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Summer Education Program 2009
“Arts in the Studio”

LONGVIEW, WA— The Columbia Theatre Announces our 2009 Summer Education Program “Arts in the Studio”, begins **Monday, June 22nd** through **Saturday, June 27th** and **July, 6th through July 11th** at **LCC Rose Center** 1600 Maple in Longview. Classes are open for students **age 7-18**. Students must **register** by **Friday June 12th**, by phone at 423-1011, email bethany@columbiatheatre.com, or mail in to Columbia Theatre of Performing Arts P.O. Box 1026 Longview, WA 98632.

GOTTA DANCE, GOTTA ACT, GOTTA PLAY...

“All kids should be given a chance to participate and get a taste of everything.”

Our Summer Education Program 2009 is a bold departure from recent years. This summer students will have the opportunity to discover for the first time or re-visit dance, theatre, symphony and technical theatre. There will be two separate one-week sessions where students can explore the art of their choice through hands on activities, group projects and individual studio work with our certified arts educators. A small presentation ends the camp on the Rose Center stage with an invited audience of family and friends. Summer “Arts in the Studio” provides students with a variety of creative art experiences on a small group open-studio environment that will help inspire, nurture and guide them as they explore different arts disciplines.

AN ALL-STAR CAST...

Our extraordinary faculty is made up of many certified arts educators who have brought us their professional expertise.

Kristy Larsen-(Dance) currently owns Evergreen Dance Studio and has trained for over 30 years in ballet. While in her teens, she studied at the Royal Academy of Dance. Kristy majored in Ballet at Brigham Young University and performed as a soloist with the Theatre Ballet Company. She has also studied at Pacific Northwest Ballet School in Seattle.

Julia Marsh- (Theatre) Julia worked as a teacher, choreographer and assistant program director for a summer theatre program in California for 10 years. There, she taught students ages 4-15 in varying programs focusing on theatre, music and dance. She is teacher at Wallace Elementary and is active in the local theatre community, having performed for Longview Stageworks, Public Playhouse and the Slocum House Theatre Company, as well as choreographing several of Stageworks’ shows. Julia graduated with a B.A. in Performance Theatre from Whitworth University. While attending, she received a grant to write, direct and tour a children’s show throughout the schools and community. Julia worked as a teacher, choreographer and assistant program director

for a summer theatre program in California for 10 years. There, she taught students ages 4-15 in varying programs focusing on theatre, music and dance. Julia is passionate about theatre and working with young people to help introduce them to, and improve, their artistic skills.

Dick Uthmann-(Symphony) retired from actively teaching music after 45 years in public and private schools and university level. He is currently principle clarinetist with the Southwest Washington Symphony, and serves on the Boards of the SW Symphony and Southwest Washington Youth Symphony. He is especially proud to be a member of the Washington Music Educators Association Hall of Fame.

Kurt Harbaugh- (Symphony) is currently an adjunct faculty member at Lower Columbia College and teaches Music Fundamentals, Group Piano, Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble. He also teaches K-8 music at Longview-Kelso Adventist School. He is Principal Percussionist with the Southwest Washington Symphony, Timpanist with the Columbia River Chamber Orchestra, Drummer for the Northwest Jazz Orchestra, Percussionist for the Northwest Wind Ensemble, performed with LCC Symphonic Band, was the bandleader for Cabaret 2004 and plays in several other groups who perform Jazz, Rock, Blues, Bluegrass, Country and Reggae Kurt received his Bachelor of Arts in Music from Central Washington University in 1991. Since then he has taught private music lessons and performed professionally throughout the local area.

Kelly Ragsdale- (Tech) is currently the technical director at CTPA. She has coordinated all technical aspects of over 120 professional touring shows since 2001. In addition Kelly has worked at Washington State University, and as a music publisher for ATSO Music. She recently completed the course work for certification in theatrical rigging. In addition she has lent her expertise to multiple local theatre productions.

A BIT OF PROFESSIONAL CHATTER...

In addition there will be two free midweek guest speaker engagements for students, educators, and parents. Students will have the extraordinary opportunity to sit down with Portland area working artists in a 'Professional Conversation'. They will get a chance to listen, meet and ask questions of ...

