



The Fellows Gazette

Volume 61

Published by the College of Fellows of the American Theatre

Spring 2013

Anticipating the Pleasure of Your Company

The 2013 College of Fellows of the American Theatre weekend in Washington D. C., 20-21 April, is shaping up as one you certainly should not miss.



Of course, you never want to miss our heartwarming reunions and cocktail socializing at the Cosmos Club in any case. Nor do you feel totally fulfilled for the year without our spirit-lifting recognition

of great achievement in our field when we gather at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Sunday.

But this year is especially exciting because the new Fellows to be invested constitute one of the largest classes in recent memory. The nine stellar theatre artists joining the Fellows are: Dick Devin, William Esper, James Houghton, Gail Humphries Mardirosian, George Judy, Michael Kahn, David Leong, Michael Lupu, and Roberta Uno. Come and meet these superstars to learn more about their accomplishments and to welcome them warmly into our fellowship.

And here's a thrilling added attraction, as announced elsewhere in this issue of the *Gazette*: Harry J. Elam, Jr. will deliver the 2013 Roger L. Stevens address honoring the memory of the "unstoppable visionary" Roger Stevens who originally brought together the College of Fellows and the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in 1989. We are so lucky to have Harry, a dynamite speaker, on our Sunday morning program.

Washington is always beautiful in April, the month of



tulips, cherry blossoms and daffodils. Theatre is abundant. When else will you ever get to see Schiller's *Wallenstein* if not at The Shakespeare Theatre in April, where you can also see *Coriolanus*. Ford's Theatre offers a Signature Theatre co-production of *Hello, Dolly!* And Tazewell

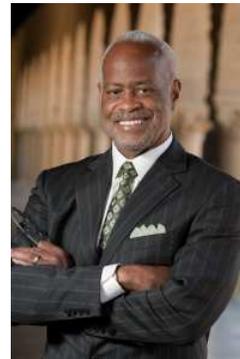
Thompson's *Mary T. and Lizzy K.* will be running at Arena Stage. See page 7 for more theatre offerings.

We are only two years away from our gala 50th anniversary celebration. If we have not seen you for a couple of years, come and renew your friendships now. You will definitely be glad you did! ■

Dean Felicia Londré

Fellow Harry Elam, Jr. to Deliver Roger L. Stevens Address

Fellow Harry Elam, Jr., the Olive H. Palmer Professor in the Humanities and the Freeman-Thornton Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education at Stanford



University, will deliver the thirteenth annual Roger L. Stevens Memorial Address on Sunday morning, April 21, 2013. The Stevens Address has been given annually as a feature of the Fellows' weekend.

The address honors our nation's "unstoppable visionary," a term coined for the many endeavors of Roger Stevens on behalf of the performing arts that included commercial producing, support of nonprofit companies, oversight of the building of Washington's National Cultural Center, later the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and appointment by President Lyndon B. Johnson as Chairman of the National Council on the Arts and then first chairman of the newly created National Endowment for the Arts. In 1989, Mr. Stevens welcomed the College of Fellows into an informal association with the Kennedy Center's Education Department as a site for the Fellows' annual meetings.

Dr. Elam is author or editor of seven books, including the Erroll Hill Prize-winning *The Past as Present in the Drama of August Wilson*. His articles have appeared in *American Theater*, *American Drama*, *Modern Drama*, *Theatre Journal*, *Text and Performance Quarterly* as well as journals in Belgium, Israel, Poland and Taiwan. He is the former editor of *Theatre Journal* and serves on the editorial

Elam continued on page 2

boards of *Atlantic Studies*, *Journal of American Drama and Theatre*, and *Modern Drama*. In 2006, he received the Excellence in Editing Award from the Association of Theatre in Higher Education as well as the Distinguished Scholar Award from the American Society of Theatre Research. He was also inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre in April 2006. He has directed professionally for over twenty years. ■

In the Spotlight: Winona Lee Fletcher, Born to Serve



Winona Fletcher is known for her contributions to American theatre as a scholar, costume designer, consultant, and administrator. Her early work on the Negro Units of the Federal Theatre Project (FTP) established her as a pioneer in black theatre education. More importantly, she is best known as an inspiring

and caring teacher and mentor—both in and out of the classroom.

