

WE ARE... MARSHALL®

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OCTOBER 23, 2009

Artists Series Brings 'Avenue Q,' Fall Film Festival

Six intriguing and thought-provoking films from throughout the world and an acclaimed musical comedy are coming to the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center in November as part of the Marshall University Artists Series.

Avenue Q, which won Tony Awards in 2004 for Best Musical, Score, and Book, comes to the stage Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. The Film Festival runs Nov. 6-8.

Featuring a cast of puppets and people, **Avenue Q** tells the story of Princeton, a bright-eyed recent college grad, who with big dreams and a tiny bank account comes to New York City to fulfill his dreams.

The show has received glowing reviews. Entertainment Weekly called it "One of the funniest shows you're ever likely to see." Due to adult situations, **Avenue Q** may not be appropriate for children under 13.

Tickets may be purchased from the Marshall Artists Series Box Office, which is located in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. Tickets may also be ordered by calling ext. 6-6656 or online at www.marshallartistsseries.org.

Films from the Czech Republic, France, Israel, Mexico, Iran, and the USA will be featured during the film festival. The schedule includes:

The Country Teacher (Czech Republic) - A gifted and well-qualified teacher takes a job teaching natural sci-

Yeager Symposium, Campus Conversations Continue Next Week

The final lecture in the 23rd annual Yeager Symposium Lecture Series, featuring the theme "Redefining Tourism: Culture, History and Nature as Economic Assets," will take place Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

The Harry and Betty Wolfe Lecture Series will focus on ecotourism in Appalachia and Huntington. The speakers include Phyllis Baxter from the Appalachia Forest Heritage Area and Audy Perry and Tyson Compton from the Cabell Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The event is free to the public. This year's series is in participation with Marshall's Latin American Studies Program.

"The goal of this theme is to bring awareness to the changing face of tourism and its economic impact on its local community," said Marshall student Jessica Beres, co-chair of the Yeager Symposium. "Through the three different lectures we hope to define 'ecotourism' and how it's being implemented in Huntington, Appalachia and other parts of the world."

Campus Conversations, which are open to all Marshall faculty, students and staff, are taking place throughout the 2009-10 academic year to enable those

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ences at a grammar school in the country where he meets a woman and her troubled 17-year-old son. Nov. 6, 9:45 p.m.; Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.

Summer Hours (France) - The divergent paths of three 40-something siblings collide when their mother, heiress to her uncle's exceptional art collection, suddenly dies. Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 8, 12:30 p.m.

Waltz With Bashir (Israel) - This animated, quasi-documentary follows Director Ari Folman's attempt to decipher the horrors that unfolded one night in September of 1982 when more than 3,000 Palestinian refugees were massacred in the heart of Beirut. Nov. 7, 5:30 p.m.; Nov. 8, 2:30 p.m.

Rudo Y Cursi (Mexico) - This film follows the dreams of two brothers who work on a banana plantation and

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Scott Ballou Named Employee of the Month

Scott Ballou, Campus Police Officer, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for September, according to Amber Bentley, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

An employee since 1999, he was nominated by Sgt. Angela Howell.

In her nomination she wrote: "Campus-wide safety has always been a top priority for Scott. He has often gone above what he is required as part of his job to address audiences on and off campus about safety and law

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Scott Ballou (right), receives his Employee of the Month award from Layton Cottrill, senior vice president for executive affairs.

Eagle Becomes Dean of Graduate School of Education

Dr. Teresa R. Eagle has been appointed dean of Marshall University's Graduate School of Education and Professional Development. She began her duties Oct. 17.

"We are indeed fortunate that Dr. Eagle has accepted this position," Dr. Gayle Ormiston, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and Provost, said. "She has the perspective of 11 years of experience as a Marshall faculty member, as well as broad experience as a public school teacher and administrator, and will serve the school well."

Most recently Eagle was coordinator of Marshall's doctoral programs in education, as well as a tenured professor in the Leadership Studies program.

"I am looking forward to the leadership role in the Graduate School of Education and Professional Development," Eagle said. "We have an outstanding team of faculty and staff, and I am eager to continue working with them all."

Eagle is currently the president of the Southern Regional Council on Education Administration, which held its annual conference this month. She is also a member of the national and West Virginia associations of secondary school principals, the American Educational Studies Association, Phi Delta Kappa and the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration, among others.

