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July 21, 2009

Dear Theatre and Dance Students:

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Department of Theatre and Dance, I am pleased to welcome you all to the 2009-2010 academic year. While the faculty and staff eagerly anticipate the beginning of the Fall Semester, I would like to take a few moments to celebrate some notable achievements from the last few months.

In May, seven graduating seniors from the Department participated in a very successful Senior Showcase in Los Angeles. This event featured terrific performances by our graduating seniors under the leadership of Los Angeles Showcase Director **Mark Saks** and excellent turnout by industry professionals and alumni. Congratulations to those individuals on the faculty who continue, through their hard work and dedication, to make our Showcase programs a success. I look forward to another outstanding group of Showcases this year.

Recently, the Department held its fifth annual Ball State Dinner Theatre production with a tremendously successful run of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* during the latter part of June. I was proud to co-direct the show with faculty member **Beth Turcotte**. Additionally, the show included the talents of several faculty and staff members including **Jodi Cotton, Michael Worcel, Jennifer Landreth, Kip Shawger, Emil Boulos, Curtis Mortimore, Melanie Mortimore, Jennifer Blackmer, Kristin Ramsey, John Sadler, and Patty Daehn**. The show featured the acting talents of faculty members **Wendy Mortimer** and **Harold Mortimer** and students **Tommy Bullington, Chris Chamberlain, John Detty, Jaclyn Hennell, Kate Martin, Erin Oechsel, Devan O'Mailia, and Brian Wagner**. Additionally, student **Chanel Minton** served as stage manager, **Katie Nuss** served as AD/ASM and several additional students (particularly recent graduate **Marcie Greene**) helped to make the design and management aspects of the show a success. Kudos to everyone involved in this critical and commercial endeavor.

The 2009-2010 BSU Theatre and Dance production season will begin in September with the musical *Hair*. This production will feature an outstanding student ensemble under the direction of faculty member **Karen Kessler**. In addition, I am pleased that recent graduate **Elena Flores** will be joining the cast to help create a truly memorable production. Elena will be the only non-student cast during the fall semester, as both Joyce Dewitt and Harold Mortimer will no longer take part in our production of *Noises Off*. As always, the Department is committed to using guest artists when appropriate to help foster a stronger academic and artistic experience for our students and faculty.

We are anticipating a year filled with superb guest artists in both dance and theatre. While several guest artists will be announced at the Major/Minor meeting on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in University Theatre, I would like to mention one particular guest artist who the Department is honored to welcome. Tony Award winner and Broadway superstar **Sutton Foster** has agreed to visit from January 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> of 2010 as a master teacher. While more details regarding her visit will occur over the next few months, we are incredibly fortunate to have her visit and to work with all of our students within the Department.

Summer Registration indicates that this year's incoming freshman class will be tremendously large. This influx of talented students will continue to help elevate the quality of the Department and its productions. All students, including upperclassmen, should CAREFULLY examine this packet and closely study the departmental policies noted and explained (upperclassmen should particularly note the NEW policies regarding practicum). If you have any specific questions, please contact either your Area Coordinator or the Main Theatre Office for further details. Remember, it is your responsibility to be as proactive as possible in matters related to your degree program.

The 2009-2010 school year offers some thrilling opportunities for our program. With exciting shows and demanding course work, this promises to be a noteworthy year within the Department. I continue to be both honored and humbled to serve the faculty and students during this exciting period of growth and evolution. Have a great remainder of the summer and I look forward to seeing all of you very soon.

Sincerely,

Bill Jenkins, Chair  
Department of Theatre and Dance

## Important Meetings

### Department Picnic

The annual departmental picnic will be held Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the outdoor area between the University Theatre and Bracken Library. In case of rain, the picnic will be held in Strother Theatre. The picnic is open to all Theatre/Dance faculty, staff, majors, and minors. Theatre/Dance Freshmen can attend either a University Orientation event or the departmental picnic. **If you plan to attend please call to RSVP @ 765-285-8740 by Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

### Annual General Meeting

**ALL** departmental majors and minors, faculty, and staff are **REQUIRED** to attend the Department of Theatre and Dance's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the University Theatre. This annual meeting introduces faculty and staff and updates the information found in this letter. **The department's General Meeting takes precedence over any and all dormitory, sorority, fraternity, or otherwise conflicting meeting.**

Immediately following the General Meeting, the following "option" meetings will be held:

Theatre Majors:

Theatrical Studies Option and Theatre Minors in University Theatre

Design and Technology Option in AC 312

Acting Option in AC 302

Production Option in AC 314

Musical Theatre Option in The Cave

Theatre Education Option in AC 004 (Theatre Education classroom)

Dance Majors/Minors in Strother Theatre

### Freshmen/Transfer Meetings (includes PRACTICUM MEETING)

All incoming Freshman OR Transfer Theatre and Dance majors and minors are **required** to attend two important meetings. The first required meeting will be on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30pm in **University Theatre**. This meeting will include information on the first week of classes, upcoming auditions, and all departmental matters that directly affect incoming students. The second meeting will be the Freshman/Transfer Practicum Meeting, which will take place on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in University Theatre. **Failure to attend this meeting will result in students receiving an F on their practicum grade for the fall semester.**

### Scholarship Students in Theatre and Dance

All students with a Theatre or Dance Scholarship are **required** to meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> in University Theatre. This includes any student who received (a) a scholarship at the spring 2009 banquet, (b) any student who currently has a Presidential Scholarship in the Arts, or (c) any student who currently has a Fine Arts scholarship. Mr. Jenkins will review Scholarship Policies and Guidelines at this time. **Please do not be late...failure to attend this meeting may result in students losing their scholarship.**

### CHI/NY/LA Showcase Meeting

An informational meeting for all those students wishing to audition for the 2009-10 Chicago, NY, and LA Showcases will take place the first week of class. Those interested in the Chicago Showcase should attend a **mandatory** informational meeting on Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in AC 314. Those seniors planning to audition for the New York or Los Angeles Showcase should attend a **mandatory** informational meeting on Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in AC 314. Please be sure to read the section of this letter entitled "Showcase News and Notes" for more information on important dates, times, and information surrounding the Showcase Programs.

### **Mid-Semester All Departmental Meeting**

On Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. there will be a **mandatory** all Departmental Major/Minor Meeting in University Theatre. The meeting will last approximately 60 minutes and will cover information on showcases, auditions for MTO/AO & spring shows, the Sutton Foster workshop, spring semester class registration, and KCACTF/KCACDF among others. The only person who can excuse students from this meeting is Bill Jenkins. Excuses will only be made in extreme situations.

