

EXIT...STAGE LEFT

THE LAKE BRADDOCK THEATRE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume XX

Monday, March 15, 2010

Number Seven

Lake Braddock's Shakespeare Champion

On Monday, March 8th, this year's Lake Braddock Shakespeare Champion, junior **Rachael Ulmer** performed at the D.C. Metro championship of the English-Speaking Union's Shakespeare Competition on the Landsburg Theatre stage of the Shakespeare Theatre. Stephanie's performance of Puck from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and her recitation of a Sonnet, wowed the judges here at Lake Braddock back in early January. Rachael performed along with more than 30 other school champions from the D. C. Metro area and gain valuable experience for future competitions. Below is a recap of the history of our previous Shakespeare Champions since 1994. Before then, Fairfax County did not participate in the competition.

1994 **David Burns** (D. C. Metro Champion)

1995 **Silvija Ozols** (D. C. Metro Finalist)

1996 **Chris Koch**

1997 **Michael Patrick**

1998 **Chris Koch**

1999 **Matt Continetti**

2000 **Roya Zarrinnahad** (D. C. Metro First Runner-up '00)

2001 **Roya Zarrinnahad**

2002 **Roya Zarrinnahad**

2003 **Kerry Kaleba**

2004 **Kathleen Mason**

2005 **Adam Ressa** (D. C. Metro First Runner-up)

2006 **Stephanie Ramsey** (D. C. Metro Finalist)

2007 **Stephanie Ramsey** (D. C. Metro Finalist)

2008 **Stephanie Ramsey**

Another shot at LBT's pair of Odd Couples

In 1989, then-LBT Artistic Director Bill Lambert came up with the idea to present both versions of *The Odd Couple* in the same weekend. He directed the female version and his wife directed the male and two stellar casts shone that February weekend in 1990. Ten years later, the concept production was staged again with '00 graduate **Alison Heald** directing the male version as R. L. Mirabal directed the females. This production was again staged in February. Now, ten years later, LBT brings the tradition back. The new era of the Odd Couple at LBT will be helmed with Mirabal taking over Male cast duties and '05 graduate **Oriana Layendecker** running things on the female side. Below are the cast and crew as well as production dates:

Olive Madison

Oscar Madison

Florence Unger

Felix Unger

Vera

Vinny

Sylvie

Speed

Mickey the Cop

Murray the Cop

Renèe

Roy

Gwendolyn Pigeon

Cecily Pigeon

Manolo Costazuela

Jesus Costazuela

Noelle Viñas

Alex Kaplan

Rachael Ulmer

Luke Esper

Erikka Robinson

C. J. Tragakis

Sarah Fick

Scott Koven

Neome Gangi

Brent Gibbons

Taylor Morgan

Jacob Gruber

Ilana Naidamast

Kate Bongiorno

Josh Maley

Scott Koven

COSTUMES DESIGNED BY JOSH MALEY

MAKEUP DESIGNED BY EMILIE NORRIS

SET DESIGNED BY GILLIAN CANON

PROPERTIES DESIGNED BY MAERNA KAUFFMAN

LIGHTING DESIGNED BY COURTNEY BRADSHAW

SOUND DESIGNED BY ZACH NEWBY

HOUSE MANAGED BY HALEY SADLER

PUBLICITY MANAGED BY SARA SILVERSMITH

COMPANY MANAGED BY SARAH FICK

STAGE MANAGED BY KIMMIE JOHNSTON

DIRECTED BY ORIANA LAYENDECKER AND R. L. MIRABAL

MALE VERSION

Thursday 7:30 pm/Saturday 8 pm, April 29, May 1, 2010

FEMALE VERSION

Friday 8 pm/Saturday 2:30 pm, April 30, May 1, 2010

THE LAKE BRADDOCK THEATRE 2009 – 2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Erikka Robinson
Noelle Viñas
Hannah Dubrow
Alexander Kaplan
R. L. Mirabal



Scenic Director
Business Manager
Master Electrician
Technical Director
Artistic Director

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Lake Braddock Theatre at the Folger Theatre

