

Highlands Theater Program to Present Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure"

By Nettie Koo

Staff Writer

William Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure" will be presented by Highlands Summer Theatre at Cal State Hayward, beginning Friday.

"Measure for Measure" is about a Duke who pretends to leave his city in the hands of his deputy in order to return in disguise and see how his replacement does.

The play is adapted and directed by CSUH student Alan Dye. A technical theatre major at CSUH, Dye worked very hard in his adaptation to connect with the audience.

"It is that universality that allows us to tell and retell Shakespeare's stories in so many different ways," said Dye. "Above all else, however, we are attempting (as did Shakespeare) to

entertain."

Dye said that in his adaptation the play will be set in America during Prohibition instead of in Vienna, but the text is essentially unchanged.

"I set the play in the Prohibition era because of the theme of justice in the play," said Dye. "I felt that our audience could identify this with a time in our history when our own institutions were being undermined by corruption at the very highest levels of government."

According to producers, "Measure for Measure" is a show anyone over the age of five can enjoy.

"The plot is very straightforward (for Shakespeare) and the text, although very rich with multiple layers of meaning, is still very accessible to a modern audience," said Dye.

Highlands Summer Theater is

sponsored by the CSUH Theatre and Dance Department during the summer to provide opportunities for high school students to work with college students in a repertory theater environment.

"The high school students benefit from working with the more experienced college students and the college student's benefit from the energy and fresh perspective that the high school students bring with them," said Dye. "Many of the students who have taken part in the program during their high school days have gone on to attend Cal State Hayward."

"The program not only involves acting students but technical theater and design majors as well, all of whom

are able to benefit from the experience of the faculty and staff," said Dye.

In addition to "Measure for Measure," Highlands Summer Theatre also is sponsoring productions of "The Fantasticks," "Cinderella" and "The Taming' of the Shrew" this summer.

Dye outlined the meaning of his adaptation of "Measure for Measure."

"To me the play is a comedy of corruption and justice," said Dye. "In our own history (and even in modern times) we have had examples of our leaders abusing their power."

"I have chosen to set the play in the Prohibition era because it was a time when we were, as a people, forced to evaluate and question our institutions,

to look at our leaders as real people with real human failings."

"Measure for Measure" will open Friday, Aug. 2, at 8 p.m., with other performances Aug. 3, 9 and 10 at 8 p.m. and concluding with an Aug. 11 matinee at 2 p.m.

All performances will be held in the campus' Studio Theatre.

Tickets are on sale at the CSUH box office at the Studio Theatre. General admission is \$8, \$6 for seniors and youth.

A special rate of \$5 is available for all CSUH students.

Persons wishing more information may contact Sylvia Medeiros at (510) 885-4299 or by via email at smedeiro@csuhayward.edu.

City Council Has Approved Project

Highway, from page one.

(a founding member of CAC who has since moved away). Then someone squealed on us and the fire department showed up," said Al Reynolds, a member of Neighbors Against Freeway Intrusion (NAFI). "So we moved to a church."

The original plan, dubbed Project 2D, involved much larger alterations to the city, including a proposal that would have displaced Southland Mall and the Southgate Swim Club. In addition, it would have included the displacement of over 400 homes near all four branches of the cloverleaf structure.

"You name it; they thought of it," Reynolds said of the metamorphosis the proposal has undergone over the course of 30 years.

In 1991, CAC formed NAFI, which is now headed by Chairman Ken Price.

"This was the best thing they could do," Reynolds said, referring to the fact that the current SDEIS proposal alters only a fraction of Project 2D.

This plan was rejected by the city in 1997. Funding for project H will come from Measure B, a 1/2 cent sales tax imposed in 1986, and Regional Measure 1, which was an increased auto toll on all Bay Area bridges in 1988.

Caltrans executives acknowledged the impact of the encroachment on the community.

"With respect to the earlier alternatives, this is a significant improvement, largely because the impacts are lessened to a substantial effect," said one Caltrans official. "In an earlier version, as many people know, there were a substantial number of properties to be acquired."

"While no one enjoys the prospect of property being purchased for a road project, when compared against those that were being presented before, the council did indicate that this was a more modest undertaking."

Many expressed the opinion that the plan for creating the flyovers would be an unbearable and ineffective intrusion. Concerns that the project would do nothing to ease the daily glut of

commuter traffic were shared by many, while others worried about ever-narrowing streets, noise pollution, and when another project would be announced to claim even more homes.

Price agreed that the traffic from the San Mateo Bridge would probably not be significantly changed by the plan, but he pointed out that there was no better alternative.

"We just endorsed this project last night," he said, referring to NAFI's participation at the City Council meeting Wednesday night. "Some people are in favor of it, they say, 'Take my house,' but a lot of people are not. The committee struggled with that, but this is the best option we're going to get. It does very little for the city of Hayward."

Roy Gordon, president of the Southgate Area Homeowners Association, was especially incensed that the Hayward City Council had already heard the details at a City Council work session the previous night.

