Father and daughter team up for adaptation of Strindberg’s ‘Miss Julie’

Minot State University Theatre Arts Program presents an adaptation of August Strindberg’s “Miss Julie” through Saturday (April 12) in the Black Box Theater at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 7 p.m.

This production of “Miss Julie,” directed by Aili Smith, humanities assistant professor, is a unique adaptation project undertaken with her father, Conrad Davidson, College of Arts and Sciences dean.

“‘Miss Julie’ has been part of our dramatic literature vocabulary since the Introduction to Theatre class, in my case in 1967, and Smith in 1994,” Davidson said.

“In 2001, Smith saw an undergraduate capstone production of ‘Miss Julie’ at Wayne State University and continues to implement the play each semester in her teaching of Introduction to Theatre at MSU.”

Originally written in 1888, “Miss Julie” is an example of Naturalistic Theatre. Its focus is to create a true sense of reality using various dramatic strategies. The intent is to give the audience the sense or illusion of real-life unfolding on stage.

“As director, my goal is to truly provide a naturalistic and realistic production, while maintaining a contemporary feel through the dialogue,” Smith said. “Since it was written, ‘Miss Julie’ has been translated and adapted many times with several new versions created. Over the course of this project, we read 10 scripts published between 1913 and 2013. We watched two film versions, both in Swedish and English.”

Set in the late 1880s, “Miss Julie” is a dark, lusty tale of control, manipulation and the dramatic power dynamics between the classes and the sexes. When flirtation gives way to lust, and reason gives way to passion, Miss Julie finds herself perilously positioned in this dramatic tragedy set upon a Swedish Midsummer’s Eve.

For tickets, call the theatre box office at 858-3172. Admission is $6 adults and $5 seniors and students under 18. MSU students, faculty and staff are free with current ID. This production contains language and themes that may not be suitable for all ages. Mature audiences are advised.
SMILE to unveil total funds raised
To be part of the Power of 100 Centennial service challenge, the Department of Communication Disorders undertook a huge endeavor by adopting SMILE100 (Smile to the power of 100). Communication disorders students, faculty and staff set their sights on fundraising to pay for 100 cleft lip and palate surgeries for children in developing countries. This put them in the throes of raising $24,000.

Thursday (April 10) in the Department of Communication Disorders Clinic at 10 a.m., communication disorders students, faculty and staff will unveil the Smile Tracker. The Smile Tracker will display the total amount raised thus far.

"When we were trying to think of a service project, someone suggested we raise enough money for 100 surgeries," said Lesley Magnus, associate professor of communication disorders. "We started asking 'Can we get the students involved? Can we get the faculty and staff involved? Everybody got really excited, so we said 'Let's go for it!'"

While the official term of the Power of 100 Centennial project is nearly complete, SMILE100, as well as many other projects, continue. The third annual "Miles for Smiles" walkathon will be May 3 at 9:30 a.m. on MSU's campus. Registration will continue up to the walkathon, however, the deadline to register and get a T-shirt is Friday (April 11).

For more information, contact the Department of Communication Disorders at 858-3031, visit www.minotstateu.edu/cdse/cd/, or contact Magnus at lesley.magnus@minotstateu.edu.

Tchinai guest pianist recital
Japanese left-hand pianist Takeo Tchinai will perform music written for the left hand only Sunday (April 13) in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, 7:30 p.m. Simona Barbu, assistant professor of cello at the University of North Dakota, is a guest cellist. As with all Division of Music concerts, the concert is free and open to the public. For questions, contact Cheryl Kremer, Division of Music administrative assistant, at 858-3185.

MSU International Film Series closes with 'The Lives of Others'
The Minot State University International Film Series concludes with "The Lives of Others" Monday (April 14) in Aleshire Theater at 6:30 p.m. "The Lives of Others" is a 2006 German film.

In 1984 East Berlin, an agent of the secret police, conducting surveillance on a writer and his lover, finds himself becoming increasingly absorbed by their lives.

A discussion period will follow the film. There will be a door prize drawing for a gift certificate to an area international restaurant. For questions, contact Scott Sigel, Spanish assistant professor, at 858-4265 or scott.sigel@minotstateu.edu.

Research Poster Session and Engagement Fair
Minot State University students, faculty and staff will share their research and scholarly work at the 2014 Research Poster Session April 16 in the Student Center Atrium, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to the poster presentation, a collection of abstracts will be published.

The Engagement Fair is held in conjunction with the Research Poster Session in the Atrium, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students, faculty and staff will present information specific to community and campus engagement activities.

Alumni Association plans Centennial Gala
The 31st annual Gala Dinner and Auction will commemorate Minot State University's Centennial April 25 at Minot's Holiday Inn-Riverside. The social and auction preview begin at 5:30 p.m., and dinner is served at 6:45 p.m.

"The Gala is the most significant fundraiser we hold. It is a great opportunity to support the university, student scholarships and the Alumni Association," said Janna McKechnie, director of alumni relations and annual giving. "We are so grateful to the generous individuals who make donations and those who attend our event."

Successful bidders in the silent auction may win four place settings of Davy pottery, a children's hand-painted table and four chairs, a progressive dinner for eight and artwork by Floyd Fairweather, professor emeritus. Other signature items include handcrafted items from vintage McFarland drapery fabric, sports memorabilia and furniture.

The $50 ticket includes a gourmet dinner, music and elegant atmosphere. Attire for this event is semi-formal. For tickets, call 858-3234, as this event has sold out in the past.
Honor Dance: accomplishments and reconnecting

On April 25, Minot State University's Dome will come alive with tradition, color and movement. Native American dancers and drum groups from throughout North Dakota and neighboring states and provinces will compete during the 25th annual Native American Spring Honor Dance and Powwow Celebration April 25-26. The event includes the acknowledgement of achievements, competitive dancing, vendor and information booths and food. The powwow is one of the largest student activities on campus.

