

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Students hop into memory lane

By Jenni Park
A&E Editor

Student actors are reliving their childhood memories as they rehearse for the upcoming student production "The Velveteen Rabbit".

"This timeless story teaches valuable life lessons such as the importance of finding personal peace and the comfort and love that friends can provide," director of the play, Michael Ryczek said. "It also challenges existing stereotypes, teaches the value of faith and hope and how one must endure and be patient."

The nature of the play is set out to entertain children and to capture their attention while engaging adults as well.

Auditions were held in the beginning of September along with other student productions.

"Connie Canaday Howard chose this piece as a part of the COD theater season," Ryczek said.

The play portrays a message of how powerful love and friendship can be and has given guidance to the cast members to bring out their innocence of childhood, as adults.

"I think the script is beautiful and the characters are so colorful and fun," student actor playing the role of Rabbit Spirit, Alyssa Burns said. "I hope that we are able to portray the beautiful message to all those who watch, adults and children alike."

With the script demanding a limited amount of characters, seven out of the ten cast members have taken on two roles for this production.



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Molly Maletich (Andrea) rehearses a scene from the Velveteen Rabbit on Wednesday. The production opens Dec. 6.

Victoria Jozef, a cast member has been rehearsing the parts of Nana and the Spirit of the Wild Rabbit.

"Each rehearsal has brought new character developments and laughter," Jozef said. "It has strengthened our friend-

ships as well and working with this cast has been an enjoyable experience."

According to Ryczek, actors

have a lot of fun during rehearsals coming up with character traits for the actors playing toys and animals; they also have a great deal of respect for what the play has to say to children,

Through the production and rehearsals, Ryczek brought to the actors his imaginative and creative visions.

"From improvised warm-ups to reviewing blocking, everyone in the cast has been putting in a lot of energy and dedication to bring to life Michael's imaginative vision," Jozef said. "Michael has been full of creative ideas that push us to create a truly magical world."

According to Ryczek, everyone needs to be a part of the team and to feel like voices are being heard.

"Student actors not only learn how a play comes to life involving rehearsals, design elements and technical elements," Ryczek said. "They also learn the importance of leadership, patience and personal creative input."

The director hopes the students will learn the value and responsibility that comes from performing for a younger audience.

"They may be a part of a child's first theater experience and therefore open up a whole new world of creativity for that child," Ryczek said.

The cast members have moved forward with improvement throughout rehearsals.

"This cast has been amazing," Ryczek said. "They have so much energy and it has been a total joy to work with them."

Small group 'jazzes it up'

By Jenni Park
A&E Editor

Student musicians of the Small Group Jazz tap their feet to the jazzy tempo during rehearsal for the upcoming performances.

The group consists of eight members creating an intimate atmosphere playing jazzy tunes directed by professor of music, Tom Tallman. "COD is unique in that all of our classes, including music ensembles, include a variety of people from different age groups and with different levels of experience," Tallman said.

"Small Group Jazz is proof that this variety not only makes for a great academic climate but it also sounds good."

According to Dan Clark, the drum-

mer of the band, some of the musicians in the group have been studying together for two semesters.

"We have great chemistry," Clark said. "Professor Tallman always gives the band songs that are challenging and are fun to perform."

Along with several veteran musicians, newly added members bring a variety of musical taste to the group.

"What I think is really cool is there are people of different abilities," clarinetist Deb Zelman said.

"This is my first semester here and there are professional musicians, college students and people in between working very well together."

As Tallman interacts with students as they rehearse for the performances, members of the group who are anticipating their turn to tune in look over their music.

"Small group jazz band is one of the best ways for one to learn how to interact and play with other musicians,"



Photo by Aldo Blanco

The Small Group Jazz rehearsed on Tuesday for their December 4th show at noon in the Studio theater at the MAC.

Clark said.

A total of two concerts will be performed.

One band will be playing at noon on Tuesday and two bands will perform at noon on Thursday.

Original work by musicians in the bands, including Aaron Newman's

"Adult Supervision" and Clem Hamilton's arrangement of Joe Henderson's "Recorda Me" will be performed,

"Weekly rehearsals began with a jam session at the beginning of fall semester," Tallman said.

"Students have worked very hard to prepare for the concerts."

