

COMING EVENTS – Spring 2006

Chorus
Sunday, May 7, at 3 PM

Jazz Forum #12 with TBA
Monday, May 8, at 5PM
PAC Lobby

Jazz Workshop
Friday, May 12, at 7:30 PM in the Little Theatre

Student One Acts (Day 1)
Saturday, May 13, at 3:00 PM
Little Theatre

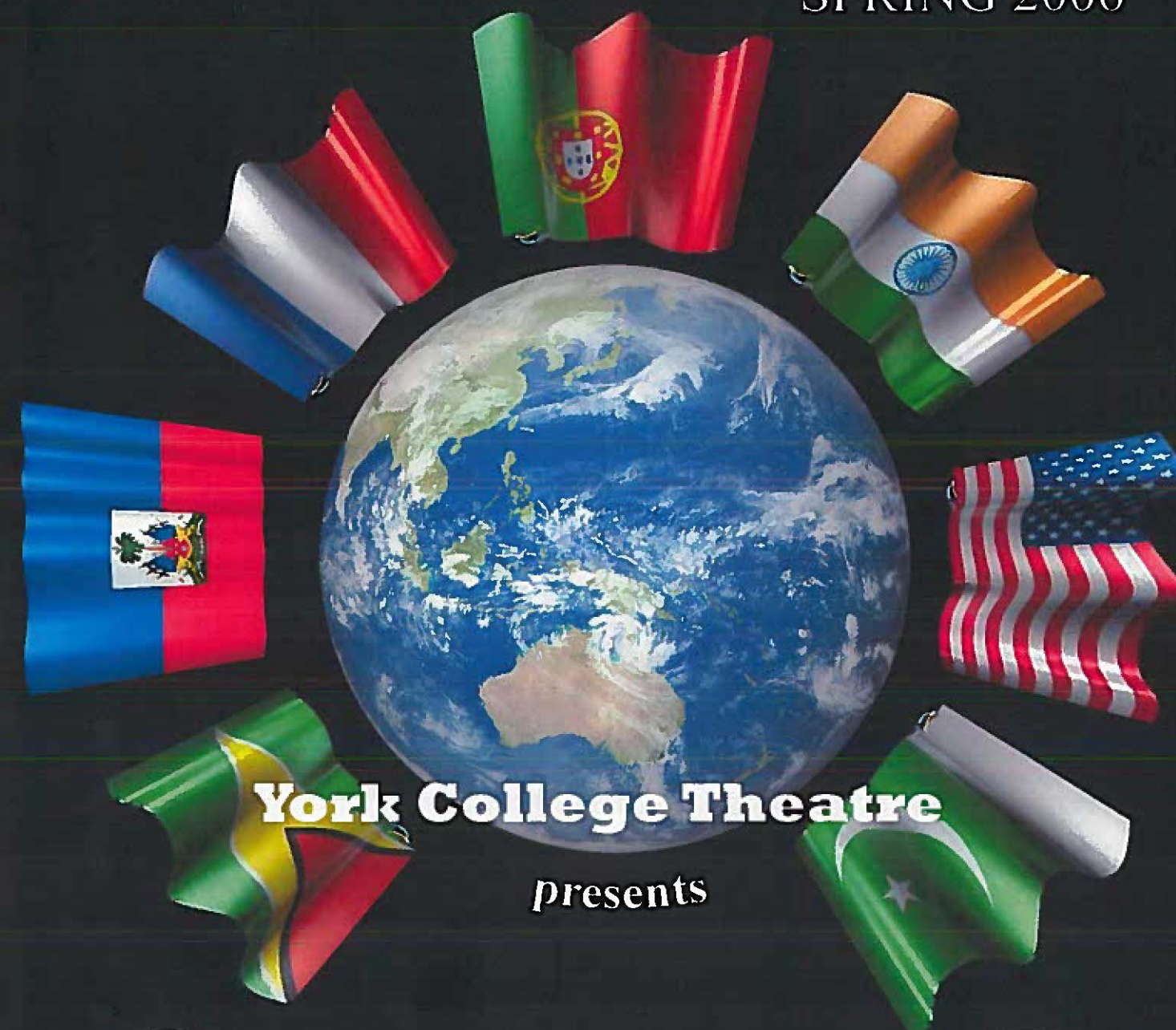
Student Art Show Opening, Fine Arts Gallery
Tuesday, May 16, at noon in the 1B01

Student One Acts (Day 2)
Tuesday, May 16, at 3:00 PM in the Little Theatre

Gospel Choir
Saturday, May 20, at 5 PM in the Atrium

Chorus
Sunday, May 21, at 3PM in the Atrium

SPRING 2006



York College Theatre

presents

CALLALOO

10

Friday, May 05 at 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 06 at 8 p.m.