This event, sponsored by the Native American Cultural Awareness Club and the university, will honor all 2014 graduates. Seventeen Native American students are graduating from MSU this year.

“Minot State has many Native American alumni from all parts of the country. We want them to join us in celebrating MSU’s 100 Birthday, the Native American Cultural Awareness Club’s 25th annual powwow and the 2014 graduates and to say farewell to MSU’s 10th president, Dr. Fuller, a strong supporter of Native students,” said Annette Mennem, Native American Center director and NACAC advisor. “Alumni, this is your invitation to come out April 26th for the 7 p.m. Grand Entry and honoring. We have a gift for you, so be sure to check in at the information table.”

The Yellow Bird Indian Dancers, internationally renowned champion dancers, will perform April 25 at 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. To learn more about them, visit www.yellowbirdproductions.com.

To further honor the graduates and their families, a buffalo meal will be served April 25 in the Student Center at 5 p.m. The Standing Rock Sioux Game and Fish Department donated the buffalo.

Both days feature performances, dance competitions and the sale of Native American arts, crafts and food. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and food booths open at 11 a.m. each day. Grand Entries, the time when all of the dancers enter the arena, are scheduled for 1 and 7 p.m. each day.

A Crow special honoring for MSU President David Fuller and his wife, Nancy, follows the 7 p.m. Grand Entry on April 26. Doreen Lyons, Irene Stevenson and their family are hosting the Crow special honoring. Crow announcer Stanley Pretty Paint will be the main speaker and the Crow Drum Group, Night Hawks Jrs., is the host drum for the honoring of President Fuller. There will be a men's and women's Crow style dance contest. President and Mrs. Fuller will take the lead to start the MSU diversity leaders’ roundance.

The Honor Parade, in which all 2014 MSU graduates are invited to participate, follows the honoring of the Fullers on April 26 at 8 p.m.

Dance competitions will be held for adults, men, women, teens, juniors and “tiny tots.” The competition for men includes traditional, grass and fancy dancing. Women's dance competitions include traditional, fancy and jingle styles. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Admission to the Spring Honor Dance and Powwow Celebration is $3 for ages 12-55; it is free to children under 12, senior citizens and MSU students, faculty and staff.

In addition to MSU and the Standing Rock Game and Fish Department, the Three Affiliated Tribes’ business council, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Four Bears Casino, Prairie Knights Casino, Spirit Lake Casino, families of club members and Visit Minot provided support for the event. For more information, contact Mennem, at 858-3365 or annette.mennem@minotstateu.edu.

MSU captivates Mall

Minot State University brought excitement to Dakota Square with the eighth annual MSU at the Mall, which allowed MSU to showcase its students, academic programs, services, student organizations and other university entities to the community. Highlights included the potter’s wheel, face painting and nursing students giving free blood-pressure checks.
New faculty and staff aboard
Minot State University welcomes Sarah Tarpley, assistant career advisor, Minot Air Force Base Center for Extended Learning. She previously worked for the United States Air Force at the Minot Air Force Base. She and her husband, Chadd, have two children, Ava and Reagan.

In the galleries
April 9-17 — Art Faculty Biennial Exhibit, which this year celebrates the university’s Centennial, Hartnett Gallery.
April 9-30 — "White Rabbit Memories and More" by Lydia Richez-Bowman, Bismarck, Library Gallery.

Faculty and staff achievements
The Office of Public Information proudly shares the many accomplishments of faculty and staff with the campus community in every issue.

MSU Campus players who judged or worked in support of their annual invitational high school speech meet March 17 included Cole Anderson, Breanna Benson, Corie Burck, Branden Evans, Jason Gaarder, Annika Kraft, Joshua Snyder and Megan Wolf. Nina Coster, another MSU student, also served as a judge. MSU faculty and staff who served as judges were Carlen Gilseth, Connie Gilseth, Penny Lipsey, Alii Smith and Nicole Thom-Arens. Cheryl Nilsen, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science chair, was the meet manager.

Jean-Francois Mondon, German assistant professor, had his paper, "Non-Locality in Breton Reconsidered," accepted for presentation at the eighth Celtic Linguistics Conference at the University of Edinburgh in June.

Audra Meyerchin, broadcasting assistant professor, chaired "Incivility and What We Can Do About It, Continued … “ and Nancy Pearson, communication arts assistant professor, was a panelist at the 2014 Central States Communication Association Conference in Minneapolis, April 3. Myerchin and Pearson won a Top Panel Award.

Nilsen served as a judge at the Class B Region 9 speech meet in New Town April 4 and as tabulator for the Region 4 meet in Harvey April 5. On Friday (April 11), she will judge at the Region 7 meet in Washburn, and she will manage the Region 8 meet Saturday (April 12) on MSU’s campus.

Sharon Reynolds and Tom Seymour, College of Business faculty, and Jasmine Zakir Hussain, graduate student, had their article, "How To Create An App," published by the International Journal of Management & Information Systems. The article is available at http://journals.cluteonline.com/index.php/IJMIS/issue/current.

Alexey Shipunov, biology assistant professor, did all of the design and some editing of the second edition of Paul Kannowski’s "Wildflowers and Grasses of North Dakota," the only plant guide for the state. The out-of-print first edition was published in 1989. The second edition includes a wider diversity of wildflowers, and also grasses and some grass-like plants. All 243 plants species are illustrated with color photographs.

Minot State University Mission
Minot State University is first and foremost dedicated to the success of all students: their growth and development as educated citizens, their confidence, and their life-long devotion to the common good and the welfare of others.

Be seen. Be heard.