Chorale performs at Carnegie Hall

The Southeastern Chorale had a busy spring and early summer, with performances on campus and at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Before taking off for the “Big Apple” The Southeastern Chorale presented a world premiere concert near the end of the spring semester in Montgomery Auditorium.

The Chorale commissioned a work from internationally acclaimed choral director David Childs to mark SE's centennial celebration. Childs directed the piece, “Of Fire and the Rose.”

SE Professor of Music Dr. Robert McFadden served as accompanist for the concert. The event also showcased student conductors Sara Hudson and Weslee Vance.

Dr. Stacy Weger, Associate Professor in the Fine Arts Department, and Director of the Chorale, said, “I was very pleased with the Centennial Concert presentation. The students sang a wide variety of music well, and I must say it was good to sense a connection with the incredible tradition of musical excellence that is so much a part of Southeastern’s history.”

With regard to the group's New York trip and Carnegie Hall performance in June, Weger said, “We appreciate the support of the University and the community in our undertakings.”

Native American students visit campus

Southeastern hosted 37 Native American high school students and five tribal sponsors July 1 on the Durant campus.

The students are from public schools within the Choctaw and Muskogee Creek Nations and each student is active in the Johnson O’Malley (JOM) programs at their respective schools and tribes. JOM is a program operated through the local tribe and within the public schools. It assists all Native American students by providing school supplies, tutoring, educational field trips and personal development.

Chris Wesberry, SE’s Academic Advisor/Director, Academic Advising and Outreach Center/ Native American Excellence in Education, was in charge of the program.

There was a campus tour and an Educational Experience with David Barnes, Associate Professor/ Fine Arts.

The event featured lunch in the cafeteria, followed by welcoming comments and information from Tim Boatmun, Elizabeth Stidham and Wesberry.

SE language students travel to Mexico

At the end of the 2009 spring semester administrative appointments in the new Department of Art, Communication and Theatre (A.C.T.) were announced. Dell McLain was appointed to department chair, filling the position vacated by Dr. Lucretia Scoufos, who is now serving as Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences.

Dr. Aaron Adair was appointed to director of Theatre at Southeastern.

This is McLain’s twelfth year on the faculty at Southeastern, where he served as director of Theatre for eleven years. He received his BA from Southeastern and his MFA from the University of New Orleans. McLain previously taught at Northeastern and Austin College.

He is a recipient of the Oklahoma College Theatre Teacher of the Year Award and has been recognized three times by Who’s Who Among American Teachers. A member of the Actor’s Equity Association and the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, McLain’s professional credits include numerous stage productions. He was recently honored with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Fellowship in Directing.

Adair recently completed his second year on the faculty at Southeastern as assistant professor of Theatre, Musical Theatre coordinator and director of Chorvettes StageWorks Company. Before returning to SE where he obtained two bachelor degrees, he was a faculty member at Texas Tech University and Colorado Northwestern College.

Adair received his masters in Theatre Arts from Texas A&M University at Commerce and his doctorate in Humanities-Aesthetic Studies from the University of Texas at Dallas.

“The chance to work with and help educate the next generation of theatre artists in the program that helped shape my craft is the dream of a lifetime,” Adair said. “Theatre at Southeastern has such a rich history of excellence in theatre, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such a terrific family of artists, educators and administrators. This is home for me.”

Randi Maxwell, a 2008 spring graduate and biology major from Kieowa, has been accepted to Oklahoma State University’s college of Osteopathic Medicine. Maxwell is pictured with Dr. Brad Ludrick, associate professor, when she received her Southeastern honor’s medallion.
SE professor evaluates military training courses

Dr. James Britton, professor of Chemistry, Computer and Physical Sciences at Southeastern, recently performed an important service for the American Council on Education’s Military Evaluations Program.

The national program, in the Center for Lifelong Learning in Washington, DC, helps service members obtain academic recognition for learning acquired through military courses and occupations.

“We have expressed our appreciation directly to Dr. Britton but felt you would be pleased to learn of his contribution and would wish to acknowledge it personally,” said Cynthia Bruce, director of Military Evaluations.

Britton served on a team that evaluates courses at the Mine Warfare Training Center, Ingleside, Texas.

“The knowledge and skill that Dr. Britton has demonstrated are appreciated and valued highly by the ACE staff as well as other members of the team,” Bruce wrote, in a letter to Dr. Lucretia Scoufos, Dean, School of Arts & Sciences at SE.

The result of Britton’s work can be found online in the “Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services,” at www.militaryguides.acenet.edu.

Janie Semple-Umsted, director of the Southeastern’s Centre Gallery, won first place in the Water-based Painting category at the Red Earth Festival’s 2009 Artist Competition in Oklahoma City, with her batik artwork entitled ‘Bear Clan Society Flag’.

