

THEATER

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# SPOTLIGHT

*Culver City Academy of Visual & Performing Arts*

September 2005

[www.avpa.org](http://www.avpa.org)

Volume 1 Number 2

## One More Time!

The school year has started again and with it, AVPA activities. Welcome to families new to the Academy and welcome back to all returning students. This year the AVPA faculty has lined up wonderful opportunities for our students in their chosen art form. Participation in this valuable program will at times, no doubt, feel overwhelming. But the effort is generously rewarded. We look forward to working with everyone and helping all our students reap the rewards of this unique educational opportunity.

## AVPA Benefit Performance

This week make sure to see *My Heart's in the Highlands*, William Saroyan's comedy-drama about a boy and his father following their hearts. It will be performed in the Robert Frost Auditorium, 9/23-9/25 at 7:30 p.m. with a 2:00 p.m. matinee on 9/24. Corey Allen directs student and professional actors in this bittersweet tale. Proceeds benefit the AVPA. Tickets: \$15 general and \$12 ASB/seniors/children.

## Mark Your Calendar

Here are the upcoming events for the Academy for the next few months:

**Art Parent/Student Meeting:** On Wednesday, September 28, Kristine Hatanaka, the Creative Director of AVPA's art program, is holding a meeting for all her students and their parents at 7:00 in CCHS Room 1. If you have a student involved in the art program, please plan to attend with your student.

**Company:** This popular Stephen Sondheim musical about the nature of relationships will be the first theater production of the year. Directed by Tony Spano, the show will run Wednesday through Saturday, October 19-29 at the Sony Pictures Theatre behind the Frost.

**Gloria Kaufman Hall Opening:** The Tappa, Tappa, Tappa's, AVPA's advanced tap troupe, will be performing at the opening of the Gloria Kaufman Hall, called WAC is Back, at UCLA on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Cari Ann Shim Sham's dance film, FLY, will also screen at this event. It's free, so for information go to [www.uclalumni.net/info/kaufman/events.cfm](http://www.uclalumni.net/info/kaufman/events.cfm).

**Music/Dance Extravaganza:** This performance will be a collaboration of the music and dance departments, combining the fall Dance Off with the fall Music Showcase. November 17-19 in the Robert Frost.

More information about all AVPA performances is available at [www.avpa.org](http://www.avpa.org).

## Carnaval at UCLA's Fowler

Students have begun work on a collaborative project between Art, Dance, Theater and Music as part of the "Carnaval" exhibit at UCLA's Fowler Museum of Cultural History. This significant traveling exhibition is being organized by the Museum of International Folk Art in collaboration with the Fowler and opens on November 6, 2005. A procession with masks, dancing, puppetry and music provided by our AVPA students will occur in April.

## Film News

This school year started with a bang for AVPA film students. The 16mm film, *The Sky is Falling*, directed last year by senior, Eon Mora, was selected from numerous entries to be showcased at the Big Bear Film Festival September 16-19. This festival was the first of a growing list of venues that will be screening this student production.

## Dance News

The Shim Sham Move Co. has received a sprung dance floor funded through a grant by SONY Pictures Entertainment. It will be installed in the “yoga” room at the middle school this month and will be ready for first semester dance classes.

The dance department is excited to have several classes that will be offered through the Santa Monica College Dual Enrollment program. Students who enroll in these classes will receive college credit. Students can also fulfill PE requirements through AVPA’s dance classes.

But dance classes aren’t just for Dance majors! Anyone can take them. So if you’re interested, check the AVPA bulletin boards for classes and times.

## Theater News

The Blurred Vision Theater Company has cast its first two shows – *Company*, directed by Tony Spano and *Fuddy Meers*, directed by Jonathan Fahn. The *Company* cast is in rehearsals.

## Art News

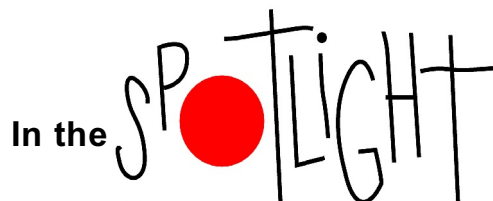
Eight art students have been selected to participate in various after school and weekend art programs.