McANINCH ARTS CENTER 2007-2008

DuPage Chorale

EARTH IS OUR MOTHER

Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., \$16/\$6 COD students

College Music

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Dec. 4, 8 p.m., \$4



Student Music

College Music

SMALL GROUP JAZZ

Dec. 4 & 6, Noon, Free



Student Music

College Music

GUITAR ENSEMBLE

Dec. 6, 2:30 p.m., Free

College Music

CONCERT CHOIR CHAMBER SINGERS

Dec. 6, 8 p.m., \$4



College of DuPage Student Theater

VELVETEEN RABBIT

by Anita Larsen

Dec. 7 to 16, \$11/\$10 COD students.

Pre-show Discussion, Dec. 6, 6:45 p.m.

Post-show Discussion, Dec. 14



Kathy Mattea

KATHY MATTEA

Dec. 9, 7 p.m., \$42/\$32 COD students

College Music

DUPAGE COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND

Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., \$4



Eileen Ivers

EILEEN IVERS AND IMMIGRANT SOUL

Dec. 13, 8 p.m., \$38/\$28 COD students

New Classic Singers

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

Dec. 15, 1 p.m., \$10/\$8 COD students



New Classic Singers

Gahlberg Gallery

OHIO

Nov. 29 to Jan. 5, Free

FEATURED EVENT



Arts Center Jazz Ensemble THE DUKE ELLINGTON SONGBOOK: BALLADS AND BEATS

Dec. 7, 8 p.m., \$25/\$15 COD students.

Our popular Arts Center Jazz Ensemble's annual event returns, with the love songs and exotic beats that took Ellington's music, like "Mood Indigo," "Take the A Train" and "Satin Doll," from Harlem's Cotton Club to the far corners of the globe.

Tickets:

(630) 942-4000

www.AtTheMAC.org

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This program is
partially sponsored
by a grant from the
Illinois Arts Council.

HOT TIX

Attention C.O.D. Students

Bring your student ID
to the MAC ticket office
between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. the
Friday before the event to
receive half-price tickets.
Subject to availability.

the **MAC** McANINCH ARTS CENTER AT COLLEGE OF DuPAGE

Starving Artist



Natalie Yono: Architecture

How would you describe the kind of art that you do?

I design a lot of things from rooms, spaces, logos and jewelry.

I love nature so I use natural things in my design and usually stick to very clean, simple designs using basic geometric shapes and symmetry.

Where do you find/what is your inspiration?

Basically, inspiration is everywhere and anywhere.

Great ideas just hit me at unexpected moments; someone makes a bizarre statement or something unexpected happens around me.

God, He's definitely high on my list of inspirations.

I'd have to say my number one inspiration is my son. He's so off-the-wall goofy and hilarious.

How did you get your start?

I have to say I loved art my whole life. I think I got serious about art after I had my son.

I started focusing on what I enjoy doing and learned to really appreciate the little things in life a whole lot more.

What character traits do you possess that lend themselves to what you do?

I'm ambitious, fun-loving and balanced.

I can never sit still and do nothing.

*What parts of art do you love?
Hate?*

I definitely love spontaneous photographs because it is original it's unique, one of a kind, and has memories attached to it.

You really can't take two that are exactly the same and the most fun part for me is the photo-shopping.

I love changing it and making it unique the only thing I don't like is not having the time to do it.

Who are your heroes?

Jesus, firefighters, policemen, marines anyone that risked or sacrificed their lives for something or someone they loved.

I can honestly say that's one thing I don't think I could do.

I'll donate my blood or my organs, but I don't know about my life.

What are your plans after COD?

I will transfer to either Benedictine or Judson University. At the moment I am undecided.

My plan is to get my bachelor's in Business Management and Marketing or something related to that.

What are some of your other hobbies?

I definitely love cooking. I also play the violin and piano.

I just started teaching myself how to play the bass guitar.

I enjoy spending time with my son most of my time outside of school and work, I'm 100% mommy.

My son is my motivation and inspiration.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

I'll be nearing forty years old and most likely I will still be in school part-time learning whatever seems interesting to me at the time.

LibraryDVDs

DVD Questions or requests?
Contact resident librarian Jennifer Kelley
at kelleyj@cod.edu or call 942-2383.

Librarian's Pick!

Broken English

If you're a Parker Posey fan, then you don't even need a description of this film—you'll see "new movie" and "Parker Posey" and you'll rush right in and rent the DVD.

If you require a little more information, then let me tell you that director Zoe Cassavetes's big screen debut is the best romantic comedy that you'll see this year.

While the outline of the plot is no great shakes (semi-neurotic 30-something New Yorker can't find a good man, then, maybe, finds one), Posey owns this role and makes it charming beyond belief.