Born in Hamlet, N.C., the youngest of fourteen children of Reverend Henry Franklin and Sarah L. Lee, Winona attended public schools in Hamlet and Greensboro, North Carolina. She would go on to graduate with high honors from Johnson C. Smith University for the B.A., the University of Iowa for the M.A., and to receive the Ph.D. from Indiana University. Winona has devoted her life to education, starting in 1951 as “a one woman drama department” at Kentucky State University (KSU), where she served for nearly thirty years. At KSU she directed, costumed, produced, and even performed in over fifty theatre productions. In 1978 she was appointed Professor of Theatre and African American Studies at Indiana University (IU). Additionally, she served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for 3 years. She was instrumental in the development of the African American Studies Program at IU. Upon retirement from IU in 1994, Winona continued her work in the educational arena, mainly as a consultant with various theatre organizations, including the Black Theatre Network (BTN).

Although I had heard about this fascinating woman, while a student at Howard University during the 1970s, I didn’t meet her until a 1985 conference. She was everything that people had voiced—selfless

and extremely giving of her time to others. I am just one of many students and colleagues who have benefited from her kindness.

Few people are aware of her talent as a doll maker. Unless you’ve visited her home in Kentucky or have been a recipient of what many consider “an extension of Winona,” you would never know about this special talent. According to her, the “dolls were created for special occasions, not as toys for children, but for adult keepsakes.” (Granddaughter Olivia was given special privileges as the only child to own a doll.) This interest developed as a child when Winona’s mother engaged her and older sisters in making dolls as Christmas gifts for children in the neighborhood. The skill of making dolls also influenced her interest in costume design.

The dolls usually wore clothes sizes 9 to 12 months and a shoe size of 1 to 2. They are made from a pattern with a unique fabric that stretches like skin and comes in several colors. Special needles and threads are required to permit shaping and molding of the facial features and body shapes, and cotton is used for stuffing. Winona also uses a pattern for each doll. These dolls reflect her talents as an artist.

Winona “humanized” her dolls by giving them special names such as Charles Alvis, the name of



THREE PROUD BOYS—“CHARLES ALVIS”, “KURT”, AND “BUD”

the son she never had. Winona has kept three dolls—Charles Alvis, Kurt, and Bud—that grace her Kentucky sofa, known as the “official greeters to be hugged and admired” by

visitors. Her dolls resemble the personality of the person for whom each was designed, such as Exercise doll-POKEY, made in jest, for her daughter Betty as a companion when she took her first job as a psychologist at the Univ. of Virginia. Other special recipients of dolls include Winona’s last PhD advisee, her faithful secretary at IU, an art student from South Africa, and a special doll made for BTN’s annual convention auction which garnered a huge amount!

People are still asking for “Winona dolls”; they mirror the extraordinary giving spirit of their maker. When Winona developed tendinitis, (and her daughter married a real live companion) Winona made a “Bride doll” and ceased making her little people. I have been hoping some miracle will have her making dolls again real soon as I have yet to be a recipient, even though I am on a long waiting list. ■

Fellow Kathy Perkins

Romulus Linney Papers: Announcement

The Belk Library and Information Commons and the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of North Carolina-Appalachian State University hosted a series of celebratory events to commemorate the life and works of author and playwright Romulus Linney. Most events took place on the ASU campus on September 20-21, 2012 and included the dedication of the Romulus Linney Papers and a tribute to Linney, featuring staged readings by many of the actors who originated roles in Linney's plays.

Materials in the Linney Papers include manuscripts of his novels and plays, personal and professional correspondence, theater programs and playbills, and production photographs and posters.

