Theatre Northwest 2019-2020 Season

A Fall Evening of One Acts
Sept 13-14 – 7:30 p.m.
Black Box Theatre, Houston Center
“Ledge, Ledger, and the Legend”
By Paul C. Elliot
directed by Brooklyn Wattenbarger
This tongue-in-cheek dark comedy posits there are three certainties out on a ledge – life, death, and business. The show was honored in 2012 as one of the top 25 most-produced one-act plays over the previous 25 years.

“Missed Connections”
By Catya McMullen
Directed by Gavin Hopkins
Two people meet after one posts a “Missed Connections” on Craigslist, only to find out the person they are meeting is not who they expected to see. This production was one of six winners out of 900 original applicants at the 2012 Samuel French Off Off Broadway Festival.

“Directions: The 29th Annual Freshman/Transfer Showcase”
Featuring original plays and monologues by 2018-2019 Theatre Northwest students
September 26, 27, 28 – 7:30 p.m.
September 28 & 29 – 2:00 p.m.
Studio Theatre, Houston Center
Directed by Joe Kreizinger
The Freshman/Transfer Showcase introduces audiences to Theatre Northwest’s new performing arts majors while orienting the students with the people and practices of the theatre program. Students of all majors are encouraged to audition each fall. This year’s production will feature original short plays and monologues written by Northwest students during the 2018-2019 school year.

“When She Had Wings”
By Suzan Zeder
October 11-12 – 7:30 p.m.
Studio Theatre, Houston Center
Directed by Hailey Vernon
B is convinced she once knew how to fly, and is desperate to remember before her 10th birthday – on which day she believes she will forget forever. During a summer thunderstorm, a mysterious stranger resembling a bird appears – and tries to teach B how to fly; both in the air, and as a young person growing up. Told in sound and movement as well as words, this is a fantasy for all ages.

“Noises Off”
By Michael Frayn
November 14, 15, 16 – 7:30 p.m.
November 16 & 17 – 2:00 p.m.
Studio Theatre, Houston Center
Directed by Wendy King
Called “the funniest farce ever written”, Noises Off is not one play but two: a company of actors rehearsing a traditional farce called Nothing On, and the backstage “drama” that develops
during Nothing On’s final rehearsal and tour. The two begin to interlock as the characters make their exits from Nothing On only to find themselves making entrances into the even worse nightmare going on backstage. In the end, at the disastrous final performance, the two plots can be kept separate no longer, and coalesce into a single collective nervous breakdown.

“Alpha Psi Omega Children’s Show”
Alpha Psi Omega fraternity, the national theatre honor society, sponsors our annual touring children’s show, based on original scripts. Tour occurs during December; actors must be available the week after school ends for the fall semester. Final script and touring dates TBD.

“Glass”
By Michael Aman
February 14-15 – 7:30 p.m.
Black Box Theatre, Houston Center
Directed by Hannah Jahal
It is December 26, 1944 - two hours before the premiere of Tennessee Williams’ newest play, The Glass Menagerie. Set to star in the production, Laurette Taylor sits in her dressing room with the playwright; arguing with Tennessee over her drinking and destructive behavior. She wants to retain her former glory as an actress; he wants to gain a foothold in the theatre world. This comedy-drama explores the role of truth and the power of theatre to heal two wounded souls.

“Under Milk Wood”
By Dylan Thomas
February 20, 21, 22 – 7:30 p.m.
February 22-23 – 2:00 p.m.
Studio Theatre, Houston Center
Directed by Dr. Theo Ross
Adapted for the stage from the radio play, Under Milk Wood portrays an omniscient narrator inviting the audience to listen to the dreams and innermost thoughts of the inhabitants of Llareggub - a fictional Welsh fishing village. Touching and hilarious; Dylan Thomas uses lyrical, soaring and earthy prose, song, and verse to depict a village that has “fallen head over bells in love.”

“Into the Woods”
Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine
April 16-18 – 7:30 p.m.
Mary Linn Auditorium, Houston Center
Directed by Katheryn Bilbo
Music Direction by Dr. Brian Lanier
Inspired by the fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm, the musical combines the characters of many different stories in their individual quests to go into the woods to get what their heart desires most in the world. Before long, their destinies are intertwined – for better, and for worse – as these fairy tale characters realize the woods can be very dark indeed. Full of light-hearted humor as well as somber moments, this tragi-comedy teaches us to “be careful what you wish for”.

*Students interested in technical and crew positions should contact Pat Immel, associate professor of theatre, at pimmel@nwmissouri.edu.*
Auditions for the spring term’s productions will be January 15-20, 2020; a detailed audition schedule will be posted on the university event calendar over the holiday break.

For more information about Theatre Northwest’s 2019-2020 season, please contact Erik Johnson at 660-562-1321 or theatre@nwmissouri.edu.