

Greetings,

Welcome to the CSUEB Department of Theatre and Dance's first e-newsletter, "Mise en Scène." We will be publishing a newsletter a few times a year to keep you in the loop on all the exciting things happening within and around our dynamic department.

Please keep in touch with us and let us know if you're doing something that should be included here.

This immersive dance/theatre event will combine a site-specific retelling of the Red Riding Hood fairy tale, directed and choreographed by Nina Haft, with work-in-progress performances of *Dan Plonsey's Bar Mitzvah*, directed and choreographed by Eric Kupers. The performance will take place in unexpected journeys through the University Theatre building, offering multi-layered examinations of the nature of growing up and rites of passage.

May 7, 8, 14, 15 at 8pm

May 16 at 2pm

\$15 General, \$10 youth/seniors/alum/military, \$5 CSUEB

A celebration and exploration of Pilipino and Pilipino-American culture through an original, student-generated script blended with traditional folk dance and contemporary pop culture. This year's production explores the impact of gang violence on the victims' families and friends.

May 21 at 7:30pm & May 22 at 6:30pm

Tickets sold by PASA

The annual performance celebration directed and choreographed by advanced students.

May 28, 29, June 4, 5 at 8pm

June 6 at 2pm

\$15 General, \$10 youth/seniors/alum/military, \$5 CSUEB

Watch Mahalia Jackson's epic rise from humble roots in New Orleans all the way through her career as an actress, a political speaker, and the "Queen of Gospel Music."

July 29, 30, 31 and Aug 1, show times TBA

Ticket Prices TBA

CSUEB's Aces Wild Theatre company will be taking this show, directed by alumna Dawn Monique Williams, to the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh. Please check CSUEB Theatre and Dance web site for show dates here in the Bay Area.

We are always seeking volunteer ushers for shows. If you are interested please call the Theatre and Dance office at 510-885-3118.

The CSU East Bay Department of Theatre and Dance is doing our best to weather the storm of budget cuts during this challenging time.

We are deeply disturbed by having to dramatically reduce the teaching loads of our core lecturers, many of whom have

been teaching our students for more than a decade. Our current students now have little or no contact with Laura Ellis, Kimiko Guthrie, Melissa Hillman and Anne-Lise Reusswig. This is a great blow to our mission as a department and we are doing all we can to get them fully reinstated to our teaching schedule.

Meanwhile, despite class cancellations, faculty and staff furloughs and the weariness of living in constant fear of further cuts, our department's faculty, students and alumni have been banding together to "keep on keepin' on!" This has included budget cut protests, appeals to our legislators, volunteering, accelerated fundraising efforts and more. Even though we face immense challenges ahead, this crisis has brought us closer together and forced us to find our collective strength.

But we need your help. The following is a list of ways you can get involved:

- Donate money and/or in-kind resources to the department
- Help publicize our productions and bring your friends to the shows
- Volunteer whatever amount of time you are able to
- CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS AND LET THEM KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THEATRE AND DANCE EDUCATION IS!

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html>

For more info contact April Rodriguez at april.rodriquez@csueastbay.edu

Our Theatre and Dance Faculty complement a vigorous teaching schedule with a wide-reaching collection of professional projects. Here are just a few of the projects in the works at the moment:

Professor Nina Haft is currently on tour with her company in the Middle East, performing in international dance festivals and a number of educational settings. For info about the company and the tour go to:

<http://ninahaftandcompany.wordpress.com/>

Melissa Hillman is the Artistic Director of the critically acclaimed Impact Theatre. This small Berkeley company is nationally recognized for its concentration on new plays. The company was recently featured on NPR for its world premiere production of Enrique Urueta's *Learn To Be Latina*. Impact opens *Twelfth Night*, directed by Melissa, on May 8.

Professor Eric Kupers has brought together CSUEB students and alumni with his company, Dandelion Dancetheater, and avant garde music ensemble Daniel Popsicle to create an original work commissioned by the Jewish Music Festival and presented by the



CSUEB Theatre & Dance YouTube channel
<http://www.youtube.com/user/csuebperformer>

CSUEB Theatre & Dance Facebook page
Fan page: Cal State East Bay Theatre & Dance

Dancer's Group
<http://dancersgroup.org>

Dandelion Dancetheater
<http://dandeliondancetheater.org/index.html>

Friends of the Arts
www20.csueastbay.edu/about/foa/

Impact Theatre
<http://impacttheatre.com>

Jewish Music Festival
<http://jewishmusicfestival.org>

Nina Haft and Company
<http://ninahaftandcompany.com>

Notre Dame de Namur's Summer Musical Theatre Intensive
<http://musictheatreconservatory.org>

Shawl-Anderson Dance Center
<http://shawl-anderson.org>