### **Fall 2009 Student Cave Director Meeting**

All Cave Directors for Fall 2009 must attend a meeting on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the Cave. If unable to attend, contact Karen Kessler via e-mail at [klkessler@bsu.edu](mailto:klkessler@bsu.edu).

## **Auditions**

### **Acting/Musical Theatre BFA Option Auditions for 2009-2010**

New students (Freshmen and Transfers) who have not been accepted into the Acting Option or the Musical Theatre Option for the 2009-2010 academic year, can **audition for this year's BFA classes in acting and musical theatre on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Ball Gymnasium.** Exact locations within Ball Gymnasium will be shared at the Freshman/Transfer Meeting on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in University Theatre. More information regarding these auditions are included later in this packet.

### **Dance Auditions**

Auditions for Ball State Dance Theatre are Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. in the Korsgaard Dance Studio (KDS) in Ball Gym (BG-213). Returning BSU students should register at 5:30 p.m. while freshman and transfer students should register at 5:45 p.m. Auditions for the Senior Choreography Showcase will be Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in BG-KDS. All auditions are conducted as a class. For additional information, please check the section of this letter entitled "Dance Auditions" or contact Audra Sokol at [aksokol@bsu.edu](mailto:aksokol@bsu.edu).

### **Cave Auditions (Excludes all first-semester Freshmen)**

All University and Strother Theatre productions have already been cast for the fall semester. Auditions for the remaining fall Cave shows start on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm in the Cave. **ALL STUDENTS NOT YET CAST, REGARDLESS OF OPTION, ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO AUDITION!!!! IN ADDITION ANY TRANSFER STUDENT STARTING THIS FALL IS ELIGIBLE TO AUDITION FOR THE CAVE SHOWS.** Callbacks for all Cave shows will be on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The exact schedule is located in the section marked "Cave Productions" later in this letter. **Please carefully read this schedule and information as it affects all students.** For additional information, call the department at 765-285-8740. Actors are encouraged to have three copies of their 8x10 head shot at the General Auditions. If you do not have a good head shot, a quality photocopy, a Polaroid or snapshot is acceptable.

### **Acting/Musical Theatre BFA Option Auditions for 2010-2011**

New students (Freshmen and Transfers) who are not accepted into the Acting Option or the Musical Theatre Option at the beginning of the 2009-2010 academic year, can audition for the BFA classes on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009. **PLEASE NOTE....a student accepted IN NOVEMBER into the BFA Acting class will have the opportunity to become a part of the 2009-2010 class. However, a student accepted IN NOVEMBER into the BFA Musical Theatre class will become a part of the 2010-2011 class. This is due to the amount of classes required within the musical theatre BFA and the sequence of classes needed within each curriculum.** More information will follow regarding these auditions in the upcoming months.

### **Reflex**

Reflex, the department's improvisational theatre troupe, will tentatively hold auditions Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Cave. For more info, contact Karen Kessler @ [klkessler@bsu.edu](mailto:klkessler@bsu.edu).

## **Auditions for 2009-2010 BFA Acting and Musical Theatre Classes**

The Department will hold auditions on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in Ball Gymnasium for any student who wishes to audition and/or re-audition for the 2009-2010 BFA Acting or Musical Theatre Options within the Department. These auditions will take place in conjunction with the BSDT auditions in Ball Gymnasium. The faculty will discuss these auditions in great detail at the Freshman/Transfer Meeting on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in University Theatre.

The “tentative” schedule is as follows:

Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:30pm – 5:00pm

Sign In for Auditions in Ball Gymnasium

Please bring a resume and headshot

Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:00pm

### **AO AUDITIONS BEGIN**

All students auditioning for the Acting Option take part in physical warm-up.

Students auditioning for BOTH AO and MTO will take part in physical warm-up and then audition for both the AO and MTO.

Following warm-up, students will perform two 1-minute monologues

Students are expected to dress in comfortable attire that allows for freedom of movement. For additional questions on attire, please refer to the section in this letter labeled “Required Attire for all Acting Classes.”

Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:00pm

### **MTO AUDITIONS BEGIN**

Students will perform one 1-minute monologue and should prepare 32 bars of two vocal selections (please note that students may only be asked to perform 1 vocal selection and an accompanist WILL be provided).

After completing the acting and vocal portion of the audition, students will take part in approximately one hour of the BSDT auditions so that the faculty can assess their dance skills. This audition will include ballet, jazz, and tap.

For the acting and vocal auditions, students are welcome to wear whatever they would like. For the dance audition, please refer to the section in this letter labeled “Required Attire for all Dance Classes.”

**PLEASE NOTE...any student who is granted probationary admission to the Acting or Musical Theatre Option based on this audition will be required to make changes to their Fall 2009 schedule.** More information will follow regarding these changes after the auditions take place.

## **Audition Information for Cave Productions**

All sophomore, junior, and senior students (including transfer students) are eligible and encouraged to audition for the 2009 Fall Semester Cave Productions. This year’s cave shows feature George F. Walker’s compilation *Suburban Motel*, which features six plays that take place in the same motel room. **All AO and MTO students NOT cast in UT or Strother shows are REQUIRED to audition for the Cave productions. Please note that the Department Chair ONLY (in consultation with Option Coordinators) can approve any exception to this rule.**

The Cave Audition Schedule is as follows:

Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00pm – 8:00pm

General Auditions for all students auditioning for Cave Shows.

**SIGN UP IN AC-306 BETWEEN AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> – AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup> FOR AUDITION SLOT**

Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00am – 12:00pm

Callbacks for *Adult Entertainment*

Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Callbacks for *Risk Everything*

Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:30pm – 10:30pm

Callbacks for *Criminal Genius*

General auditions should include one monologue that is no longer than one-minute in length. Please select material that is appropriate for the shows being cast.

**PLEASE NOTE...Those AO and MTO students not cast in UT or Strother shows that are working off campus and will not be back prior to the audition dates MUST send a videotaped (VHS TAPE REQUIRED) acting audition to the Department by Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. Failure to do this may result in your removal from an option.**

## Dance Auditions

### Ball State Dance Theatre

Fall 2009 Auditions – Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

BG 213 KDS

Ball State Dance Theatre (BSDT) is a student performance company. **All Dance majors are REQUIRED to audition even if they wish not to be considered for BSDT.** The group presents choreography in ballet, modern, ethnic, and jazz idioms. Faculty, students, and guest artists create dances. The company has two major concerts on campus and presents other informal programs for community groups and schools. This year, BSDT will present *Steepin Out With Gershwin on a Cole Winter's Night* during the Fall Semester and *An Evening With the Arts* during the Spring Semester. Audra Sokol is the Artistic Director of BSDT.

