Welcome to another season of exceptional productions from Theatre MSU. We want to thank you for your continued support of our program as we celebrate our 50th Season of theatre at Mississippi State University. Our season this year features work that we are excited to share with MSU and the Starkville community. We hope you will join us for our 2013-2014 season!

Our season ticket prices are $40 for general admission. They may be purchased by completing the attached Season Ticket Form, or by visiting our website at www.comm.msstate.edu.

You may also support Theatre MSU and our students by becoming a Patron. This ensures the continued success of our program with your generous contribution.

First Night Club: $100-$249
- A pair of season tickets
- Opening Night receptions with cast and crew
- Recognition on lobby board displayed for length of the season

Associate: $250-$499
- A pair of season tickets
- Opening Night receptions with cast and crew
- Recognition in all production programs

Patron: $500-$999
- Four season tickets
- Opening Night receptions with cast and crew
- Recognition on a permanent plaque in the lobby of McComas Theatre

Sponsor: $1,000 and up
- Four season tickets
- Opening Night receptions with cast and crew
- Recognition on a permanent plaque in the lobby of McComas Theatre
- Recognition in the program for the production they sponsor and all related promotional materials and media for that production.
Bloody Murder
by Ed Sala
McComas Hall Mainstage
October 17-19, 2013
7:30 p.m.

Theatre MSU will open the 2013-2014 Season with an award-winning murder mystery where Agatha Christie meets Pirandello as characters rebel against their author. Ed Sala’s Bloody Murder is an Appalachian Playwriting Festival and Theatre Resources Unlimited Playwriting Festival award winner. The cast of characters is the usual British murder mystery types who have been invited for a weekend gathering at the country estate of Lady Somerset. But this is not the formulaic, all-too-predictable mystery story, but a diabolical twist of events where the playwright succeeds in messing with his audience members’ minds. Join us for the fun in a night of “whodunit” as Theatre MSU celebrates the opening of its 50th season.

Wiley and the Hairy Man
by Susan Zeder
McComas Hall Mainstage
November 17, 2013
2:30 p.m.

Set deep within the mysterious Tombigbee Swamp, Wiley and the Hairy Man centers around a young fatherless boy, his conjure-woman mother, his faithful dog, and the Hairy Man who haunts Wiley's days and dreams. Through rhythm and rhyme, a chorus creates the mystery of the swamp. The magic of this play is not fairy dust, it is soil—the magic of survival, the magic of the earth, and the mud of the swamp. In an exciting duel of wits, Wiley learns to rely upon his own resources and conquers two villains: the Hairy Man and his own fear.

Appropriate for all ages.
...And the Rain Came to Mayfield
by Jason Milligan
McComas Hall Mainstage
February 27-28, and
March 1, 2014
7:30 p.m.

This drama takes place in the fall of 1962 in a fictional town of Mayfield, Mississippi. In a small luncheonette/gas station just off of the state highway, we find the owner’s son Carl dreaming of going to college. His father, who is running for town mayor, does not support these aspirations and his mother is always caught in the middle of this ongoing battle. One afternoon, a young black man appears in the doorway seeking shelter as he waits for the bus to Jackson. The two young men discover they have similar dreams of independence. Carl’s father, however, reacts violently when he finds a black man in his establishment. It is now up to Carl to decide for the first time in his life to stand up to his dad.

The production is one of many activities presented as part of MSU’s Black History Month celebration. Invited scholars will introduce each performance as well as participate in after show discussions in our theatre lobby for interested audiences. Show contains adult themes and language.

The Pirates of Penzance
by Gilbert and Sullivan
McComas Hall Mainstage
April 24-26, 2014
7:30 p.m.

Theatre MSU will end its season with Gilbert and Sullivan’s comic opera The Pirates of Penzance. Theatre MSU is once again partnering with The Department of Music for this wacky, irreverent musical farce. This cast of characters is morally bound to the ridiculous dictates of honor and duty. Come celebrate with the pirates, the Major General and his lovely daughters as we bring our 50th season to a close.
North Mississippi High School Drama Fest
McComas Hall Mainstage, December 6-7, 2013

The department is once again proud to host the Northern Division of the High School Drama Festival. This 48-year tradition typically includes up to 20 area schools as they compete to advance to the Mississippi Theatre Association’s statewide festival.

Starkville Community Theatre’s
2013-2014 Season
WWW.SCT-ONLINE.ORG

The Odd Couple
by Neil Simon
September 12-15 and 17-21, 2013

A Catered Affair
book by Harvey Fierstein, Music and Lyrics by John Bucchino
October 31-November 3 and November 5-9, 2013

Christmas Cabaret
December 10-14, 2013 (season extra)

Steel Magnolias
by Robert Harling
February 13-16 and 18-22, 2014

Don't Dress for Dinner
by Marc Camoletti, Adapted by Robin Hawdon
April 24-27 and April 29-May 3, 2014
Cookout - September 26 at 5 p.m.
Entertainment and Showtime- September 26 & 27 at 5:30 p.m.
Free to all, but donations are always accepted! Bring a picnic and something to sit on.

This open air production, directed by Dr. Donna L. Clevinger, is part of the Shackouls Honors College “Classical Week 2013,” a celebration of Greek, Roman and other cultures of the ancient world.

Titus Maccius Plautus (254-184 BC) was Rome’s most popular and successful playwright and perhaps the most influential comic author of all time. Like Shakespeare and Moliere, he began his career as an actor in popular comedies, which undoubtedly sharpened his unique sense of what made audiences laugh. His rise to fame coincided almost precisely with Rome’s rise to world dominance. Plautus transformed the sedate, sentimental drama of Hellenistic Greece into boisterous comedy, tailored to please audiences during the most morally upright period of the Roman republic. His plays and musical adaptations by later writers, including A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, prove that Plautus is still very much alive on Broadway, Hollywood and university theatres around the world!

The premise of the play is simple: what would happen if a man, coming to a strange town, were taken to be his unknown twin brother by his brother’s slave, mistress, and wife? Plautus raises the question of identity itself: is it something one possesses or a consequence of social life? Set in Greece, The Brothers Menaechmus develops a fully Roman ethos and sense of festivity especially through Plautus’ mastery of characters, including the hen-pecked husband, the beautiful mistress who lives next door, and the ever-hungry slave. The script also provides opportunities for audience participation.

For information: Phone: 662-325-2522; Website: honors.msstate.edu
Season Ticket Form

To purchase your 2013-2014 Theatre MSU season ticket, please complete the following form and return it to the Department of Communication, P.O. Box PF, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Name _____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
Email ______________________________________________
Home Phone __________________________________________
Number of General admission season tickets at $40 ___________

If you would like to support Theatre MSU, please select the level of giving you would like to contribute.

- _______ First Night Club: $100-$249
- _______ Associate: $250-$499
- _______ Patron: $500-$999
- _______ Sponsor: $1,000 and up

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Communication