Sarah Slipper: Artistic Director / Northwest Dance Project

An award winning independent choreographer, Sarah Slipper studied at the Royal Ballet School, was a principal dancer with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and appeared as a guest artist worldwide. She has worked with internationally renowned directors and choreographers such as Arnold Spohr, Rudi van Dantzig, Hans van Manen, Jirí Kylián and Agnes de Mille. Sarah Slipper served as Ballet Mistress of Alberta Ballet and Oregon Ballet Theatre, and teaches master classes throughout North America. She was awarded the Grand Prize for Choreography at the International Choreographic Competition at Saint Sauveur in 2000. Sarah has created over 20 works for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Ballet Jorgen, Louisville Ballet, Alberta Ballet, Ballet New York, Ballet Pacifica and The Jefferson Dancers. "A Fine Balance," her pas de deux created during the inaugural Northwest Dance Project, was a finalist for the prestigious Benois de la Danse award in 2006 and was performed at the Bolshoi Theatre as part of the award's gala celebration. Sarah is currently working on several new creations and serves as the Artistic Director of the Northwest Dance Project.

Thyra Hartshorn: Director of Production at the Oregon Ballet Theatre in Portland, Oregon.

She has also worked with American Ballet Theater, San Francisco Ballet, Washington Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, and Ballet Hawaii. Thyra has toured to various locations such as Bogota, Colombia; Almaty, Kazakstan; Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Ivonova, Russia; Vilnius, Lithuania; Shanghai, China; Singapore; Hong Kong; Taipei, Taiwan; and Nara, Japan. During her tenure at SFB and shortly after, she designed the sets and costumes for Yuri Possokhov's *Magritomania* and *Damned*. *Magritomania* won an Isadora Duncan Award for visual design in 2000 and has since been reproduced by the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, Russia. Additional design credits include *Yellow Boat* for Clear Stage Cincinnati as well as artistic consultant for *The Fellowship of the Ring* trilogy for Ovation Theater Company and Clear Stage Cincinnati. Thyra holds a Master of Fine Arts in Production and Design with a concentration in Stage Management from the University of California, Irvine.

Niel DePonte: is one of Portland's leading musical artists. Principal Percussionist for the Oregon Symphony since 1977 and percussion soloist, he was a 2003 Grammy Award nominee for Best Instrumental Soloist Performance with Orchestra. Niel has been Music Director/Conductor for Oregon Ballet Theatre since its inception and has conducted symphonic, pops, youth, opera, chamber, musical theatre, and ballet orchestras in the United States and Russia. As a composer and arranger, Mr. DePonte has created numerous concert and ballet works, as well as the score to *River of the West*, a film about the Columbia River on permanent display at the Washington State Historical Museum in Tacoma. In 2006 Niel was named a Local Hero by Bank of America for his work with MetroArtsInc., a nonprofit organization which he founded in 1993. MetroArts sponsors a summer arts Kid's Camp and the Young Artists Debut concerto concert each year. As a nationally known arts educator, Niel provides coaching, master classes, teacher workshops and arts advocacy. He holds a master's degree and Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music and a degree in education from the State University of New York.

ARTS & EDUCATION PROGRAM—Arts in the Studio is part of the Arts & Education Program at the Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts, a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization. The Columbia Theatre is committed to presenting cultural enrichment for the community and to providing access to the arts for underserved communities in Cowlitz, Clark, and Wahkiakum Counties. The 2009 Summer Theatre Camp will take place at the LCC Rose Center, located at 1600 Maple in Longview, WA (directions are available at CTPA's website: www.columbiatheatre.com).

Arts in the Studio is funded in part by a grant from: The Community Giving Fund

Arts in the Studio Registration—Phone (360)423-1011 ext.13 **Theatre Office:** 1544 12th Avenue – Suite B (12th & Michigan across from the CAP parking lot and next to Blake's Auto Repair).

Hours: Mon-Fri 10:30 – 5:30 **Email:** bethany@columbiatheatre.com

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