Northwestern College
THEATRE ARTS

3003 SNELLING AVENUE NORTH
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55113-1598

Great Moments from The Roister Doister Awards 2008!

Theatre Arts
Northwestern College

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The Theatre Arts program is a part of the Communication Department chaired by Dr. Doug Trouten.

Fall 2008 Theatre Calendar

The Music Man performances	Oct. 30, 31, and Nov. 1
Auditions: Bathrobe Drama Festival	TBA
Bathrobe Drama Festival performances	Dec. 10, 11, and 12

The Backstage Pass
The Official Newsletter of Northwestern College Theatre Arts

Volume 4, Issue 1 Fall 2008

NWC Theatre Kicks Off its Season

Cast of *The Music Man*

Harold Hill — **Nathan Cousins**
Marian Paroo — **Steph Anderson**
Charlie Cowell — **Chris Blatchley**
Mayor Shinn — **Curt Folkestad**
Eulalie Shinn — **Shaylee Carlson**
Marcellus Washburn — **Dan Hazel**
Mrs. Paroo — **Angela Van Loon**
Tommy Djilas — **Seth Conover**
Zaneeta Shinn — **Lydia Russell**

THE QUARTET:
Oliver — **Jason Meyer**
Ewart — **Daniel Stewart**
Jacey — **Shawn Fletcher**
Olin — **Jacob Notch**

PICK-A-LITTLE WOMEN:
Ethel — **Emily Herringshaw**
Alma — **Sarah Howell**
Mrs. Squires — **Jenessa Scherb**
Maud — **Chantal Ulferts**

DANCING BOYS:
Drayton Jones, Phil Baur, Michael Berry, Fuechee Kong, Adam Rosanas

DANCING GIRLS:
Elizabeth Coslet, Lauren Bernhagen, Amy Rahn, Sarah Fleming, Jenn Hubal

ENSEMBLE/OTHER ROLES:
Chris Ciatti, Kurt Bender, Ryan Anderson, Andrew Johnston, Elizabeth Yoder, Emily Ohman, Lauren Hale, Jessi Laeger

By Nicholas Freeman

We are starting this fall off with a bang! *The Music Man* is in full swing with a great cast. Thanks to all of the many wonderful and talented people who auditioned. For those that didn't make the final list, please continue to follow your passions and audition for the next production. If this show is not for you, there is bound to be another on the horizon. Also, take advantage of all of the ways to help out backstage. We are lucky to have Ivey award winner Ed Williams on board to lead the dance numbers. By his side we are blessed to have one of our favorite alums, Steph Zwald sharing her talents and enthusiasm as assistant choreographer. David Kozamchak is our very able musical director and Doreen Hutchings our fantastic vocal coach. I look forward to all challenges that this show presents. I have no doubt that God's hands will be on us though every step of the way!

New Faces in the Department

Dan Lori

Over the summer, Technical Director and Production Manager Dan Lori was hired to join our team of outstanding theatre faculty and staff. Dan came to Northwestern after working at the Theatre de la Jeune Lune in Minneapolis for over 10 years! Dan hit the ground running and was swept into Northwestern's fall production of The Music Man, but his enthusiasm and dedication surfaced to match the challenge. We are immensely excited to have Dan on our team!

Aqueelah Roberson

Aqueelah Roberson, adjunct instructor, came to Northwestern last year to teach speech classes. This year, she is doing better than that. She is teaching History of Theatre for the theatre department this fall. She impressed Northwestern students last year by performing a dramatic speech for chapel. She is full of energy and we are excited to have her on board! Welcome, Professor Roberson!

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The NWC Theatre Season~Announced!

Fall 2008

Meredith Wilson's American Classic
THE MUSIC MAN
Directed by Nicholas Freeman
October 30, 31, and November 1

The Second Annual
BATHROBE DRAMA CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
Featuring **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**
December 10, 11, and 12

Spring 2009

Stephen Schwartz's Celebration of the Gospel of Matthew
GODSPELL
February 25, 26, 27, and 28

Nathan Cousins Senior Showcase
Featuring senior theatre major Nathan Cousins and friends
April 3
Maranatha Mainstage

Thorton Wilder's American Classic
OUR TOWN
April 16, 17, 23, 24, and 25

ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL
May 5, 6, 7 and 8

Students to Write and Direct 10-minute plays in the Annual Bathrobe Drama Christmas Festival

By Theresa Henderson

The theatre department is excited to announce the theatre students slated to write and direct plays for this year's Annual Bathrobe Drama Christmas Festival: Mark Fleming, Emily Herringshaw, and Forrest Roy Johnson.

