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URI THEATRE

SUMMER NEWSLETTER, 2018

Important Academic Dates for Fall 2018

- Sept. 4: Advising Day
Sept 12: Majors Meeting
Sept. 18: Last Day to Add
(with Permission number)
Oct. 1: Seniors: Intent to
Graduate due to Dean
Oct. 8: No Classes
Oct 15: Registration for
Spring 2019 begins
(check e-campus for
actual dates and times)
Oct. 22: Mid Semester
Nov. 12: No Classes
Nov. 13: Monday Classes
Nov 21-25: Thanksgiving
Recess
Dec 11: Last Day of
Classes
Dec 13-15, 17-20: Finals

Our 2018/19 Season

Women & War

Oct. 11-14 and 18-21

Noises Off

Nov. 29-Dec. 2 and 6-9

The Wolves

Feb. 21-24 & 28-Mar. 3

A Little Night Music

Apr. 18-20 & 25-28



WELCOME!

It is hard to believe we are back in just a few weeks, isn't it? This summer has been a whirlwind of organizing, prepping, and (for me) learning that being a chair of a department is harder than picking out paint colours for a new office. Bonnie, Sil, and I have been digging deep to make sure that I am prepared for the new semester and I hope that I can do everything in my (limited) power to make this season a memorable and exciting year for you. Have a great year: work hard, take good care of yourself, and eat good food. dth

Welcome to our new Lecturer, Rachel Walshe:

After a long search (Chaired by Paula McGlasson) we are happy to announce that our new FULL TIME Lecturer is Rachel Walshe! Rachel will be teaching THE211, THE321, THE338G, and THE383 in the Fall. She will direct *The Wolves* in the Spring. We are incredibly lucky to have her with us full-time. For more info on Rachel, her bio is on pg. 4.

...welcome to our new Lecturer, Max Ponticelli:

Max, formerly of 2nd Story Theatre, will be joining us for the year as a full time Lecturer in Design. He will be teaching THE261, THE100, and designing throughout the year. Welcome back, Max!

... a welcome back to Associate Professor, Bryna Wortman:

After a short absence, Professor Wortman will be returning for the Fall semester.

... our heart-felt good-byes:

I'd like to thank and wish "cheers" to both Alan Hawkrigde and Christian Wittwer, for their years of devotion to the department. Both retired at the end of last season and you will be missed. I hope to see you on opening nights.

...and a special "thank you" to Professor, Paula McGlasson:

Thank you for your 18 years of service as Chair of the Theatre Department. And a personal "thank you" for your help in this transition.

Audition Information!

Please sign up for your audition slot on the sign-up sheet outside the main office. Audition times and materials vary for each production, so please read carefully.

-BE prepared and early for your audition time. And READ THE ENTIRE PLAY before your audition. Copies in the theatre office.

-Come prepared with any conflicts you may have during the rehearsal schedule. ALL known and foreseeable conflicts must be submitted on the audition sheet.

NOTE: All BFA Performance Majors are required to audition for every production. Students can be cast in both mainstage productions. If cast in a mainstage production, students cannot be cast in the student directed piece.

Women & War

Director, Kira Hawkrigde

Audition requirements: Please prepare a 1 to 2 minute monologue, song, or poem that deals with the subject of war. Selections can be made from any genre, playwright, poet, or musician. Selection must be memorized. The incorporation of movement / use of the space is encouraged. Please be prepared to discuss why you selected your audition piece.

-Juniors and Seniors September 4th from 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

-Freshmen and Sophomores September 5th from 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

-Call Backs September 6th from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

If you are called back, you will be asked to wear comfortable clothing to move in. We will be exploring Ensemble Movement and working on individual and group sides from *Women & War*.

-First Rehearsal September 8th from 12:30pm to 4:30 pm

Noises Off

Director, Christopher Simpson

Audition requirements: Prepare and memorize a 1 to 2 minute monologue that is contemporary and not dramatic. The monologue may be from this play, but is not required to be. Be prepared for a process of direction and adjustments in the audition room.

NOTE: We aim to rehearse the week of Thanksgiving on Monday and Tuesday

-Juniors and Seniors September 4th from 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm

-Freshmen and Sophomores September 5th from 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm

-Call Backs September 6th from 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm

-First Rehearsal October 13th from 1:00pm to 4:00 pm

Time Stands Still-Student Directed Full-Length Director, Megan Hamblen

Auditions will be the week of September 10th. Details will be forthcoming!

Note: Auditions for **second semester** productions will be announced at a later date, but will be at the end of first semester.

Welcome to the Class of 2022!

- Sophia Bernal, Longmeadow, MA
- Carleigh Boyle, Hillside, NJ
- Fiona Chlebeczek, Middletown, RI
- Aidan Costa, Middletown, RI
- Kristina Dignelli, New Rochelle NY
- Erin Doyle, Leominster MA
- Owen Gilmartin, Wakefield, RI
- Omar Laguerre-Lewis, Mamaroneck, NY
- Theo Maier, Providence, RI
- Molly O'Connor, Levittown, NY
- Peace Onyeme, Nigeria
- Alana Parrott, Webster, MA
- Audrey Visscher, Piscataway, NJ

And our new Transfer Students:

- Matthew Corbett, Attleboro, MA
 - Zoë Hayn, Colchester, CT
 - Raymond Legare, Pawtucket, RI
 - Athena Nakrosis, Indiana, PA
- We have had a number of students tell us during orientation that they are interested in minoring and/or participating in the Theatre Department! If you meet one of these students or someone new, please tell them about the department and make sure to make them feel welcome!

Theatre Major Merits!

