Cultural Events Series to Present ‘Big River’ Musical

The award-winning musical, “Big River: the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,” will be presented at FSU’s Performing Arts Center in the Drama Theater on Sunday, Feb. 3, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Monday, Feb. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Based on Mark Twain’s literary classic, “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,” the show sweeps the audience down the mighty Mississippi as the irrepressible Huck and his friend, Jim, a runaway slave, escape to freedom. Their hilarious, suspenseful and heartwarming adventures feature a motley crew of unforgettable characters ranging from the virtuous to the villainous.

Time Magazine describes “Big River” as “a classic American musical with the most fetching score of the decade,” composed by country songwriter Roger Miller. Miller skillfully intertwaves the distinctly American musical styles of country, blues, gospel and jazz into America’s favorite form of entertainment, the Broadway musical. The result is a celebration of the American spirit.

“Big River” was the big winner of the 1985 Tony awards, with a clean sweep of seven awards, including “Best Musical.” Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for Under 17. Discounts are available for FSU staff and students.

Dinner theatre specials are available prior to the performance at partner restaurants. For information and ticket purchases, and for dinner-theatre menu selections and reservation purchases, contact the CES Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at x3137 or toll-free at 1-(866) TIXX CES. Order requests can also be faxed to x7049 or e-mailed to CES@frostburg.edu. Based on availability, tickets may also be purchased at the PAC Box Office one hour prior to the performance.

Simple Gifts to Perform Live! at the Loft at FSU

Two women plus 12 instruments equals one good time when Simple Gifts takes the stage at the Lane University Center Loft at FSU Friday, Feb. 8, beginning at 8:15 p.m. At 7 p.m., prior to the concert, the duo will also offer a rhythm workshop.

Presented by Live! at the Loft, Center Stage and the FSU Department of Student and Community Involvement, Simple Gifts draws on an impressive variety of ethnic folk styles. This award-winning duo plays everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to hard-driving Klezmer frailachs and haunting Gypsy melodies, spicing the mix with the distinctive rhythms of Balkan dance music, the lush sounds of Scandinavian twin fiddling, and original compositions written in a traditional style.

Combining tradition with innovation, Simple Gifts creates some of the finest arrangements in folk music today: swing fiddle creeps into a Romanian dance, spoons show up in an Irish reel, and the concertina ventures far beyond styles considered traditional for that instrument. Based in the hills of central Pennsylvania, these women play an amazing array of instruments. Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon switch with ease among two fiddles, concertina, mandolin, banjo, recorders, bowed psaltery, hammered dulcimer, baritone fiddle, guitar, piano and percussion.

Simple Gifts is frequently complimented on its stage presence, which is warm, personal and accented with humor. These women deliver their music with rare intensity and contagious enthusiasm.

Before their concert at 7 p.m., the performers will conduct an hour-long rhythm workshop, “Learn to Play in 7/8 Meter.” Simple Gifts will first show participants how to count and feel a 7/8 rhythm and then will teach the Bulgarian tune “Minka.” Bring your instruments, or if you don’t have an instrument or don’t know how to play, come anyway; the artists will teach you.

Simple Gifts is partially supported by a grant from Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour, a program developed and funded by the Vira I. Heinz Endowment; the William Penn Foundation; the

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Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a stage agency; and The Pew Charitable Trust; and administered by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation.

For more information about any Center Stage or Department of Student and Community Involvement activities, please call the FSU Information Desk at x4411.

“Rodrigo D: No Future” – April 2
“The Legend of Rita” – May 7

Spring Intl’ Film Series Launches with ‘Himalaya’

FSU’s 2001-2002 International Film Series resumes with “Himalaya” on Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Lane University Center’s Atkinson Room on the second floor. The series is sponsored by Center Stage and the Department of Student & Community Involvement.