Prior to coming to the university, Eagle served in the Kanawha County Schools in a number of roles, including

Omicron Delta Kappa Nominations Sought

Nominations are now being accepted for Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society. To be eligible, a person must be a junior, senior or graduate student, or be a member of the faculty or staff; have high academic standing; and must show strong leadership ability.

Students, faculty and staff may be nominated in recognition of their accomplishments and contributions to the Marshall community. The nominations should include names, 901 ID numbers, addresses and telephone numbers.

Nominations can be e-mailed to Elizabeth Sheets by e-mail at appell1@marshall.edu no later than Oct. 28. They also may be sent to Sheets via campus mail on the Huntington campus. She can be reached by telephone at ext. 6-2285 or in person at MSC 2W23.

curriculum supervisor at George Washington High School, assistant principal at Andrew Jackson Middle School and Roosevelt Junior High School, and acting principal at Roosevelt. She also taught mathematics in the Kanawha and Boone County schools. She was named West Virginia State Teacher of the Year in 1989 and spent a year as an education specialist working for NASA's Project Laser at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala.

Eagle holds a B.S. degree in mathematics from Morris Harvey College (now the University of Charleston), an M.A. degree in education administration from the West Virginia Graduate College (now part of Marshall University), an Ed.D. in educational leadership studies from West Virginia University, and an Ed.S. degree from Marshall.

Larsen Serving as Drinko Fellow

Dr. Eldon Larsen, professor of engineering at Marshall University, is serving as the 2009-2010 Drinko Academy Fellow.

Drinko Fellows receive reduced teaching loads to undertake research or curriculum development. Larsen will be completing work on a textbook on project management.

The Drinko Academy was founded in 1985 by John Deaver Drinko, a Marshall alumnus and noted attorney, when he and his wife, Elizabeth Gibson Drinko established a million dollar chair, the university's first, in the College of Liberal Arts. The initial program proved so successful that in the spring of 1994 the Drinko Chair was redesigned, enlarged and renamed to encompass revised objectives.

The academy is devoted to enhancing public understanding of American institutions and the responsibilities of citizens to their society and particularly the public's sense of shared values and common purposes.

Larsen has three degrees in chemical engineering, a B.S. and M.S. from Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. He was a development and project scientist and senior engineer for Union Carbide Corporation before becoming a full-time faculty member at Marshall University in 1999. Widely published, he has received numerous awards, including the Ashland Outstanding Graduate Advisor of the Year Award in 2004. and

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Psychology Clinic Starts Stress and Anxiety Group

If you feel stressed out, overwhelmed, or just tired of all the things you have to juggle in life, the Marshall University Psychology Clinic has a group for you.

"People are dealing with even greater amounts of stress and anxiety than ever before in their lives," said Dr. Keith Beard, director of the clinic. "It is easy to feel overwhelmed. This group will help members learn better coping skills."

The group sessions will take place in the Psychology Clinic facility, located in Harris Hall on Marshall University's Huntington campus, Tuesdays and Thursdays for four consecutive weeks. The start date will be determined once group members are identified.

Mary Beth Kees, one of the group leaders, says this group is important because "if one does not deal with stress, it can have adverse effects on an individual's entire life." Both Kees and her co-leader, Kristina Isaacs, say they are confident that the group sessions will help participants learn to cope with the stressors that they will face in life.

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Nov. 6, 2009. Deadline is Oct. 30. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.

Profile: Tom Hankins

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Tom Hankins

His academic odyssey and his quest to help others have taken him to opposite ends of the world and behind the walls of West Virginia prisons as well.

Dr. Tom Hankins, the program coordinator for Information Systems, has roots solidly planted in this area, but he has never hesitated to head off to new places or to take on new adventures. He was born in South Charleston, but his family moved to a sprawling Putnam County farm when he was young--

property that would later become Interstate 64 along with sites for the thriving businesses the interstate spawned.

"When we moved to the farm, the only access to it was from a dirt road a quarter of a mile from the paved road," he recalls. "When the interstate was built, our farm was cut in half so that only the corners remained." he recalls.

After completing an undergraduate degree in math from Denison University and an M.A in geography from the University of Chicago, Hankins had every intention of remaining in Chicago while he pursued a doctorate. But it was the 1960s, a time of excitement and change for young people, and also a time when there were opportunities for idealistic young people to serve others by sharing their time and talents. Caring and passionate about helping others, Hankins and his wife welcomed the opportunity to join the Peace Corp and were assigned to Ethiopia where they spent the next two years teaching, he teaching geography at Haile Sellassie I University, and she teaching English as a second language. The couple was enthralled by the country, enjoying its beauty and the people. "We loved living there; they are wonderful people. The weather was great."