Auditions are conducted as a class. The material may include ballet, modern, and jazz techniques and combinations. The choreographers and artistic director will conduct casting for individual dances. All dancers are expected to understudy all the dances. **PLEASE NOTE THAT REHEARSAL TIMES FOR BSDT HAVE CHANGED...** Rehearsal times are now 3-5 p.m. M/W/F, 4-6 p.m. T/R, and 7-9 p.m. M/W. Please note that extra rehearsals are called at the discretion of the artistic director or the guest choreographer.

**All students in BSDT MUST sign up for DANCE 281 during the Fall and Spring Semesters. Students will AUTOMATICALLY be added to Dance 281 by Kristin Ramsey who handles all registrations for the Department.**

*PLEASE NOTE: All students participate in BSDT at the discretion of the Artistic Directors, in consultation with the Dance Faculty. In addition, the following change will continue from last year...ALL STUDENTS MUST RE-AUDITION FOR BSDT EACH SEMESTER. Students may be continued or removed from BSDT if the dance faculty feels as though they are producing sub-standard work, not attending scheduled rehearsals, cultivating a non-collaborative atmosphere, or promoting a damaging environment for BSDT.*

### Senior Choreography Showcase

Fall 2009 Auditions – Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm

BG 213 KDS

Each choreographer will determine a rehearsal schedule. No student may participate in more than 3 dances and choreographers can only perform in 1 dance piece in the Showcase. **PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR CHANGE....Students cast in the senior showcase must enroll in EITHER DANCE 489 or DANCE 489B.** For more information, please read the section in this letter entitled "Practicum for Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors"

## Auditions for Spring Productions

General Auditions and Callbacks for the Spring Semester productions in University Theatre and Strother Theatre are scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 2<sup>nd</sup> with the Cave callbacks taking place on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. **ALL departmental classes on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled so that all directors and acting teachers can attend the General Auditions.** Students will sign up for audition times starting on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Theatre Office (AC 306). Watch departmental bulletin boards for more information.

## **Work day for all Design/Tech Majors**

On Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> during the General Auditions, all Design/Tech majors are REQUIRED to attend a mandatory work-day from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Speak with Kip or Curtis if you have questions.

## **Casting Policy**

The casting policy is that *all theatre majors and minors are limited to performing in one departmental production (University Theatre, Actors Studio, Workshop production) per semester. In addition, no first semester freshman can be cast in theatre productions. First semester dance majors will be limited to participation in either Ball State Dance Theatre OR Senior Choreography Showcase.* This policy does not apply to scenes for classes, other special projects approved by the department, or productions produced off-campus. The department chairperson must approve exceptions in advance. **Please note...any student who wishes to take on two “major roles” within a given semester (such as acting and designing, acting and directing, or designing and directing) must request and gain approval in writing from the Department’s Production Committee and the Department Chair the semester prior to the performance period.**

Students should also be aware that our faculty members or guest artists are occasionally used as actors in departmental productions so that students might work with active professionals in the collaborative process. This year, this includes recent alumna Elena Flores in *Hair* and Dr. Harold Mortimer in *My Fair Lady*. While no other roles in the academic year are currently cast with faculty or guest artists, the Department reserves the right to cast from outside the student body when we feel it is either pedagogically or artistically appropriate.

## **Departmental and Academic Probation**

Each semester students are required to achieve a 2.0 overall G.P.A. and 2.5 G.P.A. within the major. Any student who does not adhere to this policy, will be ineligible to participate in the Department’s Production Program. The Production Program includes any show/concert/film/performance that takes place within the Department of Theatre and Dance. Academic standards remain a focal point of the program.

**The Department is in the process of implementing a new policy that we plan to start as soon as approved by the Undergraduate Education Committee. All students MUST achieve a grade of “C” or higher in all departmental courses. Failure to achieve this grade will result in all students having to re-take the course and potentially delaying their graduation. Please be aware that this policy is very important to the entire faculty and will be enforced once approved.**

## **Class Attendance Policy**

The faculty of the Department of Theatre and Dance are very concerned about class attendance. The department’s attendance policy is that no student can miss more than one full week of classes (2 T/R classes or 3 M/W/F classes). If you miss more than one -week, you will be asked to withdraw from the class. Students will only be “excused” when they have been ill and provide a doctor’s note, if there is a death in the family, or if they are observing a religious holiday. No grade of “W” will be given to a student after midterm, unless he/she is earning a grade of “C” at the time of withdrawal and no grade of “I” will be given to a student who is flunking. Although this is the department policy, instructors are responsible for their individual attendance policies. Further, faculty members have the prerogative to ask students to drop any class if the student has a perpetual absence problem...this is regardless of whether or not the absences incurred are excused or unexcused. All of our faculty members believe that regular class attendance is vital for developing the work ethic necessary to succeed in the professional world.

## **Option Probation**

Each curricular option within the Department of Theatre and Dance has the opportunity to place students on “option” probation. This is directly related to a student’s progress within a specific curricular option. Please speak directly with your Option Coordinator regarding specific Option requirements and expectations.

## **Academic Policy for all Theatrical Studies Students**

As many of you may be aware, the Department adopted a new policy beginning in the fall of 2006 regarding our Theatrical Studies major. The stipulation indicates that all students within the program must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA by the end of the Freshman Year. Students should be aware that the Department will be distributing “probation” letters to those students who have not adhered to this policy within the first week of fall classes. Students will have one semester to achieve a 3.0 GPA. Also note that the Department reserves the right to make exceptions to this policy IF the student is making above average progress towards this goal. Please, take care of your academics so that this does not become an issue for any of you.

## **Practicum for Freshmen/Transfers**

The practicum policy for Freshman and Transfer Theatre/Dance majors is as follows:

*All Freshmen & Transfer Theatre and Dance majors are required to take a practicum each semester. This requirement can be fulfilled by working on a crew for a departmental production (University Theatre, Actors Studio, BG-KDS productions or Cave productions), working in the Theatre Library, serving as a box office or house management employee, or working with a faculty member on a special project. Students can receive practicum credit for being cast in a role within the production season after their first year on campus. Freshmen and Transfer Theatre/Dance majors must enroll each semester for an hour of Theatre or Dance Practicum (THEAT 280/DANCE 489) or the 0 hour Practicum (THEAT 280A/DANCE 489B). All current freshmen should already be enrolled in these courses.*

All freshmen and transfer majors must fill out a contract during the practicum meeting on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in University Theatre. The contract provides a record of your participation and whether you are doing your participation for one practicum credit hour (THEATRE 280/DANCE 489) or for zero practicum credit hours (THEAT 280A/DANCE 489B).

