



Works Cited

Department of English & Theatre

Springtime for English & Theatre!

It's been another productive academic year for the department. Students, faculty, and staff have worked cooperatively and diligently in classroom and workshop, on stage and off, in office and library, at conferences and co-curricular events, and even, yes, in informal but informative gatherings

with a decided recreational spirit. As the year winds down, *Works Cited* celebrates and commemorates a few of the department's many achievements with a selection of photographs. As novelist Joseph Conrad said, "My task is to make you hear, to make you feel, and, above all, to make you see." 📖

Sigma TD Members Travel to Portland, OR



Participants in the recent Sigma Tau Delta national convention held in Portland, OR, gave invited papers & read from creative work. From l. to r.: Jonathan **Shall** ("Mysterium Tremendum in the Poetry of Southwell & Hopkins"), Corinne **Nulton** ("The Shared Religion Between the Wife of Bath & Her Fairies"), Chloé **Briggs** ("Reflection of Marx's Theory on Estrangement of Labor in 'Bartleby, the Scrivener'"), Brittany **Collins** ("A Dashing Act of Horsemanship" in a special session on the Victorian Circus), and Andrew **Milewski**, who read from a selection of his poems titled "Men's Complaint." 📖

Congratulations!

Susan **Méndez**, assistant professor of English, has been promoted to associate professor. Dennis **Berfield** has joined the department as the Theatre program's technical director. Welcome, Dennis! Anne **DeMarzio**, adjunct professor, gave birth to Romola Catherine DeMarzio in December. Welcome, Romola! 📖

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Spring 2013

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notes from the chair

this just in punctuation isnt necessary

at the end of my last column i promised to write my next column about quotation marks but both of my regular readers explained that that would be lame and also that being fussy about grammar and punctuation is just too twentieth century for words i was even more grateful than usual for these words of wisdom from my friends and colleagues and after turning them over in my mind for several weeks the words not the friends and colleagues i resolved to find some way to get out ahead of the curve for a change

so today i wish to announce that after considerable reflection and self criticism i have concluded not only that apostrophes no longer matter but also that punctuation in general is no longer necessary but wait you say without punctuation how will i know when a sentence ends how will i know where a new sentence begins yes dear reader capitalization is a form of punctuation how will i know when ive stumbled across a list how will i know which words are your words and which words youre attributing to somebody else how will i know whether you mean its the possessive or its the contraction

to all of which i say settle down boys and girls this just isnt that complicated for example its usually pretty easy to figure out where a sentence ends because theres usually an obvious dissonance between the word or phrase that ends one sentence and the word or phrase that begins a new one maybe it took you a second or two to figure out back in the first line of this paragraph that complicated was the last word of a sentence but im betting that it took you less time than that to figure out that maybe in the third line was the beginning of a new one of course we will all get better at this with practice if youre reasonably self aware about these things you might even have noticed that youre better at reading this stuff now than you were just two paragraphs ago youre welcome

some of these other concerns will disappear as we develop a greater sensitivity to grammar and syntax for example you may not have realized this but on some level you probably already know that the typical list consists of a series of words or phrases that all belong to a single and usually rather obvious category of things or activities if you see the words hats coats and mittens in that order in a sentence its pretty clear youre looking at a list of clothes you might wear outdoors in the winter and something similar is going on for the series of phrases read the book write the paper complain about the grade likewise everyone already knows how to use words like says or writes or insinuates to indicate that someone other than the writer has said or written or insinuated something finally do you really think you need a question mark in order to recognize when youre being asked a question

look ive spent a lot of time trying to teach people to use punctuation correctly i cant say ive ever really enjoyed it i do it out of a sense of duty and i sometimes worry that very few people on the receiving end of this treatment have felt that they were improved by it the point is im ready to try something different i say lets dump every period every question mark every comma every quotation mark every hyphen and especially all those damned apostrophes on the ash heap of history so that we can all get on with our lives the only downside to this that i can see is that the popular t shirt design showing two different versions of lets eat grandma and insisting that commas saves lives wont make sense anymore but so what its a brave new world and grandma will just have to watch her back