The Contract

Although this 2006 thriller stars big name actors Morgan Freeman and John Cusack, it passed pretty much under the radar, garnering little critical attention at all.

Freeman plays a hit man out to fulfill his contract and generally mucking up Cusack's bereaving family's hiking trip.

Red Road

The Grand Jury Prize winner at Cannes this year and part of an interesting to-be-continued trilogy project (the second and third movies will feature the same characters, but have different directors).

Red Road is a terse thriller that will keep you riveted as the mysterious connections between an ex-con and the woman who spots him on Red Road's video surveillance camera and then begins to stalk him begin to emerge.

Meet the Robinsons

An animated time traveling romp from Disney, based on the children's book "A Day with Wilbur Robinson" by William Joyce.

Orphan/inventor Lewis encounters the entertaining Robinson family of the title in the year 2037 as he embarks on a fantastic journey in search of his mother.

Daddy's Little Girls

Critics agreed that this is Tyler Perry's best film to date, but suggest that there is

room for improvement in this romantic comedy/melodrama with a heart.

Idris Elba stars as Monty, a single father struggling to gain custody of his daughters with the help of Julia (Gabrielle Union), his unlucky-in-love lawyer.

Thunderpants

I can recommend this movie to two segments of the population: first, fans of Rupert Grint, the ginger-haired actor best known as Ron Weasley in the Harry Potter movies; second, pre-teen boys who find nothing funnier than a good fart joke.

Thunderpants, the heartwarming story of a gassy boy who achieves fame and success, is, as you can imagine, rife with this sort of humor.

The Hoax

Richard Gere stars as Clifford Irving, the journalist who captured that attention of the nation with his exclusive interview with famous recluse, Howard Hughes.

Unfortunately, Irving never got the interview, but that didn't stop him from

pulling off the infamous hoax of the title.

A really enjoyable movie directed by Lasse Hallström (Chocolat, Cider House Rules).

The Reaping

As scary movies make their comeback on the big-screens, Oscar-winning actresses like Hilary Swank get in on the genre, in this case a classic "intellectual up against the unexplainable" entry.

Swank is a deeply skeptical scientist. Naturally, her rational explanations for rivers turned to blood and the like begin to fall apart as she meets up with the potentially evil little girl (AnnaSophia Robb) who seems to be the source of all this Biblically-proportioned unpleasantness.

The Ex

A rather silly movie that places Zach Braff in all manner of tough situations. Tom Reilly loses his job in Manhattan and is forced to move his wife (Amanda Peet) and newborn child to his wife's hometown where he humbles himself in working for his father-in-law.

—For Your Information—

DuPage Chorale

The DuPage Chorale will present Dave Brubeck's "Earth Is Our Mother," with texts by Chief Seattle.

Conducted by Lee Kesselman, the Chorale will also sing a holiday and gospel music to celebrate the holidays.

Members of the DuPage Chorale orchestra and pianist Barbara Ekholm will accompany the Chorale in concert.

The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday in the McAninch Arts Center.

Student Choirs

DuPage Chamber Singers and Concert Choir will present their first season concert with an eclectic program of works.

The performance will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday in the McAninch Arts Center Mainstage.

For ticket information, call the MAC ticket box office at 630-942-4000.

Kathy Mattea

Kathy Mattea, the two-time CMA Female Vocalist of the Year, likes to capture the spirit of the holidays by singing a mix of her old favorites and new songs.

The performance will be held at 7 p.m. on next Sunday at the MAC.

For more information, call MAC ticket box office at 630-942=4000.

Eileen Ivers

Eileen Ivers has produced boldly imaginative work that bridges her Celtic roots with African and Latin traditions.

Ivers established her reputation as an outstanding musician from her star musical turn in "Riverdance" and her thirty-plus medals in the All-Ireland Championships.

The concert is sponsored by WDCB (FM 90.0) and will be held at 8 p.m. on Dec. 13 at the MAC.

Starving Artists Wanted

If you would like to be featured as a Starving Artist in the Arts & Entertainment section, contact the A&E editor via e-mail at arts@cod.edu or call 630-942-2713.

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The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)
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Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, and provolone cheese all topped with lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, and our homemade Italian vinaigrette. (You hav'ta order hot peppers, just ask!)
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A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
- #11 COUNTRY CLUB®**
Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)
- #12 BEACH CLUB®** 🏖️
Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)
- #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®**
Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)
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