

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER 2012

### STONEHILL THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS "MOVING PICTURES"

The Stonehill Theatre Company and the Department of Visual and Performing Arts present Sharon Pollock's "Moving Pictures," directed by Patricia H. Sankus. Moving Pictures is a theatrical tracing of the life of Nell Shipman, who as an actress sang, danced and hammed her way across North America in the early 1900s. In silent films she was a hit, known as the girl from God's Country from the title of her most successful film, Back To God's Country. She established an independent production company and made movies in which strong women



played principal roles, and a holistic view of the natural environment, the animal kingdom, and humankind prevailed. But as moviemaking shifted from art to industry, the precepts that guided Nell to success became threats to her life as well as her career. Her last film script, written under a pseudonym, was produced in 1934. Her death in 1972 went unnoticed. Moving Pictures explores the meaning of storytelling in our lives, and the artist's addiction to creation whatever the cost. Show dates are November 15th, 16th, and 17th at 8:00PM in the Hemingway Theatre at Stonehill College. This is a MERIT POINT EVENT. Tickets are \$5 for students and seniors, and \$8 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling the Stonehill Theatre Company Box Office at (508) 565-1458 or at the door.

## STUDENT DESIGNERS BRING WORK FROM "MOVING PICTURES" TO KC/ACTF

Kalee Burrows '13 has recently co-designed the costumes for Stonehill Theatre Company's fall main stage production of "Moving Pictures." After

completing the Stagecraft course in spring 2011, taught by Professor Jim Petty and Professor Joan Halpert and then the Theatrical Costume Design course in fall 2011, taught by Professor Joan Halpert, Kalee caught an interest in designing. In January 2013, she will be attending the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival, where she will submit her costume designs and hold a presentation on her work.



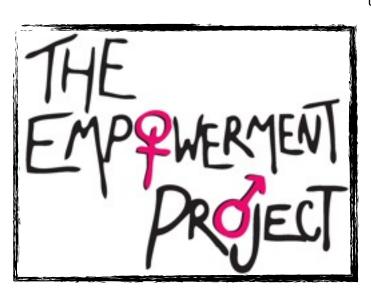
Jackie Kolgraf'14 has codesigned the make-up, under the supervision of Joe Rossi. She completed Rossi's course in Make-Up in spring 2011, and she looks forward to presenting her work from "Moving Pictures" at the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival.

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS FOR
"MOVING PICTURES" TODAY!
THEN VISIT STONEFORGE GRILL ON
PERFORMANCE NIGHTS TO
RECEIVE 10% OFF YOUR MEAL!
JUST SHOW YOUR TICKET STUB TO
RECEIVE THE DISCOUNT



#### SENIOR CAPSTONE PERFORMANCES

For the past few months, Kalee Burrows '13 has been working on her senior capstone, The Empowerment Project. It is a devised performance piece that explores the narratives of women through discussion and performance, including



theatre exercises and improvisational games. Over the course of the 2012 fall semester. Kalee has held weekly workshops, inviting all students to participate and contribute to the piece. The goal is to raise awareness and educate others about the ongoing oppression of women, including the subliminal oppression that occurs on a day-to-day basis. This project supports and encourages women to develop a willingness to work towards female empowerment, inner and outer, as well as men being active allies. performance piece is scheduled to be publicly presented in February 2013.

## "COWBOYS #2" SCHEDULED TO BE PERFORMED FOR SENIOR CAPSTONE

Joey Dalfonso '13 will also be presenting his senior capstone, which is a performance of Sam Shephard's "Cowboys #2," directed and produced by Joey. The dates of performances are Dec. 6th and 7th at 7:30PM in Hemingway Theatre.



#### STC IS NOW ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!



YOU CAN FOLLOW
US AT
WWW.TWITTER.COM/STONEHILLARTS.
DON'T FORGET TO "LIKE" OUR
FACEBOOK GROUP AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
STCSTONEHILLTHEATRECOMPANY.

THIS GROUP IS A GREAT WAY FOR CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMNI TO NETWORKS AND MAKE HELPFUL CONNECTIONS WITH EACH OTHER.

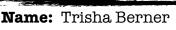
## MEET THE 2012-2013 STC STUDENT COORDINATION BOARD



Name: Kalee Burrows Hometown: Brookfield, NH

**Class Year: 2013** 

Majors: Theatre Arts & Interdisciplinary Studies
Board Role: President



Hometown: East Haddam, CT

Class Year: 2013 Major: Economics Minor: Mathematics

Board Role: Vice President



Name: Sam Posco

Hometown: Fitchburg, MA

Class Year: 2014 Major: English

Board Role: Secretary (fall)



Name: Tara Hurley

Hometown: Westford, MA

**Class Year:** 2014

Major: Graphic Design

Board Role: Secretary (spring)



Name: Jon Morasse

Hometown: Rochester, NY

Class Year: 2014 Majors: Biochemistry,

Chemistry, Biology **Board Role:** Member-at-Large

Name: Sean Racine

Hometown: Fairhaven, MA

Class Year: 2013

Major: Communication

Minor: Theatre/Graphic Design Board Role: Publicity Coordinator





Name: Mary Catherine Heelan Hometown: Lunenburg, MA

Class Year: 2015 Major: Graphic Design Board Role: Publicity Name: Erin Kearney

Hometown: South Bend, Indiana

Class Year: 2014

Majors: Communications &

Spanish

Board Role: Member-at-Large



#### WORDS FROM GRADUATE BRIANNA WING '12

One might think transitioning from a two-hundred and forty-seven seat theatre with almost no facilities to a five theatre (two main stages, two cabarets, and one lab) multimillion dollar company might be difficult. For some maybe, but I feel right at home at my new LORT-D internship. This is thanks to the solid foundation the Stonehill Theatre Company and Theatre Department gave me as I worked with them for four years, obtaining my B.A. in Visual and Performing Arts.