Scholarships-

- Erik Schlicht- The Mark and Donna Ross Scholarship, URI Merit Scholarship
- Valerie Ferris- The Winnie Brownell Scholarship
- Emma Becker- URI Merit Scholarship
- J. Edward Clarke- URI Merit Scholarship, Thomas Pezzullo Scholarship, Mary Zorabedian Scholarship
- Emily Turtle- URI Merit Scholarship
- Gavin DiFranco- Department of Theatre Scholarship
- Nicole Pelletier- Department of Theatre Scholarship
- Arturo Puentes- Thomas Pezzullo Scholarship
- Jessica Winward- Thomas Pezzullo Scholarship
- Daniel Greene- The Robert and Natalie Ward Theatre Scholarship
- Megan Hamblen- The Robert and Natalie Ward Theatre Scholarship

Fellowships and Research Grants-

- Emily Carter- A&S Committee on Research, Scholarship and Creative Work
- Madison Cook-Hines- URI Undergraduate Research Grant

Majors Meeting:

Our annual welcome and majors meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 12th at 5:30!** Come join us for pizza and sweets! Meet our new students! Raffles for local businesses and theatre tickets!

If you are a minor, or just interested in learning more about the department, PLEASE COME! Just drop a note to me at dthoward@uri.edu so we can know how many people will be attending!

We can always use volunteers for set-up, so if you have some time free before the event, please check-in with Bonnie and Sil to see how you can help!

Production Lab Sign Up:

September 17th at 4:30 to 6:00! September 18th is the last day to sign up for classes with a permission number. Come down to H101 to get signed up for your production lab credits for either roles or work on productions. You will fill out your contract, get your production number, AND sign up for your class all at the same time. It really will be a time saver for you and a great help to departmental organization.

Don't know what you want to do for the semester? Come on down and see the available positions on productions. There are always a number of opportunities in all areas: from House Managing, Wardrobe Supervisors, Run Crew, to Box Office positions.

Remember: All sections are available for production work, but only 300/301/400/401 for acting.

Take advantage of this one-stop-shopping event to avoid the end of the semester rush to fill out forms and the eventual walk all over campus!

Chair Chats:

Every month, I will hold a forum for all students to chat about the department and share developments. Take some time and come down to talk and ask questions. Meetings are open to all students and I encourage everyone to attend. Forums will probably be at 5:15 and should last under an hour. I am still trying to determine the day, but I will come up with a schedule soon!

Student Representation:

Student representation is incredibly important for the development and growth of our department. Student meetings are organized by the student leaders to discuss issues within the department, promote opportunities on campus, and elect officers for the season. Student involvement is especially crucial as we head toward season planning, and we encourage all students to participate.

About our “new” Lecturer, Rachel Walshe!

To many of you, Rachel is no stranger. We have been lucky to have her along side us as a part-time lecturer and director in the Theatre Department for years. She is here full-time and we couldn't be happier! URI's first Rhodes Scholar and the first woman from a public college in New England to win the award, Rachel received her BA in Philosophy, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from URI in 2000, her MA in English Language and Literary Theory from Oxford University, England, in 2000, and her MFA in Directing from DePaul University Theatre School in 2008. She is a professional director and dramaturge whose work has been seen across stages in Chicago, Boston, Providence, and the UK. She is the Resident Scholar at the Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre in Pawtucket where she has also been a director and teaching artist since 2010. Rachel will direct *The Wolves* for URI Theatre in the Spring and *Gloria*, for the Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre, in November.

A few reminders for students:

-Lockers with combination locks are available in both dressing room areas for students; free of charge! Drop in to the offices and Bonnie and Sil will assign you a locker.

-Mailboxes for students, TAs, and guest artists are in the alcove on the second floor near the Conference Room. Please check that you have a mailbox, and, if you don't, stop in to the main office so we can make sure you have one!

-Please make sure to check your University e-mail daily. For many of us, this is the only way that we can contact you.

-Please update and check your StarFish account to make sure all information is correct and you know your academic advisor.

-There is to be **no parking** in the loading dock area of the Theatre Wing. This area is a fire lane and we need to keep it clear, with the only exception for loading/unloading. On performance nights, one car (designated by the Production Manager, Stage Manager, and Chair) can park for emergency situations. Know if you are parked in this area you will be towed.

-PLEASE do not leave items unattended in the Main or Actor's Lobby. I know it seems like our home is safe, however, hundreds of people (strangers) walk through the space every day. Please keep your valuables with you and don't expect others to keep an eye out for your items.

Welcome to our Teaching Guest Artists:

Our guest artists are very important to us at URI Theatre! Some have taught for over 20 years, while some are BRAND new to our department. Take some time and introduce yourselves to these great artists!

- David Rabinow- THE331 (Playwriting)
- Craig Handel- THE111 (Acting for Non-Majors)
- Tony Estrella- THE411 (Senior Acting)
- Steven Pennell- THE381 (Theatre History)
- Jeff Church- THE311 (Junior Acting)
- Nicole Chagnon- THE227 (Dance for Musical Theatre)
- Joe Short- THE213, 313, 417 (Voice and Movement)
- Meg Donnelly- THE350 (Make-up)
- Maria Day Hyde, THE100 (Intro to Theatre [Morning] and Monday nights)
- Alison Carrier, THE250 (Costume Lab)
- Jake Richards-Hegnauer, THE161 (Stagecraft)

.....
“...the mind is not a vessel that needs filling, but wood that needs igniting...” - Plutarch

(Maybe a better one from Plutarch: “Abstain from beans; that is, keep out of public offices, for anciently the choice of the officers of state was made by beans.”)