

E-News

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a volunteer service organization of the University of North
Carolina School of the Arts

April 2009

Following are the highlights from the April 7 meeting of the board of The Associates.

Guest speakers for Bill McCord, cinematography, and Nola Schiff, editing and sound, from the School of Filmmaking, enthralled the board with their week-long experience in Tanzania last summer filming a documentary for the “Nyanya Project.” “Nyanya” means “grandmother” in Swahili; these are grandmothers who are raising their grandchildren because their parents were victims of AIDS (known as “the slim disease”). A part of the documentary will be shown at the May 15 “Behind the Scenes” (see below). For more information about the Nyanya project, go to nyanyaproject.org.)

The next program of **The Associates Present “Behind the Scenes”** is *Il mondo della luna*, an opera buffo by Joseph Haydn, on April 14, at 7:00 p.m., in Watson Hall. You should have received your invitation by e-mail last week. Be sure and get there early for good seats, as a large number of prospective audiences was also invited, including Piedmont Opera’s vast mailing list. This promises to be a wonderful evening of information about the opera, discussion by the director and designers, and excerpts performed by Fletcher Opera Fellows. Please let us know if you’re coming by contacting UNCSA-Associates@gmail.com or by calling 336/770-3262.

The last “Behind the Scenes” for the year is collaboration with the School of Filmmaking featuring experiences with the Nyanya project from the student filmmakers’ point of view. The presentation given to the board at our April 7 meeting was fascinating and totally different from the usual fare and whipped up powerful enthusiasm; you won’t want to miss this look at student involvement in such a dynamic project.

Don’t forget to add to your calendars Design & Production’s “Portfolio Days” May 21, 22 and 23. Exhibits from students change every day, so try to attend as many days as you can.

You’ll notice members of the Associates board sporting new identification badges at the “Behind the Scenes” on April 14 and at all our events from now on. UNCSA liaison Michelle Snow is responsible for these and we are most grateful..

Host Families hosted a potluck dinner at the home of co-chairs Vicki and Ken Davis on Sunday, March 29. The program this year has been such a grand success and the UNCOSA staff is already very excited about next year's program.

Kenan Institute liaison reported that the "Kenan Writers' Encounters" events were very popular and several were standing room only. Several Associates attended the "Kenan Conversations" held in March.

Members at Large member Sarah Turner thanked those who had provided cookies for spring break and will be calling in mid-May for more. Member Kay Lord, who was absent, sent a report that a farm has been added to the database for student filmmakers.

UNCOSA Liaison Michelle Snow discussed current funds for scholarships, which are sadly under-funded due to the current economy's effect on scholarship endowments.

The date of Thursday, May 21, was confirmed for the annual **Associates Wine-d Up** garden party. It will be held in Bingle and Doug Lewis's back yard from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Associates are invited to stroll over to Portfolio Days following the party.

The board of The Associates will again hold a retreat in late July; it was agreed that last year's retreat was very beneficial.

The board agreed by unanimous vote to give \$1,000 to the school toward a general need-based scholarship for the year 2009-2010. In addition, The Associates will hold a yard/bake sale in the fall to raise additional scholarship monies for the school.