These three talented people are brainstorming, writing and rewriting scripts that must have this one stipulation: each play must include someone wearing a bathrobe.

We are eagerly looking forward to another year of new plays and we wish the best to each of these great theatre students. Performances are scheduled for December 10, 11, and 12.

Mark

Emily

Roy

Bathrobe Festival Writers

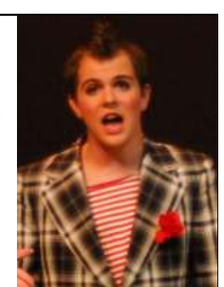
Why I Am Nuts About Theatre...

Lydia Russell

I was the girl who wrote melodramas and cockamamie musicals as a kid...and then performed them in front of a shower curtain in my basement. Suffice it to say (without trying to sound too cliché) theatre is in my blood. I love the thrill of stepping onto a stage, spotlight hitting me square in the face. The applause, the audience's laughter—it's intoxicating, really. It just never gets old. The intricacies of show production, the quick costume changes, the suspense of waiting behind a rising curtain....there's just about nothing better.

Lydia's Bio: She is a sophomore art education major from St. Paul, Minn. Last year, she played a jungle creature in *Seussical*, the waitress in *Eggnog*, and Mrs. Smith in *The Bald Soprano*.

Shawn Fletcher



It is difficult to say exactly why I love theatre. I love the adrenaline of a month and a half of rehearsal coming down to one performance. I love telling a story that can make an audience think, laugh, or cry. I love building close friendships with people I may have otherwise never met. I love knowing that I am using the gifts God has given me to glorify him. Theatre is dedication, hard work, laughs, mistakes, fun times, growth and much more. And that is why I am nuts about theatre!

Shawn's Bio: he is a sophomore vocal performance major from Merrill, Wis. Last year, he played a who from Whoville in *Seussical* and Stem in *Just in Time for Christmas*.

The CALL BOARD

News and Notes

RECENT HAPPENINGS!

Here is what some of our theatre people were doing over the summer.

*Recent graduate **Amy Suiter** played a chorus member in St. Anthony Theatre's production of Urintown in St. Anthony, Minn, last July and August.*

*Recent graduate **Kayla Erickson** performed the role of Belle in Beauty and the Beast last July at Mounds View Community Theatre.*

*Senior **Emily Herringshaw** and senior **Nathan Cousins** played Dulce and Bobby VanHusen in The Boyfriend at Lyric Arts Mainstreet Stage in Anoka, Minn.*

*Sophomore **Shawn Fletcher** played many different roles for Northern Lights Playhouse in Hazelhurst, Wis, throughout the summer.*

What's up Doc?

WELCOME to all FRESH FACES!!!

Just when it seems like the theatre program has been horribly crippled by that plague known as "graduation," in walks a whole new crop of fresh faced talent to pick up the slack and move us on to even bigger and better things. I'm glad you're here. We NEED you.

Sure, we'll miss the veterans who honed their skills, built their reputations, and anchored our productions, and who have now moved on to new challenges. But, it is exciting and encouraging to meet a group of equally talented (albeit slightly wet behind the ears) men and women ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities of doing theatre FOR CHRIST'S SAKE at Northwestern College.

I was thrilled to see nearly 60 eager new students show up for *The Music Man* audition. You even outnumbered the 50 returning students who auditioned! For those of you that prefer something that doesn't require singing and dancing, give the Bathrobe Dramas a try in November. Watch for the audition notices for that Christmas production. Other new students may want to get involved backstage doing construction, lighting costuming or running crew. We have a place for you.

At Northwestern, new students can be involved—onstage and backstage. You don't need to sit on the sidelines and wait your turn for a couple of years like you do some places. At NWC, your turn is NOW.

We are looking forward to a great year for Northwestern Theatre. The FRESH FACES that have joined us are an important part of our theatre community. WELCOME!!!