## **Practicum for Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors**

The practicum policy for Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Theatre/Dance majors has changed. The NEW policy is as follows:

*All Sophomore, Junior, or Senior Theatre and Dance majors are required to enroll in practicum IF they have a substantive role in any production within the season. These roles include actor, director, designer, understudy, stage manager, dramaturg, music director, assistant music director, choreographer, assistant choreographer, assistant director, assistant designer, assistant stage manager, or dancer (for either Sr. or Jr. Projects). Students who risk going into OVERLOAD to fulfill this requirement will be enrolled in THEAT 280A or DANCE 489B (practicum class for zero credit hours) to indicate their involvement. Students who wish to enroll in an Advanced Practicum (THEAT 380) in lieu of THEAT 280/DANCE 489, may do so if the role they fulfill within the production indicates more than 1 credit hour worth of practicum credit is appropriate. This decision will be made by the Department Chair in consultation with the faculty supervisor.*

Theatre Practicum (THEAT 280) is designed to give theatre students credit for participating in various production areas. A maximum of 8 practicum hours (one credit per semester) can be applied toward graduation. Students should earn hours in as many different areas as possible. All sophomore, junior, and senior theatre students who will be taking practicum will fill out a practicum contract (signed by the appropriate faculty mentor) at the Major/Minor Meeting and immediately return this form to the Area Coordinator. Please note that Andrea Sadler in the Main Theatre Office will add all THEAT 280/280A assignments to your individual course schedule.

Dance Practicum (DANCE 489) is designed to give dance majors and minors credit for participating in various production areas. A maximum of 8 practicum hours (one credit per semester) can be applied toward graduation. All sophomores, junior, and senior dance students who will be taking practicum due to their involvement in Senior Projects, will fill out a practicum contract (signed by the appropriate faculty mentor) at the Major/Minor Meeting and immediately return this form to the Area Coordinator. If you are interested in a dance practicum and you are NOT in the Senior Projects, please see Sarah Mangelsdorf, or Christie Zimmerman as soon as possible to discuss your practicum options. Please note that Andrea Sadler in the Main Theatre Office will add all DANCE 489/489B assignments to your individual course schedule.

### **Advanced Practicum and Directed Study Assignments for Upperclassmen**

The advanced practicum/directed study policy for all students is as follows:

*Any upperclassmen who wishes to enroll in advanced practicum or a directed study (THEAT 380/THEAT 380A/THEAT 496/DANCE 488/DANCE 490/DANCE 496) must fulfill the following steps to enroll in these courses: (1) Select an area of study, a role within that area of study, and a faculty mentor in the area of study. Typical assignments may include advanced work in management, marketing, design, casting, dance administration, choreography, or directing. Internships may also be used. (2) Determine with the faculty member the appropriate credit hours for the assignment chosen. (3) Pick up a contract in the Main Theatre Office (Room AC-306) and fill out all the necessary information INCLUDING HAVING THE APPROPRIATE FACULTY MEMBER'S SIGNATURE. (4) Turn in contract NO LATER than Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at Noon in the Main Theatre Office AC-306. Finally, under NO CIRCUMSTANCES will students be allowed to enroll in these courses after Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at Noon.*

Advanced Practicum/Directed Study Contracts will be available at the All Departmental Student Meeting on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 OR in the Main Theatre Office through Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.

### **Showcase News and Notes**

As most of you are aware, the Department of Theatre and Dance is committed to assisting our students once they graduate through the Showcase Programs. Students have the opportunity to audition for leading professionals from Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles. These industry professionals serve as adjunct faculty within the Department and have flourishing careers within the business. They include **Erica Daniels** (Casting Director of Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago), **Stephanie Klapper** (Casting Director of Klapper Casting in New York), and **Mark Saks** (Casting Director in Los Angeles for several television series including *Numb3rs*, *Medium*, and *The Good Wife*). Each of these individuals are highly connected within the industry and excellent connections for our students. If selected, students will work with these individuals to create a series of scenes, monologues, and (depending on venue) vocal selections that will help “showcase” their talents to the leading industry professionals within each city.

Any graduating senior is eligible to audition for all three showcases. The Department is very committed to supporting each student’s decision regarding the auditions they choose to take part in associated with the Showcase programs. Clearly, we want students to feel comfortable with the city and showcase in which they are auditioning. Further, the faculty also understands that while students may ask

for our opinions, ultimately, we all will support whatever decision a student may make regarding showcase auditions and their post-graduation plans. That being said, the Department highly encourages students to consider taking advantage of these exceptional opportunities by auditioning for all of the showcases. Given the industry professionals associated with this program, students have an unbelievable chance to audition for and receive feedback from three of the most connected individuals within the Theatre and Film industry. Further, these individuals have connections not only in the showcase city they represent, but all across the country. For example, Stephanie Klapper recently cast *Into the Woods* (directed by Moises Kaufman) at the Kansas City Repertory, Erica Daniels production of *Superior Donuts* will premier in New York this fall, and Mark Saks will be casting *The Good Wife* in both Los Angeles and New York. Given these facts, the faculty recommends that each student seriously consider the options available to them regarding the Showcase Programs. We are proud of what we offer to each student and we look forward to each audition we will see over the Fall semester.

The Chicago Showcase will take place on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Theatre Building located on Belmont Avenue. Auditions for the Chicago Showcase will be Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The NY Showcase will take place on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> during the week of Spring Break. Auditions for the NY Showcase will be Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. The Los Angeles Showcase will TENTATIVELY be held on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, one and a half weeks after graduation weekend. The audition date for the LA Showcase has yet to be determined. **Please remember that any students who are selected to participate in both the NY and LA Showcases are ineligible for casting consideration during the spring semester.** Remember that Showcases are to be used to assist students in starting their careers and NOT as a VACATION.