“Himalaya” presents a colorful picture of the traditional life of Tibetan herdsmen, set in the bleak but majestic scenery of the Himalayas of Nepal. Centered around a caravan journey through the mountains, this story of a future village chief’s youth is an epic of the pain of growing up and does so with exquisite craftsmanship that is as full of theatrical magic as any show in American musical theatre. Audiences of all ages return to see it. Several songs, including “Try to Remember” and “Soon it’s Gonna Rain” have become standards.

The score is by Harvey Schmidt, with lyrics by Tom Jones. Justin Seward, a senior majoring in theatre, will direct this production, which is part of FSU’s student-directed series, Season Too!

Tickets cost $3 and reservations can be made Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling x7462.

Domestic Partner Benefits to be Examined

University System of Maryland Board of Regents Chairman Nathan A. Chapman Jr. has appointed a three-member task force to study the issue of benefits for the domestic partners of USM employees. The task force, consisting of Regents Vice Chairman Admiral Charles R. Larson (USN Ret.), Lance W. Billingsley, and Patricia S. Florestano, will gather data such as the viewpoints of various USM constituencies, policies at other institutions across the country, and costs of such programs. They will also review a 1996 report on the same topic. The group will make specific recommendations on the issue to the full Board.

In its 2001 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly approved the Antidiscrimination Act of 2001, which prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation with regard to public accommodations, housing, and employment. The legislation does not require the extension of employee benefits to domestic partners, but it does suggest a more tolerant environment for unmarried domestic partners in the state of Maryland.

Japanese Visiting Scholar Will Teach in Spring

Ms. Shuko Takase will travel from Tokyo, Japan, to join the Foreign Languages faculty at FSU for spring semester 2002. Ms. Takase is spending a year in Frostburg through the International Internship Program based in Tokyo. She will be teaching two classes in introductory and basic Japanese.
Int'l Students Receive Rowe Scholarships

Three international students have been awarded Rowe scholarships for the spring semester 2002. All three students are computer science majors. Scholarships were awarded to Anus Arjunon and Ravindra Mahabaleshwar from India, and Robert Hrgic from Bosnia. The Rowe Scholarships are the gift of Harold R. Rowe, a friend of FSU and a grandson of one of the University’s founders.

First Gilman Scholarship Awarded to FSU Student

Karie Warnick is the recipient of one of the first Gilman Scholarships awarded to U.S. students who study abroad, and the first FSU student to receive this honor. Karie spent her intersession in Ecuador on FSU’s study abroad program at the Centro de Estudios Interamericanos in Cuenca. The Gilman Scholarship was started in 2001 by Senator Benjamin A. Gilman and is sponsored by the Department of State and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Awards of up to $5,000 are given to US students who take part in study abroad programs and can demonstrate financial need. More information is available at www.iie.org/gilman

Int’l Festival Set for Late Feb./Early March

The Center for International Education will sponsor the first community-wide International Festival beginning the week of Feb. 25. Events already scheduled include an international potluck on the 26th, an international Expo in the Lane Center on the 27th, a speaker from the International Campaign for Tibet on the 27th, international cuisine served in the Chesapeake all week, and a performance of Tibetan musical and dance on Sunday, March 3rd. Other events will also be scheduled as part of this festival. If you or your group are interested in co-sponsoring an event with the CIE, please contact either Amy Simes (x3091) or Tom Carr (x4747).

FSU Affiliates with School for Int’l Training

During the fall 2001 semester the Center for International Education finalized a new affiliation agreement with the School for International Training (SIT) which is located in Battleboro, Vermont. SIT offers 57 study abroad programs in over 40 countries, including several countries that US students rarely visit, such as Mongolia, Tibet, Indonesia, Uganda, Cuba, and Madagascar. The new affiliation will allow Frostburg students to register for these programs through FSU and take their financial aid and FSU scholarships with them overseas. SIT also offers financial aid in the form of scholarships, grants and special funds. For more information about SIT, please visit their Web site at www.sit.edu/studyabroad/index.html

Students Affected by Attacks Sought for Aid

The Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund is trying to identify any students who lost a loved one or whose loved one was permanently injured in the Sept. 11 attack on America and who may need financial assistance to continue their studies.