The 23rd annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival was held at the Cox Convention Center in June in downtown Oklahoma City, OK. More than 1200 American Indian artists and dancers from throughout North America gathered to celebrate the richness and diversity of their heritage with the world. For three exciting days Oklahoma City was at the center of Native American art and culture in America.

Southeastern ranks in top 10 in Native American diversity

Data released by Diverse Issues in Higher Education and provided by Associate Dean Academic Services Tim Boatmun, indicates that Southeastern is among the nation’s leaders in educating Native Americans in several key disciplines.

Southeastern ranks 3rd in the nation for producing undergraduate degrees in communication.

Southeastern ranks 4th nationally in producing undergraduate degrees to Native Americans in Biological and Biomedical Sciences.

The University ranks 8th nationally in producing undergraduate degrees to Native Americans in English Language and Literature.

Southeastern ranks 3rd in the nation for producing undergraduate degrees to Native Americans in Computer and Information Sciences.

SE is 10th in the nation in producing undergraduate degrees to Native Americans in English Language and Literature.

Save the Date: Southeastern Homecoming

October 9 & 10, 2009

Don’t Miss

For more information, call: 580-745-2875
or visit: alumni.SE.edu

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**Centre Gallery exhibition schedule 2009 - 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Exhibition Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 24 - Sep 4</td>
<td>Southeastern’s Permanent Art Collection: The Charles and Miriam Hogan Native American Art Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 7 - Oct. 2</td>
<td>Shelley Tate Garner and Traci Martin: Capital Exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 12 - Nov 11</td>
<td>Pedagogy 2: SE Art Faculty Exhibit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 16 - Dec 12</td>
<td>Grass Roots: African Origins of an American Art, Educational Programming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 15 - Feb 5</td>
<td>Art Students Exhibit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 15 - Mar 26</td>
<td>Preventing Violence Against Women: Art Exhibit. In collaboration with Susie Fry, Project Co-ordinator, Office of Violence Prevention, Dept. of Justice grant.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 29 - Apr 26</td>
<td>Great Plains Juried Exhibition</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3 - May 15</td>
<td>Art and Graphics Senior Exhibition</td>
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**New SE Theatre facility takes shape**

Theatre At Southeastern is currently in the process of transitioning some of its activities from the University Center to the newly renovated Activity Center east of the baseball field.

The move of the scene shop was pushed ahead of schedule due to Continuing Education receiving a major grant that would help renovate the old scene shop space in the University Center.

After speaking with Director of Theatre Dr. Aaron Adair concerning the move he said, “We did a two day move where we took out all of the building materials from the scene shop and moved them to the new facility. Currently our furniture storage has been moved to a facility off the main campus.”

Theatre At Southeastern will continue to move its affairs from the University Center to the new location as the year progresses making the transition a comfortable process for all involved.

Adair is looking forward to the coming spring semester of 2010 when the full space of the new location will be in use. Once final renovations are completed the building will house all three workshops (scenery, props and costumes), a new ADA accessible black box theatre, and a new design lab.

When asked how these upgrades would aid the theatre, Dr. James Cunningham said, “The biggest advantage will be the larger building itself. The scene shop will have more working space so we can lay out and assemble more and larger pieces of scenery.”

It doesn’t stop there. Along with larger construction space the presence of the computer lab also offers distinct advantages.

“The computers in the design lab will allow me to incorporate more digital rendering and visualization software into courses such as Fundamentals of Design, Lighting Design and Scene Design. It would give me a chance to expose the design students to software that they would be likely to encounter at grad school or in the profession,” commented Dr. Cunningham.

**Art major’s sculptures selected for new TMC**

Chance Dunlap, Art Studio major, has been commissioned to create five new large scale sculptures for the new Texoma Medical Center in Denison. Dunlap is represented by the Old Katy Glassworks gallery in Denison, Texas.
Art faculty get ‘Painted Horses’ ready for public display

Dr. Gleny Beach painting landscape on her horse.

Janie Umsted painting the mane on her horse.

Jack Ousey painting his horse ‘Blaze’.

Janie Umsted, Alvina Ralls, Gleny Beach, and Jack Ousey

Visual Arts faculty, Dr. Gleny Beach and Jack Ousey, along with Centre Gallery Director Janie Semple-Umsted, paint fiberglass horses for the Red River Arts Council sponsored event: ‘Painted Horses in Durant, OK’. Alvina Ralls (featured in group photo) and Krystal Barnes (Not pictured), board members of the RRAC, also created painted horses.

‘Painted Horses’ is a community sculptural event which will be previewed July 30th, 2009 in partnership with Leadership Durant at their annual meeting. These horses will kick off the start of a juried selection of approximately twenty more Painted Horses’ to be displayed in various locations in Durant.