Know the lighting system? Check. Run a show? Sure. Turn on the sound tower? Of course. Act professionally with equity actors and long time staff members? You bet. But what has impressed many people is not my own knowledge of my craft, stage management, but my willingness to help out with secondaries. In just two weeks I have spent numerous hours helping Marketing send out thousands of subscriptions and helping Education research and apply for several grants. Of course, anyone who has worked at STC knows the importance of being multitalented. It is the norm - and that more than prepares you for the 'real' world.

Stonehill Theatre Company and the Theatre Department helps cultivate motivated, life long learners, who are self-sufficient and multifaceted. Everyone is welcome yet high standards are met. I use to tell prospective students that STC is what you make of it. They give you the tools, teach you how to use them, but success is measured in an individual's motivation. Stonehill is not a school where a student just waits to be discovered, or expects to suddenly wake up on Broadway.

As a recent graduate, I can say that Stonehill's theatre program is an ideal model. For example, I took advantage of networking with guest directors and that has gotten me jobs and opportunities both in Boston and New York City, and who knows what else in the future. I was open to new experiences, dedicated to my craft, and utilized every opportunity that STC provided me. Despite being a smaller school and department, STC worked hard to provide everything they could to create a professional learning platform to train their students to seamlessly transition into the theatrical community.

At other theatre schools underclassman usually do not get the experience they need. They take classes, do crew hours, but it isn't until they have 'proven' themselves that they get to act (or have large responsibilities). Stonehill's philosophy is very much 'sink or swim', in the best of ways. If students want to just hang back and experience college theatre that's fine, but if a student wants more responsibility, more experience, STC gladly gives it to them.

Many graduates may find themselves stressed, struggling, and playing catch-up when they enter the job market. I am blessed that my time at Stonehill prepared me completely - classes, professors, and atmosphere. Sure, I still have to adjust to new companies and am still learning tips and tricks but I feel completely prepared and confident in my training and past experiences. Yes, I grabbed the bull by the horns but Stonehill Theatre Company and the Theatre Department let me.

#### **ALUMNI UPDATES**

#### ERICA MCALLISTER

Erica McAllister is currently teaching English in South Korea (Gwangju to be exact)! She is teaching Elementary students.

#### KRISTEN PETERS '12

Kristen Peters recently finished an internship in the Hamptons this summer at Bay Street Theatre, working as an administrative/development/special events intern and is now back in Boston working as an assistant events coordinator for Chamber Theatre Productions.

#### KACEE (STAITI) RIMER '04

Kacee (and her husband Tom welcomed their first child on August 12th, 2012, a daughter they have named Alice Charlotte.

#### **BRIANNA WING '12**

Brianna Wing has been continuing her career since graduating in May. This past summer Brianna spent time in NYC, working on an environmental showcase-equity production of "Much Ado About Nothing". Most recently, she started work as a stage management intern at the Florida Studio Theatre, a LORT-D theatre in Sarasota, Florida, for their 2012-2013 season. Brianna also competed in her 3rd 48 Hour Film Project, codirecting and managing a short family film, "Off The Page". She has also been working to distribute her senior project, "Revealed: Her Story", which has been converted to DVD. Visit Brianna's Official Website: <a href="http://briannamarie.yolasite.com/">http://briannamarie.yolasite.com/</a>

#### **ROB RUGGIERO '83**

Rob Ruggiero is currently in Venus in Fur at Theaterworks in Hartford, CT through November 17<sup>th</sup>. He is also the Interim Artistic Director at Theaterworks. Rob is appointed to serve on a NEA (National Endowment of the Arts) PANEL in Washington, D.C. in November 2012. He is participating in multiple shows in 2013, including Looped, Other Desert Cities, South Pacific, Time Stands Still, and The Most Happy Fella.

#### ANNA STANKSY '06

Anna Stansky is working as a Speech-Language Pathologist for elementary school students in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program within a public school system in Maryland. The students' communication techniques include both auditory/oral and total communication (i.e. American Sign Language). She is engaged to be married in August 2013 to Kyle Murphy (Gallaudet, class of 2013).

#### KELLY SEIGH '99

Kelly is a volunteer and Special Events Manager at the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the Manton Avenue. She is also working on The Manton Avenue Project, which nurtures an expanding sense of possibility by building each child's capacity for personal and academic success. We help elementary school age children write plays that are produced, acted and directed by adult theatre professionals. Through this process the children see their ideas and expressions come to life. Kelly is one of five cast members of 44 Plays for 44 Presidents, a part of the Plays for Presidents festival in 2012.