After their tour ended, the couple headed to West Virginia University, where Hankins spent the next two years working in the Office of Research and Development of the Appalachian Center. At that time, the university was busy with work for the state planning office, but when a new administration began, the state government emphasis on planning diminished, and he decided it was time to move on.

With such fond memories of Ethiopia, the family, which by now included a son, Luke, decided to return to Africa, this time to Tanzania, where Tom accepted a job at the University of Dar es Salaam as part of an interdisciplinary research team. The team was a diverse international group that featured, in addition to Hankins, a Danish economist, an English agronomist and an American political scientist.

"We were there to collect data in the cotton growing area to the south of Lake Victoria. Cotton and coffee were Tanzania's two biggest money making crops. We were hoping to find ways to improve yields as well as provide baseline data on how cotton farmers operated."

The country remains a special place for them as their daughter, Sarah, was born during their two-year stay there.

Their return to the US brought them to Clark University in Massachusetts, where Tom completed work on his Ph.D. in geography. They were looking for a way to come home to the hills of West Virginia when he learned the newly formed College of Graduate Studies--often known

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Scott Ballou

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enforcement issues. He is a huge advocate for women's safety and preventing violence against women. This interest led Scott to become a certified Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) instructor in July 2000. Since then Scott has taught 1000 plus Marshall students and women from the community on methods to prevent violence and most importantly how to protect themselves"

In addition, Howell praises Ballou for his connection with students, faculty and staff on campus and notes that he often rides his bicycle when patrolling the university grounds therefore giving him great visibility "This makes him very approachable, and easily accessible. Scott always has a kind word and a smile for everyone he comes in contact with."

And, she continues, "...Scott exemplifies what a Marshall University employee should be. He gives freely of his own time. He also serves his community in Milton, WV as a police officer. Scott is also committed to making his own community safe as well as the university. He has a great rapport with local law enforcement agencies which is invaluable to his role. He always shows willingness to work extra shifts when needed. He gives 110 percent to all duties assigned."

In conclusion Howell notes, "It has been a privilege for me to work and teach with Scott...he truly demonstrates hard work and enthusiasm in everything he does. He continues to want to better himself so he can better serve the university community."

Reminder: Surplus Property Sale Begins Nov. 2

Marshall's public surplus sale, which offers an array of items, will be held Nov. 2-3 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Art Warehouse building located at 201 21st Street. Successful bidders will be required to pay for and pick up their purchases no later than 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 6.

For additional information, call Deborah Watson at ext. 66678 or email her at watsonsd@marshall.edu.

Excel, Outlook Classes to be Offered in Huntington

Several classes in Excel 2007 and Outlook 2007 will be offered on the Huntington campus in the coming weeks.

The Excel classes will show participants how to customize the Quick Access Toolbar, calculate with common functions, design charts and graphs, and edit charts to make them eye-catching. The classes are 45 minutes in length and will be offered at the following dates and times:

- 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 29, Drinko 349 – Presentation Room
- 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, Drinko 349
- 9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, Smith Hall 532

Outlook classes will feature how to use Outlook Web, create signatures and distribution lists, color-code categories, schedule meetings and assign tasks. The training sessions are approximately 30 minutes in length and will be offered at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 and at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 4. Both will take place in Smith Hall 532.

Reservations should be made to mayer@marshall.edu and should include the name of the person attending and the training session(s) desired.

Tom Hankins

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as COGS—was looking for someone to help start an environmental studies program. His now 36-year tenure at the graduate college had begun. The coming years would be fulfilling ones as he watched the program take off with the graduation of its first students in 1976.

The COGS faculty was a special breed, he believes, people who were willing to travel and deliver education in non-traditional ways. At that time, distance education was somewhat cumbersome and technologically limited, so COGS faculty members often took to the road to deliver classes. "The faculty taught all over; we had classes in Bluefield, Beckley, Huntington, and we even had cohorts in Martinsburg for several semesters, which made for a very long drive ... You had to be open to change and innovation and most of all you had to be flexible."

Later as enrollment declined in the environmental program, Hankins was asked to teach information systems. Since he had a math undergraduate degree and had done some programming, he began with classes in PL/1 programming and soon became coordinator of the information systems program.