The collection is now accessible and open to the public. Please share the word with students, scholars, directors and others. They may be seen at <http://collections.library.appstate.edu/collections/sc/linney.html>. ■

Directory Changes

Douglas Cook
4256 West Overlook Drive
San Diego CA 92115-6113

Dale Huffington
1900 Granite Spring
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

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published by

The College of Fellows of the American Theatre



submit information and photos to:

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498 Edgewood Lane
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327
or
schanker@aol.com

College website: www.thecollegeoffellows.org

Proposed Changes in By-laws

The Articles of Incorporation and by-laws of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre were filed in the State of California in 1994 with the invaluable assistance of Fellow John Cauble.

In 2012, at the request of Dean Felicia Londré, Fellows Karen Berman and Kathleen Conlin conducted a thorough review of our by-laws and proposed the following revisions that will be reviewed for possible approval by the board at our meeting in April 2013.

- A) ARTICLE V, Section 1, p. 4. Change "six" members to "eight" and add a parenthetical phrase so that the new sentence would read: "The corporation shall have a governing Board of Fellows consisting of the Dean, the immediate past Dean or the Dean Elect, in alternate years, and 8 members (one of whom is the appointed Board Secretary and one of whom is the appointed Treasurer)."
- B) ARTICLE V, Section 2, p. 5. Add a new item "d" as follows: "(d) The Board Secretary and the Treasurer shall each serve three years."
- C) ARTICLE V, Section 11, p. 7. Re-write the second sentence of the paragraph to read: "Special meetings of the Board shall be held upon four (4) days' notice by mail, phone, or digital means."
- D) ARTICLE VI, Section 3, p. 10. Re-write the second paragraph to read as follows: "The Board Secretary, the Corporate Secretary, and the Treasurer shall be appointed by the Dean, with the approval of the Board. The Board Secretary and the Treasurer shall serve three years; the Corporate Secretary shall serve until a successor is appointed. Offices may be combined at the discretion of the Dean."

The major effect of the changes is to make the secretary and treasurer official members of the board, thereby increasing the board membership from six to eight.

The existing by-laws have now been posted on the website of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre: <http://www.thecollegeoffellows.org>. There you may review them for consideration of the above revisions. If you have suggestions, please relay them to Dean Londré, (londref@umkc.edu), and she will present them to the board. ■

Dr. Howard Stein: A Memorial Tribute (1922-2012)



Ask David Milch about Howard Stein. Ask Christopher Durang.

Ask Albert Innaurato. Ask Robert Brustein. Ask Glenn Young. Ask Michael Feingold. Ask Philip Roth. Ask Kathleen Conlin. Ask Lavonne Mueller.

Ask Ralph Arzoomanian. Ask Ted Talley. Ask ANYONE who knew him, not only his

students and colleagues. No one taught as well, especially about plays and playwriting, living and dying. In the classroom, Howard knew that more had to be caught than can be taught. He told stories. Those stories were full of humor, compassion, and enlightenment. He made it easy to catch.

Howard was Jewish and American to his soul, a Humanitarian in every possible way. He was an ideal son, brother, husband, father, friend, and Man. He was an heroic combat soldier in World War II in Europe where he survived The Battle of the Bulge.

He was an exemplary student early in his life when taught by the likes of Mark Vandoren, Paul Engle, and Vance Bourjally. Later, he augmented his sterling, galvanizing teaching with superb work as an administrator and Dean. Ask anyone at The Universities of Iowa, Texas, Purchase, Yale, and Columbia. To know this man was to love him. He literally changed lives, always for the better. Personally, he saved my education when I made a concerted effort to throw it away. Eventually, in 1995, I nominated him for the Fellows and invested him.

Other facts: born the fourth child of David Lastovsky and Hannah Basha Seletzsky in Chester, Pennsylvania, Howard lived a long, rewarding life to October 14, 2012, leaving us at age 90. He fell in love with the theatre before he was ten. After graduating from Chester High, he secured a B.A. degree from Swathmore, an M.A. degree from Columbia, and a PhD degree from The University of Iowa. He married Marriane Ross and they had three sons, David (genetic research), Ted (Wall Street Associate), and Josh (attorney). Each spoke at his graveside service, October 16, 2012, Stamford, Connecticut, two days after he passed away in a hospital of congestive heart failure, family at his side.