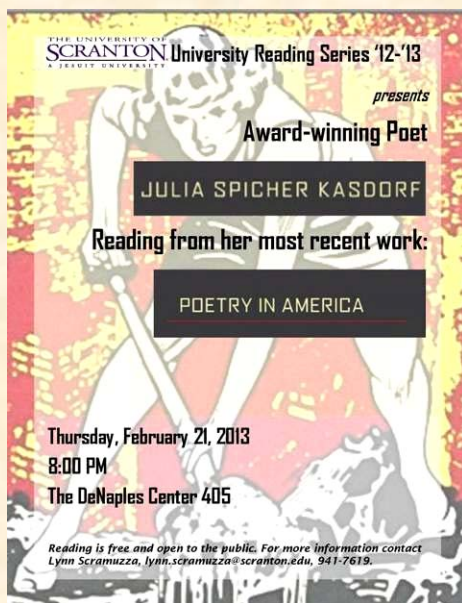
— jody deritter



Friends Old & New Gather in Taiwan 2012

Matt **Porto**, English '12, and Ryan **Pipan**, English/Philosophy/Honors '12 (top r. & below), in Taiwan to teach English and to study Chinese, respectively, with visiting Scrantonians John **Camilleri**, English '13, Lori **Green**, & several Taiwanese colleagues. 📖

University Reading Series, Spring '13



The University Reading Series was active this Spring with readings from two guest artists, Julia Kasdorf, an award-winning poet, and Ben Miller, author of *River Bend Chronicle*. 📖



Jay Hill, Ben Miller, and Joe Kraus.

“Native Son: Stephen Karam in Conversation with Paul Holdengraber”

A Schemel Forum Event, Stephen Karam (Pulitzer nominated playwright) and Paul Holdengraber (NY Public Library) engaged in a discussion about Karam’s work. Free and open to the public, the December event was held in the Royal Theatre.



Sondra Myers, Stephen Karam, Paul Holdengraber, Joe Kraus



Sondra Myers, Stephen Karam, Janice Tellier, Rich Larsen

University faculty and staff who were present included Joe Kraus, Honors Program Director, Sondra Myers, Senior Fellow for International, Civic and Cultural Projects and Director of the Schemel Forum, Rich Larsen, Theatre Program Director, and Janice Tellier, Theatre Production Specialist. 📖

Theatre Program—the year

in review

Summer 2012

The University of Scranton presented its first annual Summer Theatre Program. Designed for students from age 8-18, the program was taught by Scranton faculty and guest artists including alumni of the theatre program.

Jeff Trainor, Theatre '05 (in mask) leading Physical Movement for the Young Actor Summer Camp performance of The Little Prince.



Fall 2012

Prelude to a Kiss

Directed by Bob E. Gasper



Company of *Prelude to a Kiss*.



Company of *Prelude to a Kiss*.

Recent Tragic Events

Directed by Sheila Stasack



Camille Reineke, Jeremiah Mullen,
Megan Lasky & Joe McGurl

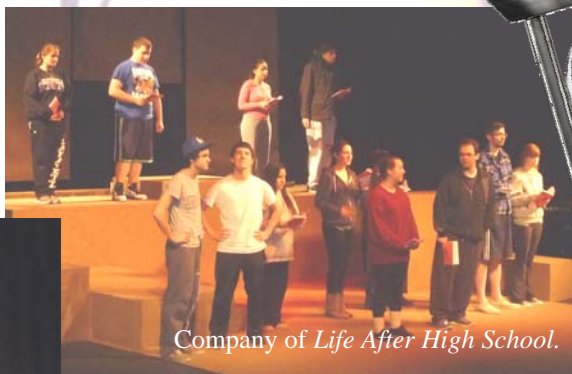


Company of *Recent Tragic Events*.

24-hour Musical

Directed by Catherine Fischer,
Musical Direction by Kiley Lotz

In December the Players took on a monumental task in producing a musical production in 24-hours. The first step was announcing what show would be produced—*Life After High*

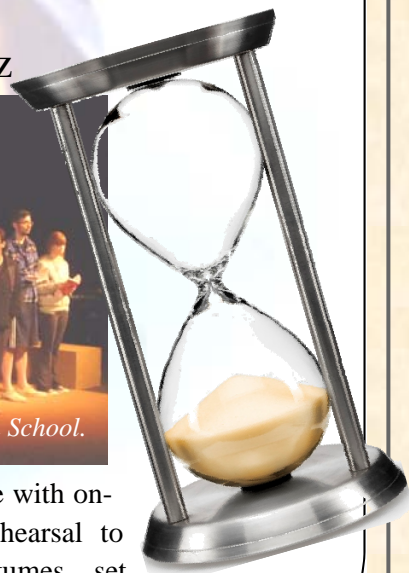


Company of *Life After High School*.



Company of *Life After High School*.