Lake Braddock Theatre returned to the Emily Jordan Secondary School Shakespeare Festival for the 17th time on Wednesday March 10th. The show, *If You Wrong Us, Shall We Not Revenge?* was a collection of vengeance themed scenes and monologue from the following Shakespeare plays: *Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, 1 Henry IV, Henry V, 2 Henry VI, 3 Henry VI, Julius Caesar, The Merchant of Venice, The Rape of Lucrece, Richard III, The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet, Sonnet 42, Taming of the Shrew, Titus Andronicus, and Troilus and Cressida*. The scenes were collected around the theme of the search for revenge after a national cataclysm similar to the one experience on September 11, 2001. Lake Braddock Theatre traveled to Capitol Hill, completing the same trek made by Theatre 3 and 4 classes starting in 1992. This year many students received awards for their efforts. First the six personified roels of the shows' themes were honored with acting awards: junior **Jimmy Day** as Revenge, seniors **Erikka Robinson, Noelle Viñas,** and **Michael Ross** as Mercy, War and Evil respectively and juniors **Hisham El Mawan** and **Ilana Naidamast** as the representations of the Palestine/Israeli conflict. Senior **Neome Gangi** took home a Distinguished Acting award for her portrayal of a mourner, seeker and ghost. This year, the entire cast of *If They Wrong Us Shall We Not Revenge?* was awarded a ensemble acting prize, garnering collections of sonnets for the full cast. Also performing at the festival was Middle School Lake Braddock Theatre and their adaptation of various Shakespeare scenes. MSLBT took home four awards for themselves, so the future is bright for LBT. The entire production will be performed during the Theatre III/IV Showcase during the final blocks on April 22 and 23, 2010.

Storybook Show Postponed

The successor to Lake Braddock Storybook Theatre's highly successful *A Hill Of Beans* has been delayed due to the inclement weather of February. The Lake Braddock Storybook Theatre's goal is to give all participants a low-stress/fun theatrical experience. Auditions were open to all, however, due to time and commitment restraints, those with large roles in mainstage shows did not expect large parts in Storybook. Director **Rachael Ulmer** has moved latest production, *The Princess and the Pea* by John O'Hara to the following dates:

Saturday, May 15, 2010 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 16, 2010 1 pm

ACT 4: THE HISTORY OF LBT 1990 - 2010 **PART NINETEEN: THE UNKINDNESS OF STRANGERS**

LBT returned to VTA after a year's absence. Coincidentally VTA returned to Reston for the first time since 2005 – after the debacle in Richmond, I refused to go back. But when it's up here and we don't have to stay over – all is good. The production was Jonathan's published version of one the many scripts LBT ITS workshopped with Playscripts during our last trip to Nebraska – *Murder in the Knife Room* (nee *The Most Mysterious Mystery Ever*). It began a very busy final year for the one person recognized at VTA that year, senior **Will Noguchi** who ended up beating Mike Innocenti's unbeatable point record. Master Electrician Will (the *only* senior on the Executive Board) finished with 254 points, surpassing Mike by 8 and almost halfway to an unprecedented 8th bar. He was featured prominently as Lysander and the Sound Designer in the 5th version of *Midsummer* staged at LBT during my tenure. This one was set behind the scenes of a reality TV show in Hollywood against the backdrop of Griffith Park. Several seniors excelled during this show including stage manager **Ben Shannon, Colin Manning** the sexy and alluring Thisby, former Scenic Director-turned actor **Sarah Purgal** as Puck, and former-Cappie-nominated Panther Woman **Stephanie Anderson** as Hermia. But the man who stole the show as the ego-centric ham actor Nick Bottom, was probably the least egotistical star in the history of LBT – **Tom Mason**. For VHSL, we chopped up a 35 minute version of *A Piece of My Heart*, but it wasn't very successful. Rehearsal time crunches and a much too truncated script combined for a mediocre production. It did bring some great kudos to **Hanane Abdalla** for her work as Steele. Unfortunately, LBT's streak of 5 straight Regional appearances was cut short. But during this period of the year, we were lucky to stage both a new Storybook Theatre show (*A Hill of Magic Beans*) as well as a challenging Laboratory show. Beck Mode's *Fully Committed* was tossed about as a possible Lab show for a few seasons and this year it was finally staged with a split cast for the leads. **Devan Johnson** was the senior who took over the duties of the one person show with many voices. Also in the extremely busy March we staged a brand new Shakespeare show at the Folger festival – *O How Vile an Idol* which featured Shakespeare's songs critiqued by a panel of the American Idol judges. **Catherine Kuntz** was honored for her work on this show for her wonderful vocal work that added to her acting. But Catherine's acting got put to the test a month later as she tackled the iconic role of Stella Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. The most challenging American Drama in history was headlined by **Kit Benz** and **Taylor Gaines**. Kit's work as Stanley Kowlaski uniformly impressed critics as it garnered a Cappie nomination for Best Actor. Taylor's work as Blanche Dubois, the most coveted role of the American Stage was tortured and mesmerizing as she slipped in and out of reality and the warped insanity of the fallen southern belle. The tight ensemble was further buoyed by the talent of **Tom Mason** as Mitch, as well as seniors **Alec Henneberger, Ben Shannon,** and the stage management of **Colin Manning**. Ben and Will's technical work on Properties and Lighting respectively were also nominated for the Cappies.