and get to practice every time I’m in town or traveling. I’m also learning to play the ukulele from some of the actors, and my Tarantella teacher Johnny has offered me vocal lessons. I can’t believe what a wonderful experience I have had in such a short period of time. Coming here is like a dream come true, and I can’t wait to come home and share my experiences with everyone.

Elizabeth
Benefit Performance to Send Students to England for Marlowe Festival

The proceeds from this Saturday's benefit performance of ART will go to sending our students to perform at the Marlowe Festival in England next summer. The tickets are $50 and reservations can be made by calling 569-3456.

Auditions: Beast on the Moon or Danny and the Deep Blue Sea

Auditions for the UALR Theatre & Dance Spring Play Beast on the Moon by Richard Kalinoski or Danny and the Deep Blue Sea by Patrick Shanley will be held October 18th and 19th 4:00-7:00 PM in Haislip Theatre 127 in the Performing Arts building. Scripts can be checked out in the Theatre office 569-3291.

Beast on the Moon Synopsis

In 1921, an Armenian mail-order bride is shipped to Milwaukee to begin a new life with her photographer husband. Both yearn to emerge from the dark shadows of the Armenian holocaust. As they struggle to redefine family amidst grief and displacement, these kindred strangers realize love deeper than ever imagined. Email wachapman@ualr.edu for a copy of the script.

Bar-Crossed Lovers: Danny and the Deep Blue Sea Synopsis

So...we have two of ART coming up including the benefit performance for the Marlowe Project on Saturday night. Tickets still available. Next week will see us in high gear with the design presentation for Purgatory and auditions for the first show in Haislip in Spring semester! Watch the boards for times and places and by all means take advantage of what's coming your way!

This week we begin with installations from our recent grads on their experiences with intern and grad programs. Alexis Qualvis writes to us of a typical week at Columbia University in the MFA Stage Management area. You may need a nap when you finish reading this account! ...more