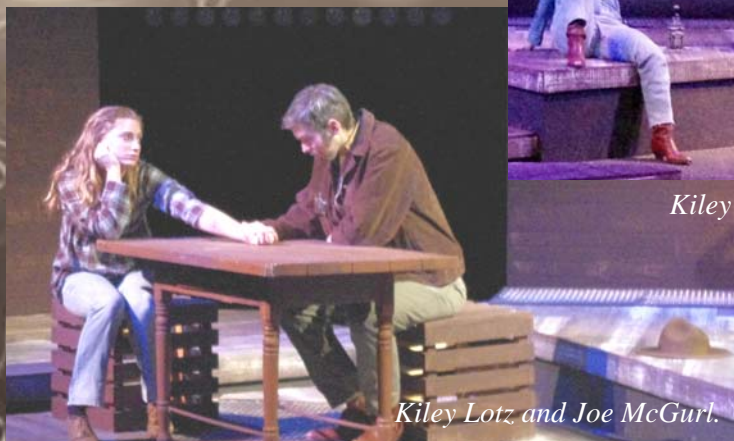
School. Next, auditions took place with on-the-spot casting followed by rehearsal to technical elements (props, costumes, set, lighting, sound—to name a few), then to performance. A full production with an audience all in one 24-hour day!



Spring 2013

Language of Angels

Directed by José Zayas



Kiley Lotz and Joe McGurl.

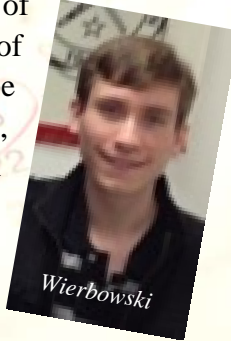


Kiley Lotz, Keri Irace and Cillian Byrne.

Mark Your Calendar!

Esprit Reading

Editor Brad Wierbowski, English/BioChemistry '13, hosts a reading by contributors to the Spring issue of *Esprit*, the university's review of arts & letters. Prizes will be awarded for outstanding prose, poetry, and visual art. Free and open to the public, the reading will begin at 8 p.m. in The Royal Theatre in the McDade Center. Light refreshments will be provided.



*Esprit staff
hard at work
on the Spring
2013 issue.*

Theatre Productions

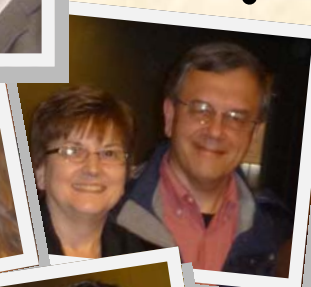
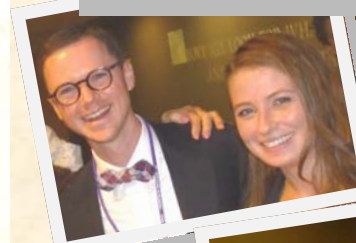
PLAYERS

The Museum by Tina Howe
Directed by A. Brian Humphrey
April 26-28 & May 3-5

New Director's Workshop
Directed by students in Theatre 311: Directing
May 9-11

University Players Reunion, Fall 2012

During the run of *Prelude to a Kiss*, the Theatre program held a Players' reunion. Graduates came out to reminisce and celebrate their memories of the University of Scranton.



Michael B. Bagdzinski Memorial Scholarship



Presenting the 2012/13 Michael B. Bagdzinski Theatre Scholarship: (left to right) Mr. Bagdzinski, Kiley Lotz-recipient, and Rich Larsen., Theatre Program Director.

Mark Your Calendar! (cont.) Sigma TD Induction Brunch

On Sunday, April 28, the Mu Omicron chapter, led by president Brad Wierbowski, English '13, will host the annual induction of new members. This year's new members are :

Peter Alexander
John Bucaccio
Maria Cleary
Anthony Dilmore
Laura Fay
Corey Feltre

Holly Ference
Mia R. Hodorovich
Marina Jeffery
Michael McCabe
Christopher McClatchy
Andrew Milewski
Jeremiah Mullen



Vhalla Otarod
Dalton J. Roland
Jonathan Schall
Alexander Skojec,
Kathleen Tierney
David Tomasetti.

The Induction ceremony begins at 11 a.m. in DeNaples 405 with brunch to follow. All chapter members and department faculty are encouraged to attend.

CLOSE READING



Joe **Koivisto**, English '09, is pursuing a graduate degree in library science at Catholic University thanks to a generous scholarship provided by the Institute of Library and Museum Services. Sara **Sutter**, English Minor '07, took an MFA in Poetry from Portland State University in

Summer 2012 and now teaches as an adjunct at Portland State and the University of Portland. Hank **Willenbrink**, assistant professor of Theatre, had his play *The Boat in the Tiger Suit*, read as part of the new Works Festival in Seattle in February. His play *woodman series* was given a reading as part of the Generous Company's GUMBO in Baltimore in



