

UCSD undergrads write and produce five plays for Theatre Festival

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UCSD UNDERGRADUATES WRITE AND PRODUCE FIVE PLAYS FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE THEATRE FESTIVAL, JUNE 2-5

Undergraduates at the University of California, San Diego will stage five original plays for the Undergraduate Theatre Festival (UTF), June 2-5, in the UCSD Warren Theatre.

The Undergraduate Theatre Festival is part of UCSD's sixth Undergraduate Arts Festival (UAF). The UAF this year will honor Mandell Weiss, the 97-year old benefactor of the UCSD Department of Theatre.

The plays will be divided into two groups. Group A will play on June 2 at 8 p.m., June 4 at 8 p.m. and June 5 at 2 p.m. Group B will play on June 3 at 8 p.m., June 4 at 2 p.m. and June 5 at 7 p.m.

Suzanne Oster, student spokesperson for the festival, said the original plays and their production are an opportunity for many of the undergraduates to flex their creative muscle in an area ordinarily dominated by the graduate students.

"The festival involves an enormous amount of concentrated effort, and it aptly reflects the work we have done during the year."

The theatre festival was organized under the guidance of theatre department lecturer and advisor Steven Adler, who said the festival is a forum in which the students become their own creative force.

"While many of the undergraduates are theatre majors, it's not a prerequisite in order to take part in the festival," he said. "The undergraduates who are involved come from throughout the undergraduate program, from all of the four colleges."

The five plays are "Golf: A Play in Three Holes," by David Adler, directed by Thom Sherman; "Skreemsawng," by Kerrie Gallagher, Suzanne C. Oster and Kimberly Mohn, and directed by Loren E. Chadima; "Sickler's," by Buddy Black and directed by Adam Walsh; "Three Nuns From Cuba," written and directed by Paul Ryer, and "Half," by Karen Ulrich, directed by Alan DiBona.

"Golf: A Play in Three Holes," describes a nocturnal round which takes place on a humorously bizarre course. Golfer Mick and his buddy Stu encounter more than just the usual sand traps in this social satire.

"Skreemsawng" exposes the cycle of life as it moves through childhood to old age, and seeks to capture humanity's shared experiences through contemporary movement, poetry and rhythm.

"Sickler's" takes its cue from the book "Fanny," or the script "My Dinner with Andre." It is a discourse between two friends during lunch.

"Three Nuns From Cuba," a surreal comic drama, "explores a range of topics yet wallows in a semantic nightmare," according to author Paul Ryer.

"Half," with its mature theme, shows a relationship between a younger woman and an older man who have shared intimacy but not friendship. The story reveals the younger woman's feelings of inadequacy, which have led her to forfeit control over her own life.

Tickets for the festival are \$.99, and are available at the door only on nights of performance at the Warren Theatre Box Office. For recorded schedule information call 534-4574.

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