Finally, A CONTINUING POLICY REGARDING SHOWCASE FUNDRAISING...Any student who is chosen to attend the NY/LA/Chicago Showcases has a financial responsibility to the Department to help offset the costs incurred by the Department to attend the Showcases. These departmental costs are in excess of \$35,000.00 and include space rental, receptions, payment of guest artists, mailers, postage, etc. This year students will have the option to fully participate in all fundraising events organized by the Showcase participants to help the Department OR write a check to the Department up front and not be obligated to be a part of fundraising activities. **STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN A CONTRACT THAT STIPULATES THE CHOICE THEY HAVE MADE AND THE OBLIGATIONS THAT ARE ATTACHED.** More information will follow on this during the first two weeks of school.

## Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

The Midwest Region of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) is scheduled for January 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Saginaw, Michigan. Please note, this is the week BEFORE classes begin during the spring semester. **Any student who is cast in MACBETH will potentially be asked to return early from the Festival so that they may attend rehearsals before the start of school.** All University Theatre and Strother Theatre productions DURING THE FALL SEMESTER are entered as Associate entries that make student actors eligible for the Irene Ryan Acting Award, student designers eligible for the Design Awards, students interested in the Critics Competition, and any student who wishes to participate in the various playwriting, directing, and stage management competitions.

***\*\*\*\*\*Continuing this year, the Department will invite specific students who have earned the honor of attending KCACTF. This policy exists for several reasons. They include (a) the cost for both students and the Department regarding KCACTF participation had become too exorbitant; (b) the impact on coursework and our production season for those students not entered in competitions had become restrictive; (c) and the overall quality/value of the workshops and productions at the Festival are similar to the quality of workshops being offered on campus\*\*\*\*\****

Thus, all students who are nominated for the Irene Ryan, chosen as an Irene Ryan partner, participating in the design or critics competition, or participating in any playwriting/directing/stage management/dramaturgy competition (who are NOT on academic or option probation) are invited to attend KCACTF. In addition, the Department will help supplement students who attend KCACTF. Student cost will be approximately \$100-\$125 per person.

FINALLY, any student who does not wish to attend ACTF as a design and/or Irene Ryan nominee must inform the director and/or Bill Jenkins of this BEFORE the production opens...the

Department is committed to nominating those students who are truly invested and interested in the KCACTF experience. **Please note that all students who take part in the Festival are representing Ball State University and will be expected to sign a contract stating they will participate and attend all events associated with the Festival. Failure to do so will lead to students being escorted home at the student's cost.**

## **Kennedy Center American College Dance Festival**

The Dance program participates in the East Central Regional Festival of KCACDF. The dates and location this year for KCACDF will be announced in the very near future. Members of Ball State Dance Theatre will be presenting dances for adjudication and informal concerts. Approximate cost for the event is approximately \$250.00. One of the works for adjudication will be a student choreographed piece. The Festival, which is open to all dance majors and minors, is a great opportunity to meet and study with dance professionals and students in programs throughout the region. Students who wish to attend need to sign up in the Dance Office. Signup information will be announced. **Please note that all students who take part in the Festival are representing Ball State University and will be expected to sign a contract stating they will participate and attend all events associated with the Festival. Failure to do so will lead to students being escorted home at the student's cost.**

## **Workshops/Guest Artist Info**

### **Sutton Foster**

Certainly the highlight of 2009-2010 will be the presence of Sutton Foster on our campus. Ms. Foster is an accomplished Broadway performer and a Tony Award winner for her role of Millie Dillmount in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Ms. Foster is scheduled to be on campus from Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. During her visit, we will schedule several workshops with students as well as finding opportunities to have Ms. Foster visit and speak with students in all classes. More information will follow on this visit in the upcoming months.

### **Ryan Woodle & Scott Halberstadt**

The Department will welcome back to campus 2002 alumnus Ryan Woodle and 2000 alumnus Scott Halberstadt from Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> through Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Ryan resides in New York where he enjoys a flourishing career in film and theatre. Ryan's visit will coincide with the opening of his new film entitled *The Box*, which will premiere on Halloween weekend. *The Box*, which stars Cameron Diaz, Frank Langella, and James Marsden, is a psychological thriller that is being produced by Warner Brothers. Scott resides in Los Angeles and enjoys a flourishing career in both television and commercials. His most recognizable work is as one of the five guys in the national Alltel commercials and his recurring role on the children's series *Drake and Josh*. Scott and Ryan will deliver a series of workshops specifically focused on improvisation and auditioning for film and television. More information will follow on this visit in the upcoming months.

### **Adele Myers**

Talented modern dance choreographer and teacher Adele Myers will be on campus at the beginning of the fall semester to teach courses with the Department and stage a dance piece for the BSDT production of *Steppin' Out With Gershwin on a Cole Winter's Night*. Ms. Myers is based in New York and her visit will be for almost one week. More information will follow on this visit in the upcoming months.

### **Brian Nitzkin & The Fisher King**

The Department is pleased to host Broadway producer Brian Nitzkin from January 12<sup>th</sup> through January 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Nitzkin will be visiting campus along with the Creative Team of a new musical version of the Academy Award winning movie *The Fisher King*. The musical will enjoy a staged reading within the Department on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in University Theatre. The cast will include faculty, staff, and students and all proceeds raised will be donated to the Department's Scholarship Fund. More information will follow on this visit in the upcoming months.

### **Aaron Johansen & Bobby Richards**

Recent graduates Aaron Johansen and Bobby Richards will return to campus in the fall and help with the design of our opening fall semester show *Hair*. Aaron, a talented designer based out of Dallas, will design lights while Bobby, a multi-talented artist from Chicago, will design the multimedia elements of the show.

### **VBC Guests**

Beth Turcotte will be bringing in several guests during the spring semester for her Virginia Ball Center Project. More information will follow on these potential workshop opportunities in upcoming months!

### **Erica Daniels, Stephanie Klapper, & Mark Saks**

All acting and musical theatre students should plan to attend the Saturday workshops given by all three of our Showcase faculty members. As was mentioned before, Erica Daniels will be on campus from September 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> with a Saturday underclassmen workshop on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Stephanie Klapper will be on campus from October 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> with a Saturday underclassmen workshop on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Mark Saks dates are still TBD. Please note that last year, students did not take advantage of these workshops as much as they could. The performance faculty strongly urges each student to meet and work with these three outstanding artists during their time on campus.