February. His play *18* was produced at Walden Theatre in Louisville, KY, in early April. He and colleague Yamile **Silva**, assistant professor of World Languages & Cultures, gave a presentation at the recent NoPassport Conference at NYU on their forthcoming anthology *Palabras: Dispatches from the Festival de la Palabras*. Len **Gougeon**, professor and Distinguished University Fellow, published an essay, "Militant Abolitionism: Douglass, Emerson, and the Rise of the Anti-Slave" in the December 2012 issue of *The New England Quarterly*. In late March he presented a paper on "Cultural conflict: Thoreau, Great Britain, and the American Civil War" at the Emerson Center in Vero Beach, FL. In May he will attend the American Literature Assn. annual meeting in Boston and be an invited guest at a celebration of the completion of the ten-volume *Collected Works* of Ralph Wald Emerson. In September he will make a presentation on "Culture and Conflict: New England, Old England, and the Civil War" as part of the Schemel Forum. John Meredith **Hill**, professor, has published a review of Jane Shore's *That Said, New & Selected Poems* (Houghton Mifflin 2012) in the Spring 2013 issue of *The Hopkins Reviw*. His poem "Sister's First" will appear in the Summer issue of the journal. Michael **Friedman**, professor, presented a paper titled "The Hurt Roman: Homoeroticism and Intimacy in Ralph



Fiennes' *Coriolanus*" at the Shakespeare Assn. of America conference in Toronto in late March. Corinne **Nulton**, English '13, premiered her play *14 Symptoms* in the Studio Theatre in early February. The production was

(Continued on page 8)

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CLOSE READING *(Continued from page 7)*

directed by Catherine **Fischer**, Theatre/Communication, '13. Susan **Méndez**, soon to be associate professor of English, published an essay, "Places & Practices of Economic Possibility in Angie Cruz's *Let It Rain Coffee*," in *MaComère: The Journal of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars* in Fall 2012. Her essay "Afro-Caribbean Spiritual Practices, Race, Gender, and Violence in Loida Maritza Pérez's *Geographies of Home*" appears in the Spring 2013 issue of *Afro-Hispanic Review*. Dan **Fraustino**, professor, recently led two seminars for a six-part Schemel Forum series on "The Vietnam War: As Seen in Film & Literature" conducted in March and April. His seminars focused on Tim O'Brien's novel *The Things They Carried* and Michael Herr's memoir *Dispatches*. Carolyn **King**, English/Honors '08, has been accepted to UDelaware's MA/PhD program in English with five years of funding. Joe **Kraus**, associate professor, has an essay "Swinging at Shadows: Toward a History of the Lower East Side Tough Guy" in *Jews: A People's History of the Lower East Side* (Seven Stories Press.) He was scholar-in-residence at Congregation Hakafa in Glencoe, IL, in mid-April and gave three lectures on the Jewish gangster: "Communal Memory & the Jewish Gangster," "Dreidels, Blackjacks, & 'Gonnegtions' Across the Globe," and "The Kosher Capones: A History of the Jewish Gangster in Chicago." Stephanie **O'Brien**,



Theatre '09, is a stage manager for ArtsPower, a children's theatre touring company, and the production under her charge, *The Little Engine That Could Earns Her Whistle*, made a stop at the Scranton Cultural Center in early April. Anitra **Mecadon**, host of DIY Network's *Mega Dens*, a veteran of several theatre production classes, has been renewed for a fourth season. Her program airs on Sundays at 8 pm EST. Life-sized posters of Anitra, national spokesperson for Gypsum Drywall, can be seen at your local DIY big box store. Michael **Flynn**, Theatre '11, assists Tony-nominated playwright (and Wilkes-Barre native) Douglas Carter Beane with Broadway productions of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* and *The Nance* starring Nathan Lane. Michael is also preparing for his second Scranton Shakespeare in the Park season, held in July in Nay Aug Park. Erin **Simko-Renz**, Theatre Minor '10, directs her third production, *Much Ado About Nothing*, for North Pocono High School, having successfully helmed *You Can't Take It With You* in 2011 and the perennial high school fave, *Bye Bye Birdie*, in 2012. A fifth grade teacher, Erin was tapped to oversee the high school productions due to her extensive training and experience in our theatre program. Winning writers in the new 10 Minute Play Festival are Anthony **Dilmore**, English '13, for "A Brief History of the New Earth Colony," Tim **Flynn**, English '13, for "Under the Table," John **Camilleri**, English '13, for "Bonkers," Brad **Wierbowski**, English/BioChemistry '13, for "Frames," Mike **Kranick**, English '16, for "Fruit Basket," and David **Tomaine**, English/Philosophy '13, for "The Cave." Each winning play was given a staged dramatic reading in the Studio Theatre on Friday, April 12. Kiley **Lotz**, Theatre '13, has been accepted into the prestigious Summer Performance Apprentice Program at Berkshire Theatre Group, in Pittsfield, MA. 