Performing Arts Center
94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd.
Jamaica, NY 11451

NOTES ON *CALLALOO*

I have developed and directed nine separate theatre events entitled *Callaloo: York Theatre Students Read Literature From Their Ethnic Backgrounds*.

The name *Callaloo* comes from a plant that grows in the Caribbean and a stew of which that plant is an ingredient. To use this name as the title of the performance piece (No one knew there would be another one.) was suggested by Christopher Diaz and Roger Drysdale, Trinidadians who appeared on the first *Callaloo*. *Callaloo 1* was presented March 1989, in an Academic Core lecture hall; *Callaloo 2* opened the new theatre.

Thornton Wilder once defined theatre as "one of the most immediate ways a human being can show another human being what it means to be a human being." This definition is especially applicable to *Callaloo*. As students introduce themselves and their selections, they recount family history and show family photo slides, giving a very personal flavor to their presentations. At times they tell about faraway places and unfamiliar experiences. For example: Manyin Lee (*Callaloo 2*) told about her incarceration in a Mao prison for nine years and nine months and Mercedes Contreras (*Callaloo 9*), about her father's murder in El Salvador.

The research of family history and appropriate literature by students is an important part of *Callaloo*, and this research often takes students into literary areas of which they have had no previous knowledge. As director, I try to help each student find the best vehicle for his/her performance development while keeping a balance between contemporary culture and the classics. Students with multi-ethnic backgrounds may perform material representing more than one aspect of their heritages.

All the literature and family stories point to diversity, yet at the same time reveal what we have in common, "what it means to be a human being."

Previous *Callaloo* performers are listed elsewhere in this program.

Barbara Nickolich

Salvadorian
Mercedes Contreras (Nicaraguan)
Reina Ventura

Sicilian
Nickolas Spagnolo (German/Irish)

Sierra Leonean
Jennifer Horton

Trinidadian
Christopher Diaz (Scottish, Venezuelan)
Roger Drysdale (Portugese)
Janeen Ettienne (Portugese)
Coral King
Seneca Lovelace
Nelisa Roach (Venezuelan)

Uzbek (Jewish)
Arsen Khaimov

Piano: Dr. Dennis Moorman, Professor of Music

Percussion: John (John Crow) Alexander

Callaloo Band:

Burton Ishmael, Keyboard

Timothy Rumdeen, Bass

Richard Ishmael, Drums

Costume Cleaning for York College Theatre
Courtesy of

HALLAK CLEANERS
1282 Second Avenue
New York, New York, 10028

PERFORMERS FROM PAST CALLALOO PRODUCTIONS

Afghan

Affandy Farooq

African American

Sandra Baxter

Amelia Blissett (Jamaican)

Dwayne Booker

Justine Cox

Stephanie Iris Elmore (Mohawk)

Clare Fowler

Lisa Freeman (Blackfoot)

Sharese Gibbs

Patrice Gilbert

Iris Goode

Robert Hogan

Lizzi Jackson (German/Cherokee)

Latima Johnson (Cherokee)

Jamal Jones

Karen Jones

Marcia Kelly

Travis Lee

Mozelle Lewis

Roberta McPherson (Sierra Leonian)

Tommie Moore

Sonji Phillips

Karolyn Rinehardt (German)

Cheryl Roundtree (Cherokee)

Gloria Lowery Tyrell

Sean White

Bengali

Rumana Ahmed

Chinese

Linh Brown (Vietnamese)

Lou Ling Chen

Manyin Li

Colombian

Harold Garcia (Spanish)

Yenny Marcela Roza

Dominican

Jose Sanchez

Ecuadorian

Janet Cruz

English

Nadine Pritchard (Italian)

Ghanian

Kwasi Addo

Guyanese

Lynda Bactawar (Indian)

Richard Ishamel (Indian/Portuguese)

