



March 14, 2011

Week Eleven, Winter Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

This Week is Finals Week – No meetings announced at this time.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

The MFA Class of 2011 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Saturday, March 19th, starting with the Actors' Showcase at 11:00am, followed by the Designer Portfolio Presentation at 1:00pm, with the Graduation Ceremony at 2:00pm in the [Mandell Weiss FORUM Theatre](#). All are welcome.

Darko Tresnjak received an outstanding [review by the New York Times](#) recently for his production of *The Merchant of Venice*, which features F. Murray Abraham as “Shylock”. The production ran at the Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts at [Pace University](#) through March 13th and will soon tour to Chicago, Boston and Los Angeles.

Congratulations to MFA Playwriting students **Krista Knight** and **Lauren Yee**. Krista's *Salamander Leviathan* is the recipient of the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival's Musical Theatre Award. The award comes with a \$1000 prize and a two-week residency at the O'Neill. Lauren's *In A Word* is a recipient of both the Paul Stephen Lim and Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Awards sponsored by the Kennedy Center. This means a total cash award of \$5000 and a two-week residency at the O'Neill. Info about the [awards here](#).

ADMINISTRIVIA

March 19th - Deadline to remove an Incomplete from Fall Quarter

Monday, March 21st - Spring Break begins

Monday, March 28th - First day of classes, Spring Quarter

Friday, April 1st – Grades should be available on StudenLink

NEWS FOR STUDENTS



Free Holiday Airport Shuttle - Students can ride the Holiday Airport Shuttle for free. Shuttles depart from Peterson Hall Friday, March 18th, and Saturday, March 19th, and return from San Diego International Airport on Sunday, March 27th. Online reservations are required. Reserve your seat [here](#).

ONSTAGE

Are you a faculty, staff, or major in the Department of Theatre and Dance? Check the [comp ticket policy](#)!

In April – Watch for the [Baldwin New Play Festival 2011](#), world premier plays by UCSD authors.

Coming in Spring Quarter –

[The Underground New Play Festival](#), May 26th - June 4th

[New Directions - MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase](#), June 1st – 4th.

ALUM UPDATES

MFA '09 Alum **Joel Gelman** is a Resident Artist (Actor / Director) and faculty member at [X Repertory Theatre](#) in Los Angeles.

Matt Artson (BA '01) plays Government Guard #2 in a sure-to-be cult favorite sci-fi comedy movie, [Revenge of the Bimbot Zombie Killers](#), which is in post-production now.



[Deborah Dryden](#), a professor *emeritus* of the Department, is currently the resident costume designer at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, where she has logged 31 seasons. She is the author of *Fabric Painting and Dyeing for the Theatre*, and was the Interdisciplinary Artist in Residence at the Arts Institute of the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 2010. Deborah will be in the Department in the spring to hold a three-day dying workshop for our designers.

Christal Weatherly (MFA '01) and **Christopher Acebo** (MFA '98) are also at the Shakespeare Festival. Christal is doing costumes and Christopher is doing sets for [The Language Archive](#), which runs through June 17th. Christopher is also the Associate Artistic Director at Ashland.



Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department's [Facebook Alumni page](#)!

Note: Just hit “reply” and send your info, and we'll share it for you. Be sure to let us know what your name was at graduation, if you've changed it, and your year of graduation. No newsletter will go out for Spring Break, but we'll be back for Week 1. Have a safe break!