Founded by the Citizens’ Scholarship Foundation of America, the Scholarship Fund is designed to provide scholarship support for financially needy dependents of those killed or permanently disabled as a result of the attacks. If anyone knows of such a student, contact the Fund immediately at 1-877-862-0136 or e-mail freedom@csfa.org. For information, visit the Web site at www.familiesoffreedom.org

Points of Pride

Stephen Simpson, Connie Groer, Paul Lyons, Carol Gaumer and Tom Hawk all attended an accreditation workshop by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business in Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 13 to 15 to support the College of Business’ accreditation efforts. The workshop included an intensive study of AACSB standards and a chance to exchange information with other schools with similar missions.

Dr. Spencer Deakin, Director of Counseling, was a panel presenter at the U.S. Department of Education 15th Annual National Meeting on Alcohol, Other Drug and Violence Prevention in Higher Education held in Arlington, Va. He spoke concerning Maryland efforts during the program “How Statewide Initiatives Develop: Sustaining Long-Term Campus and Community Prevention Efforts.”

A comic book sent to FSU alumni has yielded record donations and an award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Conceived by Chris Harmon, director of Annual Giving in the Division of University Advancement, the comic won a bronze award in the 2001 CASE District II Accolades Program’s Fundraising Publications category. The award was one of nine made from a total of 90 entries, and will be presented at the upcoming CASE District II Conference, scheduled for February in Toronto, Canada. Starring “Annual Fund Man,” “Tellafella” and “Matching Gift Girl,” the eight-page comic yielded an additional $20,000 raised beyond the $40,000 goal. The fundraising superheroes are also featured on T-shirts and posters.

Harmon credits the layout efforts of John Wisker and illustrations of local comic book artist Gary Cramer, along with the talents of editors and artists in the FSU University Advancement office. He also thanks the entire office staff for their encouragement.

The comic’s whimsical approach has attracted attention from two publications. The July/August 2001 issue of “Currents” magazine, published by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, features the story, “A Real Advancement Hero,” and the comic will be mentioned in a coming edition of the “Successful Fundraising Newsletter.”

Goings-on in the Department of English:

• Kevin Kehrwald, assistant professor of English, delivered his paper “Bear and Stream: Gendered Landscapes and The Yellow Peril” in U.S. Forest Service Posters” at the Mid-Atlantic Popular/ American Culture Association in Silver Spring, Md. on Nov. 3. Dr. Kehrwald’s previously published essay “Don’t You Be My Neighbor: Dynamic from the Virgil” (www.misterrogersneighborhood.com) will reappear in Teleparody: Predicting/ Preventing the TV Discourse of Tomorrow (David Lavery and Angela Hague, eds.) (website at www.middleeenglish.org/teleparodywebsite/).

• Keith Schlegel, professor of English, has had his essay “The Rebellion of the Corophages” accepted by Pynchon Notes.

• Martha Dolly, professor of English, chaired and presented the session “Crossing Paths: Recreating K-College Classrooms through Collaboration” at the NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English) Conference in Baltimore, Nov. 15, 2001: she also presented “Promoting Education Majors’ Language Arts Expertise.” In January, a related article will be published in The Teaching Professor.

• Barbara Hurd, professor of English, has been awarded a coveted NEA Fellowship; her piece “Refugium” has been published in Best American Essays 2001; she appeared on the Maryland Public Television show “Direct Connection” on Wednesday, Dec. 26; and her book, Stirring the Mud: On Swamps, Dogs and Human Imagination, made the Los Angeles Times list of the Best Books of 2001 out of the 1,300 the newspaper’s reviewers had considered over the past year.

