Weber State University’s Department of Performing Arts’ Announces November Events for a Season, “Beyond the Stage”


Ogden, Utah – October 14, 2013 – The Weber State University Department of Performing Arts (WSUDPA) today announced the details for their November calendar of events. The month includes two world premiere performances for both Theatre and Dance. During the 2013-2014 performing arts season, attendees are encouraged to answer the question, “How are you using what you learned/saw beyond the stage?” This month’s series of events, special guests and innovative work is sure to delight audiences of every age.

“November is always traditionally one of our busiest months of activities for dance, music and theatre,” said Thom Priest, Chair of the Department of Performing Arts. “Our students have been working for months on many of the performances they will be share with audiences. We are excited to share our work with audiences throughout Utah.”

Theatre

“Of Myth and Mud” World Premiere: By Sarah Saltwick and Directed by Weber State University Theatre Professor, Jennifer Kokai. In a new collection of short plays, Pandora, Medusa, Cecilia the Selkie, Dahlia the Dragon and other characters from Greek Mythology provide fresh insight into the universal themes of love, faith, death and family. November 8-9 and 12-16 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 p.m. in the Eccles Theater at the Val A. Browning Center. Ticket prices are $12/$9 for seniors, students and military. American Sign Language interpretation provided at the November 9 performance. This theatrical performance is recommended for mature audiences.

Dance

Orchesis Dance Theatre Presents Air of Freedom. Fall Orchesis will feature a collection of works focused on ‘Air’ and the freedom it provides to everyone to explore and investigate the world around them. Originally choreographed pieces from more than five students will depict such topics as love, struggle and gender. November 21-23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Allred Theater at the Val A. Browning Center.

“My piece this fall is about struggle as we all go through struggles in our lives,” said Jessica Skagen a Weber State University dance student. “It is a duet of two ladies switching between the roles of the one suffering and battling the struggle, while the other is helping her through the struggle. It is a beautiful piece that inspires those who watch it to think on struggles they are fighting currently or to look back on struggles they have fought. It inspires those emotions that one felt during their struggle and how they overcame it. I feel it gives one a sense of hope for
Another student, Jessica Haslip, is choreographing around the theme of filtering. She shares, “My oldest brother has chronic renal failure and as I grew up with him, I had the opportunity to see how this disease effected his quality of life. In my sophomore year of college, I took Biomedical Core and Pathophysiology. In these classes, I learned the regular function of the kidneys and what happens at the cellular level of renal failure. This peaked my interest immediately. My practicum is a danced out version of the cellular level of chronic renal failure and some of the procedures that are used to treat it such as dialysis.”

**Music**

**Weber State University Symphony Orchestra**: The Weber State Symphony Orchestra invites the community to get into the holiday spirit a bit early with the music of the Nutcracker. A special guest will narrate the famed Nutcracker story while the Weber State Symphony accompanies along with the classic music. November 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Austad Auditorium. Tickets are $7 and $6 for seniors, students and members of the military.

**Weber State University Symphonic Band Concert - Featuring Music From Around the World**: Director Thomas Root will lead the audiences through a special selection of music including: “The Star Spangled Banner,” “Paris Sketches,” “Trauermusik, WWW 73.” On December 14, 1844, the remains of German composer, Carl Maria von Weber were moved from English to German soil. Weber had died in England while on tour and was eventually buried there. When word of his death reached Germany, efforts to return his remains to Germany ensued. Richard Wagner composed, *Trauermusik* (his title for the work) for a torch-lit procession from the train station to Weber’s burial site in Friedrichstadt. The subtitle of this work (known to many musicians as *Trauersinfonie*) is “Funeral Music on Themes of Carl Maria von Weber” but is misleading as it is not original music by Wagner. It is, in fact, one of the first band transcriptions. *Trauermusik* is actually Wagner’s band version of excerpts from Weber’s *Euryanthe, Act III*. November 14 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $7 and $6 for seniors, students and members of the military.

**Opera Scenes**: Weber State University’s Department of Performing Arts will present An Evening of Opera Scenes on Friday, Nov. 22, at 7:30 p.m. The performance will take place in the Eccles Theater. Tickets for this event will be $7 general admission and $6 for students, seniors and members of the military.

**Jazz at the Station**: Weber State University will participate in Jazz at the Station on Wednesday, November 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Union Station. Dr. Shannon Roberts will lead the Jazz Band through a series of numbers from the bands upcoming concert on Tuesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are already on sale for all performances listed above. Tickets can be purchased at [www.weberstatetickets.com](http://www.weberstatetickets.com) or by phone at 801-626-7000.

For more information and updated details on events surrounding the performances please visit: [www.weber.edu/performingarts](http://www.weber.edu/performingarts).
About Weber State University’s Department of Performing Arts
The Weber State University Department of Performing Arts is located in the Lindquist College of Arts and Humanities at Weber State University. The Department of Performing Arts combines world-class instruction with opportunities for students to excel in live theatre, music and dance performances. For more information on the Weber State University Department of Performing Arts, please call 801-626-6437 or visit the website at (www.weber.edu/performingarts).

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