Think of Howard and remember his love of swinging a golf club and steaming fresh clams—his winning smile and infectious laugh, his pure joy of living. He

overcame a major stroke and affliction to teach special seminars well into his 80s. A man of extraordinary integrity, he was devoted to his family, students, friends, country, high standards and true values. His traditional enthusiasm faded only as his heart did. Finally, he sighed with a wry little smile and said, "That's enough."

Dear Howard, we caught a lot from you, but never enough. ■

Jerry L. Crawford, ATF, Dean Emeritus (2000-2002)
(Howard Stein's first playwriting student, University of Iowa, 1960)

Charlotte Kay Motter: A Memorial Tribute (1922-2012)



Charlotte Kay Motter was born to a theatrical family. Her mother, Ida Opal, was an actress and her father, Charles Harold, a theatre technician. When Charlotte was very young, her parents taught drama together in a Florida high school with Charlotte as audience through rehearsals and performances. It is not surprising then that Charlotte learned to be passionate about theatre in general and theatre in education in particular.

After receiving her BA from Miami University, she taught briefly in Florida before moving to California, where in her 32 years as a high school drama teacher at Canoga Park high school, she made an impact on the importance of theatre/drama in secondary schools.

Although the high school classroom was her greatest interest, she frequently received invitations to lecture or teach university classes on teacher preparation. Students fortunate enough to hear her educational philosophy attended her class at universities of Iowa, New Mexico, Texas and others. For twelve years she taught such a class at UCLA.

Awards and honors she received included recognition in *Who's Who in American Women*, *Notable Names in Theatre*, the Distinguished Service Award from the California Educational Theatre Association, an organization of which she was the founder, the founders award from the Secondary Schools Association of AETA, and the Freedom

Motter continued on page 5

Foundation's classroom teachers medal. She adjudicated for ACTF, region 8, for several years and was awarded two ACTF gold medallions.

She was inducted as an American Theatre Fellow in 1969. Later, she served as Dean of that organization. She was invited to give the Fellows Address at the ATA convention in San Diego in 1980.

In addition to several articles that appeared in *Educational Theatre Journal*, *Educational Theatre News*, *Theatre News* and the *California Educational Theatre News* magazine, she authored a textbook: *Theatre in High School: Planning, Teaching, Directing*. Published by Prentice Hall in 1970, and released in paperback by Loyola Marymount in 1984.

Her Fellows address included a charge to teachers to advocate and fight for the inclusion of the word "theatre" in any Arts list, as it is so often omitted.

In her retirement years, she battled vigorously before Boards of Education, State Departments of Education and credentialing committees to help them understand the importance of Drama /Theatre as an instrument in the teaching of ethics and values to students of any age.

Retirement was unknown to Charlotte as long as there were standards to write about or lectures to be delivered about the value of a strong drama/theatre curriculum. ■

Fellow Jean Korf

Our Nine New Fellows!



Dick Devin



William Esper



Gail Humphries
Mardirosian



James Houghton



George Judy



Michael Kahn



David Leong



Michael Lupu



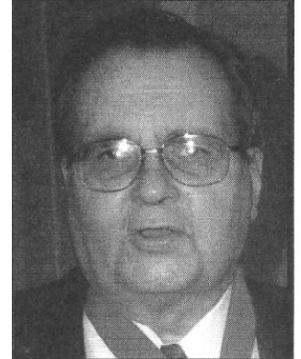
Roberta Uno

The Rhythm, Style, and Meaning of Jokes

by Ralph G. Allen

[An excerpt from the first Roger L. Stevens Address, delivered by Ralph G. Allen at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C., on April 23, 2000.]