• Also over-achieving is Brad Barkley, assistant professor of English, who won (repeating his 1996 achieve- ment) the Balch Lyon Times list of the Virginia Quarterly Review for “Best Fiction” published in 2001; he’ll have a story in the upcoming issue of Glimmer Train.
Auditions open to all FSU women -- students, faculty and staff -- will be held Tuesday, Feb. 5, and Wednesday, Feb. 6, for Eve Ensler's Obie Award winning play, "The Vagina Monologues." The auditions will be from 6 to 10 p.m. each evening in Room 224 of the Performing Arts Center. For the audition, prepare your favorite monologue from The Vagina Monologues. These pieces do not need to be memorized.

The production is looking to cast a diverse group of energetic women for benefit performances on March 5 and 6. Proceeds from the shows will go to Dove Center of Garrett County, Family Crisis Resource Center (FCRC) of Cumberland, and The Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA). Scripts can be checked out at the Theatre Office, 3rd floor, PAC, for 24-hour periods beginning Jan. 30. Call Nicole Mattis (x3212), Division of Performing Arts, Theatre, or e-mail her at nmattis@frostburg.edu with any questions.

The Vagina Monologues is brought to FSU courtesy of the V-DAY College Campaign. V-DAY is an organization working to end violence against women and girls. Further information about V-DAY can be found at www.vday.org. This production is sponsored by Women's Studies as part of Women's History Month.

FSU Students Offer Free Tax Prep Assistance
Free help preparing 2001 tax returns is available through the IRS-sponsored VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program at FSU. Help with basic federal and Maryland income tax returns will be offered from early February through early April by FSU's College of Business students who have been trained and approved by the IRS.

The VITA program offers this assistance to taxpayers filing Form 1040EZ, Form 1040A, or a Basic Form 1040 federal tax return. Volunteers will alert taxpayers to special credits and deductions for which they may be eligible. Appointments must be made in advance by calling Joyce Middleton, VITA site co-coordinator, at x4154. Students will work Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in FSU's Framptom Hall (except for March 23 and 31). A drop-off service will also be available throughout the week.

Taxpayers arriving for an appointment should bring any tax packages mailed by the IRS and the state, Form W-2 from all employers, interest and dividend statements (Form 1099), a copy of last year's returns, if available, and any other relevant information about income and expenses. Taxpayer and dependent social security numbers and birth dates are also needed.

Volunteer faculty members will oversee the student preparers who include Jeff Broadwater, Matt Couch, Rich Lewis, Kelly Saulpaw, Carla Sines, and Paula Vroman.

Read To Succeed
Want to earn volunteer hours? Want to work with children? "Read To Succeed," an AmeriCorps literacy program based out of FSU, is looking for volunteers. Designed to provide students in K-8 with free tutoring, "Read to Succeed" currently offers tutoring sessions at 2 different sites: the FSU Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. and St. Michael's Elementary School on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers will be trained. Please contact Rhonda Schwinabart at x4191 for more information.

MHEC’s HOPE Scholarship Programs
Would you like to receive up to $5,000 per year for your college education? The Maryland HOPE Scholarship Program presents four different awards to state residents who meet the necessary criteria.

Administered through the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the HOPE Scholarships provide financial assistance to students pursuing a 2- or 4-year degree in certain specialized career fields.

To find out if you qualify for a HOPE scholarship, contact MHEC at 410-260-4500 for an application or visit online at www.mhec.state.md.us and click on Financial Aid. You can also contact the FSU Office of Financial Aid for further assistance at 301-687-4301.

HOPE Maryland Teacher Scholarship Available
Students who are pursuing teacher certification and who are willing to teach in a public school upon graduation may want to consider the Maryland Teacher Scholarship Program that provides up to $5,000 annual in scholarship funding.

To qualify for this scholarship, a student must have a cumulative 3.0 grade point average and be a Maryland resident. In addition, the applicant must agree to teach full-time in a Maryland public school for one year for each academic year the award is received. To apply for this scholarship, an applicant must complete the Maryland Hope Scholarship Program application and submit it to the Maryland State Scholarship Administration by March 1. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office, Room 114 Pullen Hall.

