

UNC's theater season offers a spectrum of styles

By Tyler Confoy
Staff Writer

Upholding a reputation for renowned entertainment, UNC offers students unique opportunities to view the arts through multiple avenues.

The University is set to deliver another year filled with student-run productions and professional performances alike.

Throughout the year, consistent productions put on by PlayMakers Repertory Company and Carolina Performing Arts are rounded out by student-run performances.

In its upcoming season, PlayMakers — a theater company run in residence at the University

— looks to put on plays geared to provoke contemplative responses.

The company will open with Sarah Ruhl's "In the Next Room (or the vibrator play)," a story involving the history of a medical instrument for "female hysteria."

All the while, Carolina Performing Arts looks to showcase musical, dance and theatrical performances by a roster full of award-winning artists.

Europe's acclaimed chamber orchestra Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen will open for CPA, which has crafted a season that will feature other noteworthy performers like Grammy award winner Mary Chapin Carpenter in October and Shantala

Shivalingappa's combination of ancient Indian and contemporary styles in November.

Aside from their main stage seasons, both PlayMakers and CPA run separate series of their own geared to enhance the experiences gained at the shows.

Students also provide heavy contributions to the artistic community on campus.

The LAB! Theatre, one such student group, will open with the production "The Rimers of Eldritch" by Lanford Wilson, a play centered around a murder that comes about as a result of a misunderstanding.

LAB! also plans to include "Stick Up Kids," an original play by student Sam Smith, later on in

its season.

Another student-run company, Pauper Players, focuses on musical theatre productions.

Last season, the players put on "Broadway Melodies 2011," a musical parody referencing "Mean Girls," "Glee," and Quentin Tarantino. It will produce the popular Broadway show "Guys and Dolls" in the fall.

Still, there are a number of other active student groups working throughout the year like the poetry group Ebony Readers Onyx Theatre and the improv and sketch comedy troupe Chapel Hill Players.



Contact the Arts Editor at arts@dailytarheel.com. DTH FILE/ERIN HULL Two students rehearse for LAB! Theatre's "The Collective" in March.

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