## **Available Classes**

The following Theatre and Dance courses have openings for Fall Semester as of July 19<sup>th</sup>:

<b>DANCE</b>	<b>CRN</b>	<b>Course Sect</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Openings</b>
D120	25675	Modern I	001 MW 9-10:15	1
D131	25692	Tap I	001 MW 12-1:15	6
D132	78982	Jazz 1	001 MW 1:30-2:45	8
D230	25756	Jazz 2	002 TR 9-10:50	3
D242	25764	Ethnic Dance	001 MW 9-10:15	9
D287	25781	Choreography	001 MWF 1:30-2:50	8

**\*\*\*\*\*Please speak with dance faculty regarding space in upper level courses\*\*\*\*\***

### **THEATRE**

T103	39081	Aesthetics	001 MWF 2-2:50	10
T123	83985	Color Studies	001 MWF 1-1:50	4
T223	31357	Costuming	001 MW 12-12:50 + lab	5
T291	39722	Stage Mgt.	001 TR 9:30-10:45	9
T318	39782	Collaboration	001 TR 2-3:15	9
T318	83993	Sound Design	003 TR 2-3:15	8
T319	70905	Mod The His	001 MWF 2-2:50	4
T320	39803	Design Skills	001 TR 12:30-1:45	6
T396	70786	Tch Mth Adm	001 TR 3:30-4:45	8
T435	32183	Shakespeare	001 TR 9:30-10:45	15

To enroll in any of the classes listed, call the Department of Theatre and Dance Office (765-285-8740) and request permission as soon as possible. If granted, you will receive the course request number, electronic permission, and you can add the class by using the University's Voice Response System or via the website ([www.bsu.edu](http://www.bsu.edu)). On the website, go to the Ball State Students - Student Services - Course Add/Drop Registration. You will need your password in order to get into your campus email account.

## **Rehearsal Policies & NEWLY IMPLENTED DESIGN/TECH Policies**

All Departmental productions must adhere to standardized departmental rehearsal policies. These policies include the following: (1) Evening theatre rehearsals may not begin before 7:15 p.m. and must end by 11:00 p.m.; (2) No show can rehearse more than 25 hours a week or 30 hours during tech week; (3) Productions may not rehearse more than 6 days a week prior to tech weekend; (4) Actors and dancers may not rehearse the day prior to tech weekend; (5) No production can rehearse on the Opening of a University Theatre or Strother Theatre production; (6) Rehearsals must follow Equity guidelines. Please note...the Production Committee in consultation with the Department Chair ONLY may grant any alteration to these guidelines. Any alteration to these guidelines must be submitted in writing.

The Department will also be adopting a new policy this coming year to protect all of our design/tech students. **Starting this year, no design/tech student and/or faculty/staff members in design will work past 11:00 p.m. for Departmentally sanctioned events.** This includes any “work sessions” scheduled for the building of shows. The Department is committed to making sure all of our faculty/staff/students are not overwhelmed by late hours and that all students, regardless of option, put their class work first.

## **NEW Carmichael Hall Rehearsal & Classroom Space**

Beginning in the fall of this year, the Department will begin holding classes and UT rehearsals in Carmichael Hall Room 213. This space has been recently renovated to include a new floor appropriate for dance or theatre, portable mirrors, and an electronic piano. This space will have regular classes meeting there as early as this fall and all UT rehearsals will use this space up until one week prior to tech weekend. Please be aware that the walk to this space is much longer than you all have been used to and, thus, may take you more time to get to rehearsal or class. Please plan appropriately and be on time!

## **HEADSHOT OPPORTUNITY FOR SENIORS**

Chicago photographer James Banasiak will once again visit campus. This year he will visit in both the fall and the spring semester. All showcase participants will utilize the fall slots while any student can sign up for the spring slots on a first come, first serve basis. Exact time will be determined at a later date.

## **HEADSHOT OPPORTUNITY FOR UNDERCLASSMEN**

Faculty member Kip Shawger will once again take professional headshots for all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors for a charge of \$50.00. This fee includes approximately 72 photos taken, a CD of all the photos, and two 8x10 photos. Sign up for this will be in the box office and will begin on Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please note that all departmental auditions require that students have a quality 8x10 headshot.

## **Opening Night Celebrations**

Through the efforts of Alpha Psi Omega, our National Theatre Honorary Organization, Opening Nights for University Theatre and Actors Studio productions have become a special event for the department. Alpha Psi’s post-show receptions have given us an opportunity to celebrate the work of our students, faculty and staff. **As stated earlier, no department production should rehearse on any Opening Night, or rehearsals should be completed before curtain time.** Get your Opening Night tickets early!

## **Department “Strike” Policy**

The Department views all meetings, rehearsals, performances, and strikes as equal and necessary components of the production process. As a condition of involvement in Department productions, all cast and crew are required to attend one strike session for their specific production. Failure to attend strike will result in; a lowered practicum grade, little or no casting consideration during future Departmental auditions, and immediate placement on option probation. Typical strikes last approximately 4 hours, commence immediately following the final performance and may include additional sessions the following day. Proper attire is required for strike. Anyone not appropriately dressed will be asked to leave and will be considered absent.

## **Alpha Psi Omega**

Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary society for theatre and dance majors and minors, holds weekly meetings on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM (location AC 314). Everyone is welcome to attend, and your help and input is valued. Weekly meetings help students organize a multitude of activities for the department: opening night events, video scavenger hunt, karaoke contests, sponsored shows, student scholarship fundraisers, the Holiday Party, acting studio clothes, Theatre Weekend/Awards Ceremony, and many others. Each spring, APO invites juniors and seniors to apply for national membership, and seniors who qualify for national membership are given honor cords to wear at graduation. Announcements will be made at the All – Departmental Meeting giving more information.

## **Support Your Program -- And Save Money !**

As a Theatre/Dance major or minor you are expected to see every Department of Theatre and Dance production. As an artist, you should want to see every production more than once. The department is pleased to offer a special departmental subscription plan for Theatre/Dance majors and minors. The cost of this subscription is \$32.00 for University and Strother shows. We are pleased that Theatre and Dance majors receive a discount of close to 60% from normal student rates. Use the form included in this packet to order your special subscription card. **Please note...the Box Office will open for business of Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at Noon.** Pre-ordered subscriptions will be available at this time.

## **Special Bonus for Theatre and Dance Students**

Majors and minors who have purchased a departmental subscription card can see a production more than once by exchanging a "ticket stub" from a previous performance for a new ticket to a later performance. Please note that priority is given to patrons wanting to purchase a ticket. The Department Chair or Managing Director may implement potential changes to this rule at their discretion.