Ramona Mackhrandilal (Indian)

Fazeeda Smartt (Indian)

Haitian

Reginal Denise

Carine Ganthier

Ghislaine Sulmers (French)

Honduran

Mark Dunn (NY Jewish/Jamaican)

Jamaican

Maureen Bell

Victor Campbell

Paulette Dixon-Williams (Scottish)

Mable V. Eaton

Eloney Grant

Michelle Grant

Diana O'Gilvie (Chinese)

Tishesha Jones

Darion Malcolm

Marlon Mears

Douglas Seaton (Scottish)

Sonya Shaw

Tanishia Simpson

Tsahi Simpson

Deneisha Watson

Taryn Wright

Japanese

Daisuke Uchiyama

Nigerian

Deborah Akinyeini

Panamanian

Selena Evelyn (Jamaican)

Polish

Matthew Sarkowicz

Puerto Rican

Cheyenne Aldamuy

Hector Hernandez

Carmen Torres

Gladys Rosario Vann

Ailee Wiscovitch (Venezuelan/Croatian)

Romanian

Claudia Lisena (Italian)

York College

The City University of New York
Department of Performing & Fine Arts
James Como, Chairperson

Presents

CALLALOO 10

York College Theatre Students Read Literature
From Their Ethnic Backgrounds

Director

Dr. Barbara Nickolich

Scenic Designer

Timothy J. Amrhein

Lighting Designer

Elizabeth Lammer

Technical Director

Bob Barnes

Spring 2006

Friday, May 5th at 4pm
Saturday, May 6th at 8pm

York College Theatre
94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd.
Jamaica, NY 11451

PROGRAM

HAITIAN and FRENCH

Caliban's speech from <i>A Tempest</i> <i>(Translated by Richard Miller)</i>	Aime Cesaair
Dorine and Maryanne scene from <i>Tartuffe</i> <i>(Translated by Miles Malleson)</i>	Moliere
Excerpt from "Women Like Us," <i>Krik? Krik!</i>	Edwidge Danticat
Song "Shakpwa" (Every time)	Frances Elizee
Isabelle Pierre	

AFRICAN AMERICAN

"We of the Streets"	Richard Wright
"How many of the Bronx' Dreams?"	Matthew Lee
"This World is Not a Pleasant Place to Be"	Nikki Giovanni
Donnell Jones	

INDIAN

"Song of a Dream"	Sarojini Naidu
"Guyatri Mantra"	Vedas
Heena Mehta	

PAKASTANI and INDIAN

"Punjabi Quatrain"	Bulleh Shah
<i>(Translated by Kaleem Kamboj)</i>	
Excerpt from "Dawn of Freedom"	Faiz Ahmad Faiz
<i>(Translated by Kaleem Kamboj)</i>	
Kaleem Kamboj	

GUYANESE, INDIAN, and PORTUGUESE

"Journey Home"	Rabindranath Tagore
<i>(Translated by W.B. Yeats)</i>	
"Dom Sebastiao, King of Portugal"	Fernando Pessoa
<i>(Translated by Jonathan Griffin)</i>	
Excerpt from "Address at the Guyana Prize for Literature Awards Ceremony"	Dr. Cheddi Jagan
Dance to "Mitwa"	Suresh Wadekar
Sindamine Ramsammy	

YORK COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

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President

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Acting Vice President, Academic Affairs

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Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs

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V.P. and Chief Operating Officer for Administration and Finance
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Director of Student Activities

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Dean for Administration Affairs

Ms. Cynthia Murphy
Director of Adult and Continuing Education

York College Performing and Fine Arts Department

James Como-Chair
Joycelyn Heywood-Administrative Assistant
College Assistant – Nelisa Roach

SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND THEATRE ARTS
Prof. Como (Chair/ Speech Communication Coordinator)
Asst. Prof. Amrhein (Theatre Arts Coordinator)
Prof. Nickolich
Assoc. Prof. Schilling
CLT Bob Barnes

FINE ARTS
Asst. Prof. Buxenbaum (Coordinator)
Assoc. Prof. Vendryes
Prof. Simkin

MUSIC
Prof. Ernst (Coordinator)
Assoc. Prof. Adams
Asst. Prof. Tom Zlabinger
Sr. CLT Walter Dixon