"This is Hayward democracy at its worst," Gordon said. "Caltrans finished it (Project H) in time for summer, when many residents are away on vacation. It was given to the CAC on June 20th, and the CAC had less than a month to make a recommendation to the City Council."

"Tonight the public got to see the proposal after the City Council had already given its blessing. In a true democracy, tonight's meeting should have preceded the city council meeting."

"Talk about putting the cart before the horse. If this was a murder trial, the jury would have deliberated and the defendant would have been executed, and now we would be having the trial."

"Caltrans has gone a long way toward meeting the concerns, but you still have a long way to go," said Barbara Halliday, founding member of NAFI. "I really do not believe that Caltrans takes the public participation process seriously."

"I know you're sitting there and you look like you're listening, but I really think it's a performance. We had this (before us) for one month, while you had five years. Please go back to the drawing

Festival of India Scheduled This Month

By Asal Pournoor

Staff Writer

Fremont's 10th annual Festival of India will showcase India Culture and Heritage Aug. 23-25. Admission to the event will be \$5.

The three-day event will include a dance competition, Friday, Aug. 23, at Chabot Community College in Hayward.

"I am looking forward to this year's events because I had a great time last year," said Faryal Habib, a student at Cal State Hayward.

Organizers said people from all ethnic backgrounds are welcome to join and learn about Indian culture.

An "all-day parade" will be held Aug. 24 at the corner of Paseo

Padre and Walnut Avenue in Fremont. Aug. 25 there will be a Gala Banquet featuring Amitabh Bachchan, a famous Indian actor, at the San Jose Convention Center. The 7:30 p.m. banquet will include a live band, dinner and a variety of culture performances.

Sonia Sidhu, president of the Federation of Indian Associations of Northern California, said, "We look forward to having Cal State Hayward students join our festivities."

In April, the city of Fremont considered denying a permit for the festival unless certain conditions were met, including hiring of an event management firm, elimination of evening events and an effort to work with area businesses to resolve the parking problems.

Last year an unexpectedly large

board."

Resident Juanita McDonald echoed this sentiment, and went on to say that the plan was futile.

"I lost track of the many times the word 'improvement' was used..." she said. "'Improvement' and 'temporary inconvenience.' I would like Caltrans to say, 'Folks, it will be very inconvenient,' because that is what it will be. 'Everything is temporary. Your 'improvement' is going to be 'temporary' also. I won't be alive when you need the next 'temporary improvement,' and I say, thank God!"

through estimated at 70,000 people attended the festival, creating a near riot. About 100,000 are expected to attend this year, and organizers hope

to fix last year's problems by enforcing new regulations to help make this year's 10th annual celebration safe and memorable.

Good Exposure For Mr. Wright

Wright, from page one.

A 1996 graduate of Irvington High School, Wright served five years in the Army with the 82nd Airborne Division, before heading back to school to CSUH. He feels certain his military background, including a six month stint in the Middle East, will persuade pageant officials to see him as the pro-American symbol of the new male pageant.

The last of the original, body-building Mr. America pageants was in 2000 and since has been made over to bear closer resemblance to its female counterpart, the Miss America pageant (although Mr. America can be married and the pageant has no talent competition).

The winner will represent the United States as Mr. USA in pageants around the world, including the Mr. Tourism International pageant in Panama, which is billed as the equivalent of the Miss Universe Pageant, with over 40 countries represented.

However, no real pageant is complete without a little scandal, and this year's event is not one to disappoint. The official event was scheduled for Sept. 6 in Miami, Fla., complete with swimsuit and evening wear modeling and a question-and-answer session.

Citing technical difficulties, promoters announced July 23 that they were instead instituting an "innovative" judging in which judges will interview the 10 semi-finalists (including Wright) over the phone, before choosing this year's winner.

The semi-finalists were chosen based on body and face, and answers to three questions that were required of each candidate.

Asked how he feels about the change, Wright says he's in shock and

"frustrated after going through all these steps and talking to people about the pageant and promoting it in the media."

In addition to various publications, and appearing on the Dog House on 94.9 FM, Wright was featured on KPIX Channel 5 with fellow CSUH student and newly crowned Miss California Jennifer Glover.

Wright is still happy that promoters have decided to go through with the pageant and remains optimistic about the pageant's future.

"I encourage it," he says, "but if you're going to enter it, you have to be secure enough in your manhood to go through with it, because you will be stereotyped and it can get annoying."

The newly crowned Mr. America will be announced and posted on the Mr. America Web page (www.mister-america.org) on Sept. 7.

Glover Gains Scholarship Money

Glover, from page one.

the Miss California U.S.A. contest and also received a \$10,000 scholarship for winning the Miss California competition, in which she placed first in talent for her vocal rendition of "A New Life" from the musical "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

Glover said, "I bring a new edge to the Miss California title. I cannot wait to compete in the Miss America pageant."

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