Ballet
Several levels of ballet classes will be offered under the direction of Susan Manger, who studied at the Washington
School of Ballet on full scholarship. Classes will be held in the FSU dance studio on the first floor of the Cordts P.E. Center.

Pre Ballet will be offered for children ages 7 and 8 on Mondays from Feb. 4 to May 20 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. There will be no class March 25. Students will learn mechanics of dance technique and articulation of the body. Through imagery and action, children will explore movement and solve problems; learn about control and risk engaged in movement; and learn perception of space, time and energy. Girls are required to wear a solid-colored, long-sleeved leotard (black, pink or dark blue), white socks and ballet slippers. Boys are required to wear a white T-shirt, black leggings, white socks and ballet slippers.

Ballet I will be offered to children ages 9 to 12 on Mondays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Classes will run from Feb. 4 to May 20. There will be no class March 25. This class is the beginning of formal ballet (barre, petit adagio, valse, allegro, etc., with floor work and supplementary exercises). Emphasis will be on placement and purity of movement and the intelligent use of energy and breath in movement. Students are encouraged to continue exploration of time and space to cultivate freedom of movement. The required uniform for girls is a solid-colored, long-sleeved leotard (black, pink or dark blue), pink tights and ballet slippers. Boys are required to wear a white T-shirt, black leggings, white socks and ballet slippers.

Adult Intermediate Ballet will be offered for teenagers through adults with previous ballet training on Tuesdays from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Class will run from Feb. 5 to May 21. No class will be held on March 26. This class is a formal ballet class (barre, petit adagio, valse, turns, petit allegro, batterie and grand allegro, etc., with floor work and supplementary exercises.) Elements from the Duncan technique will be included to explore the use of the solar plexus as the source of all movement. The suggested uniform for this class is, for women, a solid-colored leotard or unitard, pink or black tights and ballet slippers, and, for men, a T-shirt, close-fitting sweatpants or sweatshorts and ballet slippers.

Advance registration is required. For information, call Center Coordinator Amy Nazelrod at x7934.

Infant-Toddler and Pre-School Swimming

Infant-Toddler and Pre-School Swimming Lessons will be offered on Saturdays from Feb. 16 to March 16.

Infant-toddler classes are for children ages 3 months to 36 months and will be from 1 to 1:45 p.m.

Pre-school swimming is for children ages 3 and 4 and will be from 2 to 2:45 p.m.

Both classes will be in the FSU Pool in the Cordts Physical Education Center. Parents are required to accompany their children into the pool for these classes. Advance registration is required. For information and registration, call Center Coordinator Amy Nazelrod at x7934.

Water Aerobics

Water Aerobics will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays Feb. 5 to March 7. The classes will be from 6 to 6:50 p.m. in the Cordts P.E. Center pool.

This class is geared toward those who want to increase cardiovascular fitness, flexibility and body strength. It is the perfect activity for those with painful joints or other movement limitations. Water aerobics creates good muscle balance, making the muscles limber and strong.

Space is limited; advance registration is required.

For information, call Center Coordinator Amy Nazelrod at x7934.

Youth and Advanced Swimming Lessons

Youth and Advanced Swimming Lessons for children ages 5 to 12 will be offered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from Feb. 11 to Feb. 27.

The classes will be from 6 to 6:50 p.m. in the FSU Pool in the Cordts Physical Education Center.

Yoga

Yoga classes will be offered daily and evenings through May. The daytime class will be Mondays and Wednesdays from Feb. 4 to May 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Cordts PE Center Room 170. The evening class will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from Feb. 5 to May 9, from 5 to 6 p.m. in Cordts PE Center Room 110-1.

Yoga can help the mind and body feel stronger and less stressed. It’s a form of meditation that uses physical exercises and breathing techniques to develop awareness, stability and better health. Anyone can participate in yoga. Each person works to the limits of his or her body. The class will focus on flexibility, strength and stress release of the body. It incorporates a full range of motion and static stretching for flexibility. The use of one’s own body weight, resistant bands and light weights build strength. The class will finish with a guided relaxation to de-stress and re-energize the body, mind and spirit.