SPECIAL THANKS
Joycelyn Heywood, Administrative Assistant
Performing & Fine Arts

Walter Dixon

Printing Services

Joseph Goffredo
George Fellows
Buildings & Grounds

Nate Moore
Marketing Communications

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

- **Donnell Jones** (African American) was born in the Bronx and raised in Queens, New York. He is an upper junior majoring in Marketing. He looks forward to performing in *Callaloo 10*. He would like to thank God for giving him the strength to continue on with his educational journey. He would also like to thank his mother for her love and support through times of struggle.
- **Kaleem Kamboj** (Pakistani and Indian) was born in Lahore, Pakistan. He moved to New York City during early childhood and was educated in the NYC public education system. As a young man he was influenced by the poetry of a Thirteen-Century poet Jelaluddin Rumi, as well as Robert Frost, and Nineteen-Century Romanticism. Kaleem's poetry has been published in Malaysia, India, France and the United States. He is co-author and editor of a book entitled "Kamboja" a 200-page book that traces 5000 years of his family history. He is married to Jhuma Ballav Kamboj; together they have four wonderful children - Adam, Sarah, Kareem and Amira.
- **Heena Mehta** (Indian) was born in New Delhi, India on 6th of January 1988. She moved to United States in 2001. When she was 13, she attended Richmond Hill High School and graduated in January 2005. She is a lower sophomore and hopes to have a very successful career as a fashion designer. She likes to challenge herself in art, theater, and math. She would like to thank her parents for making her what she is today.
- **Isabelle Pierre** (Haitian) is an English major at York College. She has always been interested in the theatre, so when the opportunity came to audition she pounced on it. Preparing for *Callaloo 10* has been unlike anything she expected. She challenged herself as an actress and as a writer to create a script that she felt would be informative, creative, and entertaining. She has learned more about her family, her culture, and her history than she knew before. "In essence I have learned a lot about myself."
- **Sindamine Ramsammy** (Guyanese and Portuguese) is an upper junior at York College majoring in Communication Technology with a minor in Theatre Arts. Ms. Ramsammy has been involved in the performing arts since 1996 and has done work both on and off stage doing make up. She has produced a couple of pageants and has won several competitions herself in Guyana. She hopes to work in the film industry one day.

- APPEARING IN THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCE

THE PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

Scenic Designer.....	Timothy J. Amrhein
Lighting Designer	Elizabeth Lammer
Technical Director.....	Bob Barnes
Stage Manager.....	Kimberly McGregor
Light Board Operator.....	Jessica Rollins
Sound Board Operator.....	
Projector Operator.....	Filiberto Medina
Poster and Cover Designer.....	Timothy J. Amrhein
Publicity.....	Julissa Bravo
Tickets.....	Julissa Bravo

Elizabeth Lammer (Lighting Designer) is the Lighting Coordinator of the Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University. Previously with McCarter Theatre Center, she worked in the Robert S. Berlind Theater as a staff electrician where she was also the Master Electrician/Supervisor for Princeton University. Lammer freelances as a Lighting Designer, and holds her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from DeSales University and has a Master of Fine Arts in Lighting Design & Production from the University of Cincinnati – College & Conservatory of Music.

Julissa Bravo (Publicity and Tickets) is a lower senior at York College majoring in Speech Communication/Theatre Arts with a minor in English. After graduating, she plans to attend Queens College to get her Masters in Speech Pathology. This is her first time working on a production at York College and she has enjoyed it very much. She highly recommends this course to anyone interested in theatre.

Priscilla DeJesús (Backstage Crew) is a senior majoring in Spanish. This is her last semester at York College. Her dream is to obtain her Masters in Latin-American Literature and later on get her doctorate. She would love to be a college professor so she could keep her Latin-American culture alive. Even though this is her first time taking this course, she finds it interesting because students are able to learn, create, and build scenery. She recommends this course to everyone.

David Delmis (Backstage Crew) is a senior at York College majoring in Community Health Education. In the future, she would like to work with the youth in the community and pursue a career in the Arts.

Damian Gocheekit (Backstage Crew) is a junior at York College. His major is business and he hopes to graduate with a degree. His goal is to open his own business and he wants to retire at an early age and travel to many different countries.

