

Volume 29, Number 1, January 15-28, 2007

TWU DRAMA TO TAKE PART IN NATIONAL PLAYWRITING FESTIVAL

While sitting down with her morning cup of coffee and the “New York Times” one day last summer, Sharon Bengé (drama) read an article that piqued her interest.

The article stated that Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Suzan-Lori Parks and co-producer Bonnie Metzgar were planning a world premiere of “365 Days/365 Plays,” Ms. Parks’ initiative to write one play per day for a full year. The event would include professional and university theaters throughout the United States performing one week’s worth of plays, creating the 365 National Festival — the largest theater collaboration in the history of American theater.

Ms. Bengé was intrigued with the idea and went to work. TWU’s application was accepted by the Yale Playwriting Program, which is managing university participation in the festival. TWU joins more than 600 theaters nationwide in the play cycle, which began Nov. 13, 2006, and ends Nov. 12, 2007.

“It’s exciting to be part of a national initiative, and to be able to work with professional and university theaters in premiering this new work,” Ms. Bengé said.

Participating theaters may choose how, when and where to perform their seven plays. There also are “The Constants,” three short plays that will be performed by all participating theaters. Each theater is free to choose how the plays are incorporated into its performances.

TWU’s productions will take place March 26 through April 1 in the new Redbud Theater, possibly in multiple spaces in the complex. The performances will be directed by Joshua Hancock of Kilgore as the final project for his master of arts degree in drama. Dr. Patrick Bynane (drama) will supervise.

For more information on the 365 National Festival, visit www.365days365plays.com

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ARAMARK TRIMS THE FAT AT TWU WITH NEW TRANS FAT-FREE OIL

Texas Woman's University recently announced that it has converted to a zero grams trans fat fryer oil (defined by the FDA as 0.5 grams per serving or less) in all of its dining locations on campus. This announcement is in response to research conducted by ARAMARK, TWU's dining provider, that shows consumers are more concerned than ever with their intake of trans fats.

ARAMARK worked with suppliers, dietitians and chefs to identify a product that provides the same great taste consumers enjoy in a non-hydrogenated corn and sunflower oil containing zero grams of trans fats. The new trans fat-free oil is now being used at many ARAMARK-managed locations across the United States.

“ARAMARK is committed to identifying and providing a wide range of choices to help our clients and customers manage their consumption of trans fats and saturated fats,” said John McRae, director of dining services.. “After an in-depth product review, it's clear that this new oil offers the best combination of value, performance, taste delivery and health profile.”

According to the 2006 ARAMARK Nutritional DiningStyles™ Research, 27 percent of American adults feel strongly about limiting their trans fats intake in meals purchased away-from-home, up from an average of 21 percent in 2005. This research, a comprehensive, nationwide study of the away-from-home eating habits, nutritional preferences and perceptions of Americans, is conducted each year to better understand consumer preferences and tailor dining programs to fit consumer needs.

ARAMARK has been working with its registered dietitians and manufacturers to develop ways to identify and reduce both saturated fats and trans fats in recipe ingredients and prepared foods. All packaged goods have trans fat information reported on the nutritional label in response to the January 2006 FDA regulation requiring prepared food manufacturers to provide the information.

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TWU EXPANDS NON-CREDIT COURSE OPTIONS

In response to overwhelming interest in online non-credit and career training courses, Texas Woman's University has expanded its non-credit course offerings to accommodate what are considered “hot trend” areas.

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ONLINE OPTIONS, *continued*

Job seekers may receive training in areas such as business, design, health care, languages, skilled trades and more by taking non-credit online courses offered at TWU. The university also offers certification programs in medical transcription and as an administrative medical specialist, both considered “hot trend” medical fields.

“The e-learning movement — a segment of continuing education that has only scratched the surface of potential students — has taken hold, particularly in higher education through outreach and continuing education programs,” said Stephen Pense, TWU program coordinator for continuing education.

Courses are offered through TWU via Gatlin Education Services (GES), the largest provider of web-based, instructor-supported training to colleges and universities. GES open-enrollment programs are designed to provide the skills necessary to acquire professional-caliber positions for many in-demand occupations.

For program and course descriptions, go to www.twu.thelearningcenter.com. For enrollment information, contact Stephen Pense in TWU’s Office of Lifelong Learning, (940) 898-3466, or e-mail spense@twu.edu.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Information and news about activities, programs or TWU people may be sent to the Office of Marketing and Communication through campus mail or by e-mail to info@twu.edu. The deadline to receive information is the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. for the following week. Student information for the “People” section is not published unless it is submitted by or in conjunction with a faculty member and that faculty member’s related activities.