## **Fundraiser for Showcases/Scholarships...GOLF OUTING**

In an effort to raise money for the Department’s Scholarship Program and our Showcases in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, the Department will be holding its “3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scholarship and Showcase Golf Outing” on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The event, scheduled to be held at The Player’s Club Golf Course, will help raise much needed funds to support several student activities including our Showcase Program and Scholarship initiatives. So, please ENCOURAGE YOUR PARENTS TO VISIT YOU ON THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, SEE HAIR, AND PARTICIPATE IN THIS WORTHWHILE FUNDRAISER. Cost is \$75.00 or \$250.00 for a team of 4. These fees include green fees, carts, lunch, and entrance into all prizes and competitions. Additional prize and competition opportunities will be available the day of the event. Please look over the enclosed entry form and return it to the Department by Monday, September 14th!

## **IMPORTANT INFO....Show Sponsorships**

In an effort to raise much needed scholarship funds, the Department of Theatre and Dance offers an exciting “Show Sponsorship” program. For a tax-deductible gift of between \$100.00 and \$500.00, show sponsors receive recognition in all of our production programs throughout the year. The appropriate sponsorship form and informational letter is included in this packet. Last year the department was able to give out almost \$75,000 in scholarship money thanks in large part to the sponsorship program. Without sponsorship contributions, the Department will not be able to maintain this rate of giving. We hope your family will consider sponsoring a departmental show, as it is an excellent way for us to reward our talented students. **Please share the enclosed letter and sponsorship info enclosed in this packet with your parents, grandparents, family friends, and any other individuals who might be interested.**

## **Freshman/Senior Experience Class**

**All new Theatre and Dance students are required to attend the Freshman Experience Class.** This weekly informational program meets every Tuesday in University Theatre from 11:00-11:50 a.m. during the fall semester. The course is intended to acquaint new students with various aspects of the department and the university. The course is for no credit and has no work requirements. Among the probable topics and/or areas to be explored are auditions, curriculum, advising, meeting the faculty and important University figures, preview of departmental productions, career choices and options, an introduction to the Muncie community, and various services available at Ball State. All Freshman Theatre and Dance majors must attend the first meeting in University Theatre on Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Associate Professor of Theatre Beth Turcotte and Assistant Professor of Dance Christie Zimmerman will teach the Freshman Experience course.

All seniors will be required to take THEAT 405 (Sr. Experience) in the Spring Semester at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Students will learn important information such as locating a job, moving to different cities, doing your taxes, auditioning in the “real world”, creating a life in theatre and dance after graduation, etc. Faculty members Karen Kessler & Christie Zimmerman will teach the course.

## **REQUIRED ATTIRE FOR ALL ACTING CLASSES**

ALL acting classes have required attire so that students can freely move and take part in acting exercises and activities. The attire should adhere to the following standards:

- Students must wear **BLACK** sweat pants or exercise pants that are worn at the waist (not hips) and extend no longer than to the ankle. These pants should be of soft construction with no zippers, buttons, snaps, Velcro or buckles
- From the waist up students must wear a **BLACK** t-shirt or tank top (no spaghetti strap shirts or leotards). T-shirts and tank tops must be long enough so that when hands are raised above the head no skin is showing at the midriff. Sweatshirts or long sleeved t-shirts are acceptable as long as they are **BLACK** and without hoods.
- As noted, all items are to be **BLACK** with no printing or graphics on both pants and shirts, and both should fit and not be too baggy.
- Make sure your hair is tied back and all watches, rings, bracelets, dangling earrings are taken off.

**PLEASE NOTE....ALPHA PSI OMEGA IS CURRENTLY SELLING BLACK SHIRTS AND SWEATS WITH DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE LOGOS WHICH MAY BE USED IN ALL ACTING CLASSES (AND SELECT DANCE COURSES AS WELL). MORE INFORMATION ON THIS OPPORTUNITY IS AVAILABLE IN THIS PACKET OR BY CONTACTING SAMMI CAINS AT [smcains@bsu.edu](mailto:smcains@bsu.edu).**

## **REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FOR THEAT 332 (Freshman Performance Lab)**

All Freshmen students within the BFA Acting and Musical Theatre Programs are enrolled in THEAT 332 (Freshman Performance Lab). For this physical conditioning class along with all subsequent movement classes, combat classes and some departmental rehearsals you will be required to own the following:

- A set of exertubes (light, medium and heavy)
- Yoga matt
- Elbow and knee pads
- Leather gloves for weapons work (baseball gloves)

Dunham's Sporting Goods at 3900 West Bethel in Muncie has generously agreed to give students 20% off this package of items making the total cost for everything around \$50.00 to \$55.00 (price estimate based on cost Spring 2009). In order to get this price you will need to purchase these items from Dunham's between August 21st and August 25th. This is a great price for this package and we encourage all of you to take advantage of this offer.

## **Actor Shoes/Costume/Makeup Needs**

All students (males and females) cast in department productions and/or any student who is in the Acting or Musical Theatre Options are expected to provide their own character shoes or heels (for women), as well as any other required dress, tap, and/or hard-soled shoes. Students will also be required to provide their own stage makeup when cast in any productions through the Department of Theatre and Dance. In addition, be advised that students occasionally crew productions (through practicum and/or class requirements) which will require a set of black clothing. Finally, Musical Theatre men should have a dance belt (nude color) while all women should provide a well fitting underwire bra (not a sports bra).

## **“To Computer or Not To Computer. That is the question”**

This past year and especially this summer, freshmen and parents have asked about computers. Should they have one . . . do the need one . . . what type (PC or Mac) is best? These are all very good questions. Laptop computers are becoming more and more visible in and out of the classroom. If you have one or are thinking of buying one, by all means bring it with you to campus. Today's laptop computer is the “typewriter” of yesterday. Many students bring their laptop to classes specifically to take notes. The BSU campus is completely wireless so you can hook up to the Internet easily. Almost any time you wish. Dorm rooms are wireless and also have data ports, which is handy for those who have desktop computers. Whether you use a PC or Mac makes no difference . . . just make sure that it has wireless capabilities. PC laptops are less expensive than Macs. Although the new MacBooks are pretty cool! (That's what many in theatre design and technology use. But not exclusively.) It all depends on what you are used to and what you prefer. The department makes no strong recommendation either way . . . and having a desktop or laptop computer is NOT REQUIRED . . . but very handy. There are many computer labs (both PC and Mac) across campus available to students. Some are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

In addition to the campus being wireless, Ball State provides all students with an email account, data storage space, an iweb account, plus many other computer perks. Students and parents are encouraged to contact Kip Shawger, Associate Chair of Theatre and Dance, at [dshawger@bsu.edu](mailto:dshawger@bsu.edu) for further information.