**Sue Li** (senior), **Alexa Giffen** (sophomore), **Unique Campa** (junior), and **Iman Sylvain** (senior) will be part of the LACMA Internship program. Only fifteen students were selected from the Los Angeles area for this program.

**Ricky Ibarra** (senior) and **Nolan Broyard** will be doing a similar program at MOCA. This apprenticeship program selects the best art students from the greater Los Angeles area.

**Morgan Guyer** (senior) and **Guillermo Palacio** (sophomore) have received a \$10,000 art scholarship to participate in the Ryman Young Artist Program at USC.

The AVPA art students are working on several other projects. One of them, the “Berlin Wall Mural Project” will be exhibited at the Wende Museum next to a 2 ½ ton piece of the Berlin Wall. Watch for details in future *Spotlights*.



**Stanley Brode**, an AVPA alumnus from 2003 sent this summary of his activities to *The Spotlight*.

“I am currently a Theatre and Dance double major at UCSD where I appear onstage frequently in both theatre and dance productions. This summer I spent nine weeks at the American Conservatory Theatre’s summer training congress, which I recommend highly for students serious about making acting a career.

“Starting September 1, I am in London for a year training at the British American Dramatic Academy. I’ll be living near Regents Park close to the West End for easy theater access! The program includes Shakespeare, voice, high comedy, history, criticism, contemporary British scene study, stage combat, and acting for the camera.”

Share your news with *The Spotlight*. Send it to [tsonia@comcast.net](mailto:tsonia@comcast.net).

## What’s the Fringe and Who Can Go?

AVPA’s Blurred Vision Theater Company has been selected to perform at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland next August. But Darryl Hovis, director of AVPA’s theater program, doesn’t see the Fringe as just a theater event. His production of *Antigone* will be a multi-media show that melds elements from the entire Academy. As a consequence, the Fringe opportunity is available not just to the cast and crew of the play, but to all theater majors who

want to attend and any other Academy student who is involved in the production.

The program, however, is expensive—almost \$5,000 per attendee. Throughout the year, the Academy will be hosting many fund raising events to help as many students as possible attend. Student participation in these fund raisers will be tracked, as will the money each student earns towards the trip. A “good faith” payment will be collected from all interested students within the next month, so if your student is interested in going to the Fringe Festival, contact Darryl Hovis for details.

## No Cost Ways to Help AVPA

The AVPA Foundation has been busy coming up with ways we can all help support the Academy. Here are two that won't cost you anything.

**eScrip:** When you sign up for eScrip, participating local merchants contribute up to 8% of your purchases to the AVPA. All you need to do is sign up at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) using the Group Name AVPA\* Foundation or the Group ID 500002114. It's so easy, you can even sign up your friends and family (with their permission, of course!).

\*You must type spaces between each of the letters in AVPA.

**Amazon.com:** When you purchase merchandise from Amazon.com they will give 4-6% of your purchase back to the AVPA, but only if you “click through” to the Amazon.com site from the AVPA Foundation website. When you or your friends shop at Amazon, make sure to use “click through” so we get the cash!  
<http://home.comcast.net/~avpafoundation/donate.html> (A link to the Foundation website can also be found at [www.avpa.org](http://www.avpa.org).)

## AVPA Foundation Meetings

The AVPA Foundation will be meeting on the third Monday of each month. If you want to attend, please contact the Foundation at [avpafoundation@comcast.net](mailto:avpafoundation@comcast.net) for the meeting location.

## 2005-2006 AVPA Season\*

*Company*, Oct. 19-29  
*Music/Dance Extravaganza*, Nov. 17-19  
*Fuddy Meers*, Nov. 30-Dec.10  
*Winter Music Concert*, Dec. 21  
*Cabaret Night*, Jan 20-21  
*Woycek*, Feb. 1-11  
*Frost Film Festival*, March 2-4  
*Chess*, March 22-25  
*Spring Dance Off!*, April 27-29  
*Antigone*, May 11-20  
*Spring Music Concert*, May 24 or 31  
*Film Project Premier*, May 19 or June 9

\*Always check [www.avpa.org](http://www.avpa.org) for schedule changes.

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## Contacting the Academy

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