Applications are being taken for the spring 2007 staff scholarships. To be eligible, you must be a full- or part-time permanent TWU employee (graduate assistants are not eligible); have been employed at least three consecutive months by the start of the fall 2006 term; and be a student in good standing if you previously have enrolled at TWU. New students must meet normal admission standards and should submit an application with the request. The scholarship will pay \$250 toward one three-hour course. The course can be at the graduate or undergraduate level. Among eligible applicants, awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact Tonie Duperry in the Office of Student Life, 8-1-3635.

NEWSBRIEFS, *continued*

Faculty and staff are invited to submit nominations for the Outstanding Senior and Outstanding Graduate Student awards. The awards will be presented by the TWU Former Students Association at Honors Convocation. Applications, which include criteria and deadlines, are available online at www.twu.edu/o-sl/csd/Forms.html. For more information, contact Dr. Trisha Van Duser at tvanduser@twu.edu.

The Visual Arts Society of Texas (VAST) is taking reservations for its 2007 Gala, scheduled for 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19 in the Center for the Visual Arts at Hickory and Bell Avenue in Denton. The event will honor sculptor George Cadell, who received training in TWU's graduate sculpture program. The event will feature Kevin Locke, an internationally-known visionary Lakota Hoop Dancer. The dinner menu will feature an array of Native American dishes, catered by Aramark. Tickets are \$35 for VAST members, \$50 for non-members. Reservations are due by Wed., Jan. 17. For reservations or more information, contact Ingrid Scobie at (940) 566-5507 or iwscobie@hotmail.com.

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UPDATE ON TWU PEOPLE

Please submit "People" items (faculty and staff only) to the Office of Marketing and Communication by campus mail or by e-mail to info@twu.edu. Include first and last names (no initials, please) and appropriate titles (ie. Dr.).

The TWU community offers its condolences to Carolyn Ray (dental hygiene) on the death of her husband, Tom. Services were Jan. 10, 2007, in Denton. The family requests memorials be made to the Piece of the Rock Ministries.

Dr. **Sandra Cesario** (nursing, Houston) is the recipient of the 2007 Texas Organization of Baccalaureate and Graduate Education's (TOBGNE) Innovations in Teaching Award. Dr. **Cesario** will receive an award check of \$1,500 and will be recognized during the spring TOBGNE meeting March 1 in Austin.

Melanie Tracht has officially taken over duties as manager of benefits and welfare in TWU's Human Resources Office. She joined TWU on Nov. 20, 2006, after leading the benefits department at the University of North Texas and Collin County Community College. She may be reached at 8-1-3551 or mtracht@twu.edu.

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: JANUARY 15-28, 2007

- Mon., Jan. 15 -Martin Luther King Jr. Day; university closed.
- Tues., Jan. 16 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;
Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Wed., Jan. 17 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness
& Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
-Pioneers Basketball vs. Midwestern State, 7 p.m., away.
- Thur., Jan. 18 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;
Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 19 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.;
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 20 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and
Recreation open 8 a.m. to noon.
-TWU Open House, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Hubbard Hall, free. 8-1-
3014.
-Pioneers Basketball vs. Tarleton State, 7 p.m., home.
- Sun., Jan. 21 -Library open 2 p.m. to midnight; bookstore closed; Fitness and
Recreation open 4-8 p.m.
-Pioneers Gymnastics vs. Central Michigan and Brown, 2 p.m.,
home.
- Mon., Jan. 22 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 23 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.- 10 p.m.
- Wed., Jan. 24 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; library open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
-Basic 40-Hour Mediation, 1 p.m. 8-1-3408.
-Pioneers Basketball vs. Abilene Christian, 7 p.m., home.
- Thur., Jan. 25 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

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CALENDAR, *continued*

- Fri., Jan. 26 -Library open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.;
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 27 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and
Recreation open 8 a.m.-noon.
-Pioneer Gymnastics vs. Centenary, Oklahoma and George
Washington, 7 p.m., home.
-Pioneers Basketball vs. Angelo State, 7 p.m., away.
- Sun., Jan. 28 -Library open 2 p.m.-midnight; bookstore closed; Fitness and
Recreation open 4-8 p.m.

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