Kimberly McGregor (Stage Manager) is a sophomore at York College. She is currently a Biotechnology major and hopes to go to medical school after graduation. She took this course because she always had an interest in theatre. Although this is her first time in theatre production, she hopes to do it a second time in the near future.

Filiberto Medina (Projection Operator) is a freshman at York College. He is a Gemini and enjoys theatre and this is his first play. He wishes to travel the world and enjoys long walks on the beach. He thanks his mother for everything.

Jessica Rollins (Light Board Operator) is a freshman at York College majoring in Liberal Arts. While involved in theatre, she has been involved in two off Broadway plays and three school plays between junior high and high school. Ms. Rollins has been actively involved in both dance and cheerleading. She has received many awards and scholarships for her extra curricular activities. After graduating from York, she plans to go on in an arts related field. She chose this course because she wanted a change from onstage to the experience working backstage. "I believe that you must be well rounded in whatever you do in order to achieve your highest goals in life."

FACULTY OF YORK COLLEGE THEATRE

James Como (Chairman of the Performing and Fine Arts Department, Professor of Speech Communication) came to York in 1968, when he founded the speech discipline. He chaired the Department of Performing and Fine Arts for 14 years. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Language, Literature and Communication from Columbia University. At York, he has appeared in *The Madwoman of Chaillot* (directed by Barbara Nickolich). His newest book is *Branches to Heaven: The Geniuses of C.S. Lewis*.

Timothy J. Amrhein (Assistant Professor of Theatre Design) holds an MFA from Wayne State University. He has designed sets and costumes for various productions throughout the United States, and most recently: the first New York City revival of *The Full Monty*, *The Fantasticks*, and *Yeoman of The Guard*. Some of Mr. Amrhein's past work includes designs at the Princeton Rep Shakespeare Festival, The River Rep Theatre, The Wings Theatre, and Montclair State University. Mr. Amrhein has also designed for The Second City Comedy Group (Detroit, MI and Toronto); Carnegie Mellon University; the University of Pittsburgh, and the California Repertory Theatre. He has recently received the Best Scenic Design award from the NJ Star Ledger for his production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and the Detroit Free Press's Theatre Excellence Award for *Saturday, Sunday, Monday* and *Scapin*. He is a member of United Scenic Artists (USA) Local 829 and the United States Institute of Theatre Technology (USITT).

Barbara Nickolich (Professor of Theatre) received her formal theatre training from Wheaton College, Northwestern University and New York University. In addition, she has been a student of Bobby Troka, voice coach, in New York City. She has appeared as a performer and director with the CUNY Readers Theatre. She developed a one-woman show, *American Counterpoint*, which she performed in Munich, Germany, Nashville and New York City. Most of her work has been as a director of legitimate theatre in university settings. *Antigone*, *Tartuffe*, *Six Plays by Dario Fo*, *Callaloo 7*, *The Miser*, *Camino Real*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Galileo*, *Callaloo 8*, *A Servant of Two Masters*, *Callaloo 9*, and *Endgame* have been her most recent productions.

Sarah Schilling (Associate Professor of Theatre) received her training at Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Playhouse. After graduation, she joined a professional acting company in Erie, PA., and played summer stock in Wisconsin. Upon arriving in New York City, she performed for over a year in the role of Heloise in a play by the same name at the Off Broadway Gate Theatre. While teaching, first at Packer Collegiate Institute and then at York, she worked as one of the directors at the Off-Off-Broadway Actor's Place Theatre at St. Luke's in the West Village. She has appeared in Samuel Beckett's *Cascando* at LaMaMa and as a Guide in the Off-Off Broadway production: *A Woman's Work is Never Done*.

Bob Barnes (CLT, Theatre Technical Director) spent many years touring throughout Europe and the United States, working with companies such as the Atlanta Contemporary Dance Company, The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre, and The Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble. Mr. Barnes is a member of Actors Equity and has performed under the direction of Word Baker, Howard DaSilva, and Marshall Mason of the Circle Rep. He has designed lighting for dance and theatre, and has worked on several feature films as a recording engineer. His television audio credits include *The Ricky Lake Show*, *The View*, and *Law and Order*. He has most recently come to us from CNN. Roberts' greatest accomplishment thus far in life, he says is his son Ruben. "I am also very pleased to be a part of the theatre staff for the Performing and Fine Arts Department at York College".