I want to tell you how I happen to be here today. Fellow Carole Brandt called me up and said, "Ralph, do you believe in free speech?" I said, "Of course I do." She said, "Well, come down to Washington and give one."



As I slip into senescence, my memory fades, so maybe it didn't happen exactly like that, and in fact, of course, I am very honored to be giving the First Annual Roger L. Stevens Address because I spent the better part of four years working for Roger in this very building. I have known any number of famous men and women, but I have known only one great man, and that great man, of course, was Roger.

On Christopher Wren's tomb in St. Paul's Cathedral is a Latin sentence that can be translated as follows, "If you want to see his monument, look around you." That phrase should be etched into the marble of this building after Roger's name.

He was a great man, but bewildering. And since this is a lecture about jokes I can't resist telling you about the frightful time that I had to tell Roger jokes for forty minutes. The producer of my second Broadway play, which failed, of course, unfortunately was looking for money for a workshop of the property, and Roger, a potential backer, invited me to read the script to him. Like *Sugar Babies*, this show was joke-driven. Roger's sense of humor was of the very quiet variety. It's one thing to listen to jokes from a deadpan comedian, and another thing to tell jokes to a deadpan audience. For forty minutes Roger never cracked a smile. As I became louder and more desperate, Roger became more somnolent. In fact he may have fallen asleep, his eyes were closed. I sweated profusely, and was convinced that the search for workshop money must find another backer.

When I finished, however, he woke up and got out his checkbook and wrote a check for thirty thousand dollars.

I don't know what he would have given us had he enjoyed the show! ■

NOMINATION FORM

It is the responsibility of each Fellow to place in nomination those persons she or he believes are qualified to become members of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre.

Persons who have distinguished themselves on a national or international level through service, artistic accomplishment, scholarship, innovation or all of these may be nominated by a current Fellow for consideration by the Board of the College of Fellows of the American Theater for membership. Nominations **MUST** be seconded by two Fellows who are acquainted with the work of the Nominee. The nomination letter/statement should have the depth of the presentation citation, and the seconding letters should not be simple reiterations of those facts but rather add perspective to the nomination. Due confidentiality requires that nominees not be aware that they are being considered.

Nominations on this form and two seconding letters of support (the responsibility of the nominator) must be submitted to the current Dean of the College no later than March 1. Only nominees whose files are complete will be considered during the Annual Meeting.

Since nominators will most frequently read the citation for their nominees, or be called upon to prepare the citation, it is recommended that a copy of the nomination form and letters be retained.

Please Print

Date Mailed to Dean: _____

NOMINEE _____

Title _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephones Business () FAX ()
Home () E-Mail ()

NOMINATION BY _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephones Business () FAX ()
Home () E-Mail ()

SECONDBERS

#1 Name _____ # 2 Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone () FAX ()
E-Mail ()

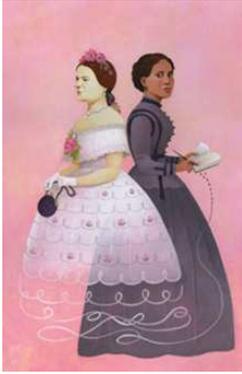
Attach a Nominator's Letter/Statement and any supporting materials. In the Nominator's Statement use 250-300 words to indicate the most salient reasons for this nomination. This statement should serve as a draft of the Fellow's Investiture Citation, and should be typed or word processed. In addition, attach a curriculum vitae, Who's Who entry, or resume. If the cv/resume seems to provide the necessary details, no additional material is needed. If it is incomplete, the following information would be useful (as part of the statement or on a separate sheet): education (schools, degrees, dates); membership in theatre organizations (and significant contributions); teaching experience or involvement (if relevant); professional experience; awards and honors; publications; artistic creations (design, direction, etc.).

