UNT Theatre: A Semester in Review

Making History

This semester has been nothing short of historical, and definitely on for the books. UNT Theatre students have thrived in reviving live performances here at UNT. After adapting to virtual performances last year, our students have now turned the Studio and University Theatre lights back on, made the sewing machines in the costume shop run again, and sold out our seats in, what was, a very empty house.

As each performance came, our crowds became bigger and larger. The First Stage Productions of Red and Black Comedy were sold out every single night. Amazing Grace brought in a total of 413 audience members, unseen 414 audience members, and Our Town brought in a whopping total of 518 audience members. We are positive that these numbers will only continue to rise for our future performances.

The goals of our students continue to rise as their productions begin to excel our reporting charts once again. New ideas spark as we face the unknown and enter a new chapter in Theatre History. Our department is committed to keeping the theatre alive and brave, as we are even more excited to see what future successes come from the dedication of our talented students.

Social Media

In October 2021, our Facebook and Twitter page was brought back to life. From October 1 to December 1, our Facebook page was discovered by 9,761 people, viewed by 6,836 people, 2,418 people engaged with our posts, and 50 new members were added. Our Twitter has now been receiving an average of 310 views per tweet, and continues to gain followers weekly. Our YouTube Channel has also gained 723 new views to our videos.

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A Safer Theatre Environment

Our department took many different measures in creating a new, safer environment for both our Faculty/students and our visitors. Our actors, actresses and dancers have performed successful productions with masks, and proved that you can still give an enticing performance even with a facial covering. At each performance, ushers were on standby to hand out masks to audience members as well.

Recruitment and Community Efforts

Theatre was represented at UNT Preview Day held in both Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 semesters. At every performance, there is information readily available to anyone wishing to join our program. E-Flyers were also sent to all UNT Departments as well as Texas Art’s Counsel Members.

Many UNT Offices and Departments attended our productions, including UNT’s OLLI, UNT’s TAMS program, UNT’s Department of English and UNT’s Department of Communication studies. Rodriguez Middle School came to our production of Amazing Grace.

The UNT Dance & Theatre Box Office also made an executive decision to switch from physical tickets and programs, to digital items. Not only did this save labor, time, money AND trees, but it prevents the spreads of germs by keeping everyone’s ticket and program on their own mobile devices.

“I believe we need the theatre now more than ever, and I am grateful to have been a part of this creative journey (with UNT Theatre Dept.), and I am glad you have come to join us.”
~Donald Jordan, Director of Our Town

Quotes From Our Students on the Fall 2021 Semester

“I am proud of working with the Film Department through all of our transitions in Theatre. (professor) Bob Hess also was really great about connecting us acting students with the Film Department. In the future I would like to bring the two departments together more, and grow a stronger relationship with them, because those skills can build us together as artists.” -D. Hellmuth

“I would like to one day see a club form between the Film Department and the Theatre Department. It was really great getting to work with them this year.” -B. Moncibais

“I’m glad we got back to live plays instead of Zoom plays. It is nice to be back to the live stage, where I can be immersed in scripts and actual theatre work again.” -C. Hayes

“It was nice getting to still perform last semester, it was fun while we couldn’t perform live theatre. The Department did a wonderful job of still finding ways to continue our craft while our normal outlets of theatre were interrupted.” -J. Clinton

“This year was successful in many ways. The teachers worked very hard for theatre students to have opportunities through this pandemic. Everyone, audiences and performers alike, were really eager to come back to the theatre, and we are all happy to be back in the theatre; but we are also all contributing in taking safety precautions, which I believe is a really positive way to go forward.” -I. Row

“I hope to see UNT’s Theatre Department keep adjusting to whatever comes at us in the future. I love that UNT has provided courses and opportunities (such as the First Stage Series) for students to act and direct in live performances again.” -C. Spurgeon
COMING SPRING 2022

UNT Dance and Theatre Presents

Faculty Dance Concert  Escobar’s Hippos  Spamalot

Reserve your Tickets at:
https://unt.universitytickets.com/
Box Office: 940-565-2428

Get ready for these amazing new performances in the Spring Semester! Thank you for supporting the UNT Dance and Theatre Department, and we will see you back in our seats in February 2022!!!