Class size is limited; advance registration is required. Jo Mason will instruct both classes. Participants are encouraged to supply their own mats.

For information, call Center Coordinator Amy Nazelrod at x7934.

Financial Aid to Study Overseas Available

There are more scholarship, grant and loan opportunities available than ever before for students who want to study abroad. For an updated list of the best awards, visit the CIE financial aid Web site at www.frostburg.edu/admin/cie/cie.htm.

Study Abroad Programs

The Center for International Education offers a variety of ways for FSU students to see the world. In many cases students register at FSU during a semester abroad and can take all financial aid with them and transfer credit back to FSU. For information on any of the programs or scholarships that may be available, check with Dr. Amy Simes at the CIE in the Fuller House on Braddock Road, call her at x3091 or e-mail her at asimes@frostburg.edu, or visit the CIE web page at www.frostburg.edu/admin/cie/cie.htm.

Study in Limerick, Ireland Spring 2003

Students interested in taking part in the Ireland Exchange Program in Limerick during spring 2003 are encouraged to pick up an application at the CIE office. An information meeting will take place in mid-February (watch StateLines for an announcement). Participants in the program study at Mary Immaculate College and take one FSU class and three MIC classes. Next spring, Dr. Kenneth Witmer (Educational Professions) will accompany the group and will teach three classes. All financial aid will transfer and scholarships are available.

Study Down Under

FSU is affiliated with AustraLearn, an organization that provides unique opportunities for students to study at a variety of universities in Australia and New Zealand. AustraLearn arranges cheap flights, an orientation program on the Great Barrier Reef, pre-registration and transcript evaluation. Students may choose from a broad range of courses at
The International Student Exchange Program allows FSU students to register at FSU, pay FSU tuition and housing, and then study overseas for a semester, year or summer at one of over 200 locations. Students may take financial aid with them and may apply for scholarships from the CIE. Students may choose programs taught either in English or other languages. For the price of an airline ticket, this is a great way to earn credit toward your FSU degree while enjoying life in a foreign culture. Apply now for fall 2002 and spring 2003.

Choose from over 20 Locations to Study
FSU affiliates with the American Institute for Foreign Study, which offers study abroad programs in a variety of locations at universities around the world. Programs are open to all majors. Study in Prague, South Africa or Japan. You may register at FSU and use your financial aid for all programs. AIFS offers scholarships to qualified students. Apply now for summer and fall 2002.

Do your Student Teaching in Copenhagen
Education majors who would like to earn a semester of FSU credits while studying in Denmark should apply now for the spring 2003 semester’s exchange program with the KDAS School of Teacher Training in Copenhagen. Students complete projects and spend several weeks in Danish schools practicing student teaching skills. All courses are in English. Financial aid transfers and scholarships are available.

Gain Work/Volunteer Experience Overseas
Students interested in working abroad should come by the CIE for information about internships, volunteer organizations and paid work overseas. Many organizations help students obtain jobs and work permits, and some help to arrange housing as well. Students can choose from short experiences (one to two months) to longer experiences (four to 12 months), or even look into a more serious commitment (one to three years). Destinations are available throughout the world.

Learn More about Study Abroad
Students who would like to learn more about study abroad opportunities and how they fit into a degree program may come to the CIE. The CIE staff will provide an overview of study abroad programs and requirements and have applications available. Scholarship and financial aid information will also be available. Students may use the CIE library and computer to search for programs. Many videos are also available.

Music from Around the World
Tune in to the university’s commercial-free radio station, WFWM (91.9 FM), every Wednesday between 7 and 8 p.m. for “Planet Frostburg.” Listen to both traditional and contemporary world music and get the latest announcements from the CIE about study abroad opportunities.