## Departmental Jobs

Please keep an eye out for jobs within the Department during the first few weeks of the Fall Semester. Students who are interested in employment in any of the shops should see Curtis or Melanie. If you need a job AND you qualify for “work study” through the Scholarships and Financial Aid Office, please e-mail Bill Jenkins at [wjenkins@bsu.edu](mailto:wjenkins@bsu.edu).

## Special Information For New Students

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Theatre and Dance, I am pleased to welcome all freshmen and transfer students to our program. Allow me to share with you a few things you should know about being a student in the department.

1. As noted earlier in this letter, you are expected to participate in the production program in dance or theatre each semester. Remember, it is imperative that you are immediately proactive, so get involved! Do not wait in your dorm room to “be discovered!” Be a part of this fantastic Department from the start of your time at BSU!
2. Your first loyalty is to the department and our program. You may want to participate occasionally in shows produced by other campus organizations or other theatres or dance groups in the area. However, we expect your classes and the departmental production program to be your first priority.
3. You are expected to attend your classes. The production program is an extension of your classroom work. Be sure to read the department attendance policy in this letter. **PLEASE NOTE...**If you do not attend courses, you will not succeed.
4. Take the time to meet other students. The best places to meet other theatre and dance students are in the Green Room (which is located under the University Theatre) and in the Dance area at Ball Gym. The Green Room is a student lounge by day and in the evening, when no production is in rehearsal or performance. There are also vending machines in the Green Room. Ball Gym also has a lounge area in the lower level.
5. It is a privilege to be accepted into any of our “competitive” options. This includes the Acting, Musical Theatre, Design, Production, and Dance options. **Please note that if a student fails to adhere to the minimum standards set forth by each area, they will be asked to leave the option.**
6. You have all made the choice to enter an incredibly competitive field. Because of that, the faculty and staff will do everything possible to train you to become skilled craftspeople and dedicated artists. We are interested in students who are diligent, committed, motivated, positive, passionate, and professional. We hope you are committed to the exciting journey you are about to begin.
7. Finally, please stop by the Main Theatre Office (AC-306) and introduce yourself to me...I can promise you that I will make every effort to chat with you and help you as best I can. Also, if you decide to pursue another major, please talk with us as soon as possible. Each faculty member will support the decision that you make. The faculty and staff only want those students within the Department who are passionately invested in their craft to pursue this demanding major. As I often say, “If you can do anything else in your life and be happy, we highly recommend it.” However, if this is what you want to do more than anything, you have chosen the right school to attend! Best wishes to you all as you begin your journey.

## **Dance Notes**

### **Dance Apparel for Auditions**

Leotards and tights or unitards are appropriate dress for Ball State Dance Theatre auditions. Men may wear a close fitting T-shirt and jazz pants. Dancers need to bring ballet shoes, jazz shoes and be prepared to dance barefoot. If you have no shoes, please bring socks. Hair should be restrained and off your face. Please leave all jewelry at home. Do NOT wear big shirts or bulky warm-up clothes.

### **Class Attire**

Class Attire Requests for all Dance courses are at the end of this letter. Please review and follow according to each course.

### **Student Choreography Shows**

All Dance majors and minors are expected to participate in the Works-In-Motion and Festival of the Word and Dance performances. Students may choreograph in any dance idiom. Majors and minors should make themselves available for the Senior and Junior Choreography Showcases. Students may perform, crew, run sound, or assist in management duties such as ushering or selling tickets.

## *Dance Class Procedures and Attire* *1<sup>st</sup> day of class Fall Semester 2009*

**Tap 1 class** Do not dress the first day. Tap shoes are personal preference. Recommend for beginning level classes that women buy flat tap shoes or shoes w/ wider heel rather than standard character shoes.

Men: Tap shoes with comfortable sweats or t-shirt with jazz pants.  
Women: Tap shoes with comfortable sweats, t-shirt with jazz pants, or leotard and tights.  
Both: Hair neat and pulled away from the face. NO street clothes or jeans.

**Jazz 2 classes** Do dress the first day

Men: Snug fitting T-shirt or leotard with jazz pants or close fitting sweats, dance belt. Socks or bare feet for warm-up, add jazz shoes for centre.  
Women: Leotard with tights, jazz pants, or caprice type dance pant. Socks or stirrup tights for warm-up, add jazz shoes for center work  
Both: Hair neat and pulled away from the face

**Mus Th Class:** Do NOT dress the first day of class. Dress for the second class meeting.

Men: T-shirt or leotard w/ jazz pants or lightweight warm-up pants, jazz shoes.  
Women: Leotard and tights, circular skirt, beige character shoes, jazz shoes for progressions.  
Both: Hair neat and pulled away from the face

**Intro to Luigi:** Do NOT dress the first day

Men: tee shirt/tank top, dancebelt or tight fitting undergarments, dance pants, NO athletic shorts unless bikers underneath;  
Women: leotard, tights, sports bras, tank top, dance pants, biker shorts, NO short shorts unless tights/bikers underneath;  
Both: jazz shoes or sneakers (any color), style hair out of face

**Ethnic Dance:** Comfortable clothes, jazz shoes or character without heels

**Jazz 1:** Do NOT dress first day- same attire as Intro to Luigi

**Ballet 1:** Do NOT dress the first day of class – same attire as Ballet 3 and 5

**Modern 1:** Do NOT dress the first day of class – same attire as Modern 3 and 5

**Modern 3:** Do NOT dress the first day

**Modern 5:** Do NOT dress the first day

**Modern 3 and 5:**

Do NOT dress the first day of class. Any color dancewear including leotard, footless tights, loose, comfortable dance pants that are above the ankles, sweatpants, t-shirts that are not too baggy.

Men: Any color of dancewear with proper dancebelt, leotard, tank top, dance pants, NO athletic shorts unless bikers underneath  
Women: Any color of dancewear with proper sport bra/supportive undergarments, tank top, dance pants, biker shorts, NO short shorts unless tights/bikers underneath  
Both: Barefoot or socks, dance pants above the ankle, securely fastened hair out of face, may be in ponytail, or pulled back

**Ballet 3 and 5:**

Do NOT dress the first day of class.

Men: Black tights and tight, white T-shirt, black or white ballet shoes. White socks if tights do not have feet.  
Women: Black leotards and pink tights, pink ballet shoes, short ballet skirt optional  
Both: Proper support garments, hair securely fastened off of neck  
Dancebelt for men and good bras for women.