DEADLINE: RETURN THIS TO THE DEAN BEFORE MARCH 1

Dean Felicia Londré
College of Fellows
528 E. 56th Street
Kansas City, MO 64110

londref@umkc.edu

Theatre in Washington



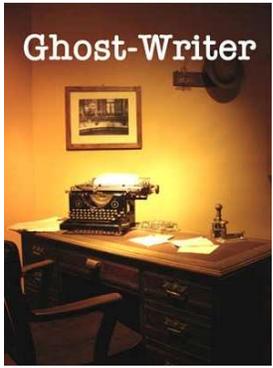
Mary T. & Lizzy K.
 March 15-April 28, Arena Stage
 World Premiere, a look at the
 friendship between Mary Todd
 and her seamstress



The Mountaintop
 March 29-May 12
 Arena State
 a reimagining of Martin
 Luther King's last night



Shear Madness
 continuing its 25 year run
 Kennedy Center



MetroStage
 April 18-May 26
 a play about the writing
 process, creativity, and love



March 15-May 18
 Ford's Theatre



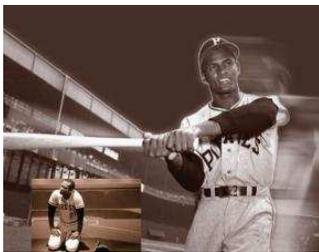
March 28-June 2, in rep
 Shakespeare Theatre Co.



March 28-June 2, in rep
 Shakespeare Theatre Co.
 directed by Michael Kahn



The Lady Becomes Him
 April 18-May 12
 Faction of Fools Theatre
 Gallaudet University



DC7: The Roberto Clemente Story
 Gala Hispanic Theatre
 April 18-May 26



James & the Giant Peach
 Imagination Stage
 April 3-May 26



The Magic Finger
 Imagination Stage
 April 12-May 24



The Hub Theatre
 April 5-28

Also Available

Eleemosynary
 Compass Rose Studio Theatre
 April 5-May 12

The Price
 Bay Theatre Company
 April 12-May 19

How to Write a New Book for the Bible
 Roundhouse Theatre
 April 10-May 5

The Fellows Weekend

Saturday Evening, April 20, 2013

Location: The Cosmos Club
2121 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Tel. (202) 939-1557

The Club has a Dress Code: You must be “properly attired—coats & ties for men, and dresses, suits, or clothing of comparable formality for women.” There are two parking lots: the Rear Valet lot and the West Garden lot. Parking is \$15 per vehicle to be paid to the College of Fellows.

6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Gala Reception Honoring New Fellows:
Dick Devin, William Esper, James Houghton,
Gail Humphries Mardirosian, George Judy,
Michael Kahn, David Leong, Michael Lupu,
Roberta Uno
Open Bar and Hors d’oeuvre



To reserve for the Gala Reception send a check of \$65 for each person & made payable to College of Fellows of the American Theatre.

Send to: F. J. Hildy, Treasurer
College of Fellows of the American Theatre
3010 Silver Lake Court, Hyattsville, MD 20783-1461

Checks must be received no later than Friday, April 5. No refunds can be made after April 5.

7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Introduction of New Fellows
Signing of Enrollment Register
The Fellows Toast

8:00 pm

Dinner on your own

Sunday, April 21, 2013

Location: The Kennedy Center
South Opera Tier Lounge & South Opera Tier Box

9:00 am- 10:00 am

Business Meeting, Dean Felicia Londré presiding

10:00 am-11:00 am

Fourteenth Annual Roger L. Stevens Address
Presented by Fellow Harry Elam, Jr.

11:00 am-1:00 pm

Luncheon and Investiture of New Fellows



Invitations for the luncheon are sent by the Kennedy Center & payment should be returned to them.

1:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Conversations with New Fellows

2:30 pm Adjournment

Host Hotel-The River Inn 924 25th Street, NW, (phone) 888-874-0100
Special Rate: \$199 per room. Mention you are with the College of Fellows. Fellows booking ID # is 383053.
Deadline to Reserve: March 18, 2012. There is a limited number of rooms reserved at this rate, so register as early as possible.