The Hankins family, now with another daughter, Rachel, who was born during their stay in Massachusetts, settled in Putnam County, on a 47-acre farm where Hankins lived for the next 12 years. It was a working farm, with cattle, corn, hay and bountiful vegetable gardens each year. With his planning background he was asked to serve on the county's planning commission. He chaired public meetings that could sometimes become contentious. "The meetings could get very vigorous," he says with wry understatement. "But over the years our work and our recommendations have been accepted and the county has benefitted tremendously."

After his marriage to Linda Maier, son Andrew was born and his parents are delighted that he is now pursuing a degree at Marshall. A member of Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church, in Hurricane, Hankins became actively involved in two activities, the Walk to Emmaus in the Kanawha Valley and in Ashland, Ky., and a similar program in prisons called Kairos. The prison program is especially rewarding, he says.

"I've been involved for eight years now. These are three-day weekends for male adult offenders incarcerated at state correctional facilities. We sit at tables with four to five inmates and two to three team members, listen to a series of talks, and discuss them. There are also chapel services, singing and good food. For those days it's almost as though they are living outside. We treat them all with love and respect. The Kairos theme is 'listen, listen, love, love'."

One of the most popular aspects of the weekend is the cookie ministry. The visiting teams bring approximately 1,500 dozen cookies in bags of a dozen each. "The guys can eat cookies all day and then they take a bag with them each night. One night they're given an extra bag and they're supposed to give it to someone they have a grudge against and tell the person they forgive them. We believe this helps the atmosphere in the institution ... We've been told that recidivism rates go down and behavior improves," Hankins says.

The far-flung, blended Hankins/Maier family provides lots of opportunities for visits with children and grandchildren. Recently they've been to Chile to visit a daughter and son-in-law who are teacher/missionaries, and this past summer they were especially busy as they managed to visit nine of the 10 children and all ten grandchildren, with a foray to Texas to visit a daughter and her family.

He's lived in what many would consider exotic parts of the world and made prodigious contributions of his time and talents to others. Compassionate and generous, he'll always remain active in helping others however he can, but right now he's content with his life in Hurricane, a town whose pace and persona fit him just fine. And it can offer some health benefits, too. "I like to ride my bike, and Hurricane has lots of places to ride, so I go out several times a week. I don't like exercise just for the sake of it, but if it's fun enough, then I'll do it!"

Yeager Symposium, Conversations

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attending to provide input for the draft of the Academic Master Plan, which is expected to be completed in April 2010. The conversations are scheduled at alternate times in an effort to encourage broad participation. Conversation 2, titled "Developing Faculty: Recruitment, Retention, Success, and Leadership," will take place at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct 27, in room 2E28, Memorial Student Center; and noon Wednesday, Oct. 28, in room 105 of Corbly Hall.

The discussions are sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs and MU-ADVANCE. Light refreshments will be provided. Questions and requests for additional information should be directed to the Office of Academic Affairs, academic-affairs@marshall.edu.

Artists' Series

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also play soccer for the village team. Nov. 6, 5:30 p.m.; Nov. 7, 9:45 p.m.

The Song of Sparrows (Iran) – Fired from his job on an ostrich farm, Karim becomes so obsessed with collecting useless rubbish that he begins to neglect his wife and daughter until an accident makes him realize that his priorities have taken a turn for the worse. Nov. 7, 12:30 p.m.; Nov. 8, 9:45 p.m.

Food, Inc. (USA) – Documentary filmmaker Robert Kenner explores where the food we purchase at the grocery store really comes from and what it means for the health of future generations. Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 7, 2:30 p.m.; Nov. 8, 5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 but Marshall faculty and staff can purchase two tickets for \$5.50 each, and part time students may purchase tickets for \$3.50 each. They can be purchased at the Artists Series Box office, by calling 6-6656, or at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.

Psychology Clinic

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Marshall students and members of the community who would like to join the group should contact Kees by e-mail at kees8@marshall.edu or Isaacs at isaacs17@marshall.edu. To leave a telephone message, call Beard at 304-696-2781.

Drinko Fellow

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the Union Carbide Corporation Chairman's Award, the corporation's highest recognition award for individual achievement, in 1996.

He is the first faculty member from the College of Information Technology and Engineering to be named a Drinko Fellow.

"It is a big honor to be given this award and I'm grateful to the university for the opportunity to serve as a Drinko Fellow," Larsen said. "I appreciate everyone's support."

He will present his research to the university community at a symposium next spring during Marshall's annual Celebration of Academics. The symposium is presented in tandem with the other centerpiece, the Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation. Established in 1994, it is the time the university collectively acknowledges its honor students.