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## **UNCSA Open Dream Ensemble Releasing First Web Series Geared Towards Youth**

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (August 27, 2010) – The Open Dream Ensemble, a professional multi-disciplinary children’s theater group sponsored by the Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA), is creating a web series for children.

The series will premiere on Monday, September 13, with the first episode to broadcast on the Open Dream Ensemble website at [www. opendreamensemble.com](http://www.opendreamensemble.com). Six more new episodes will be presented on the website each subsequent Monday until October 25. All episodes will remain on the Open Dream Ensemble website throughout the touring season.

The series is entitled *The Adventures of the Open Dream Ensemble* and presents the story of a performing ensemble, who in addition to their work on stage and in the classroom, travel through history making certain that great discoveries in math and science happen. Their nemesis is the great Dr. Disrupto who seeks to stop progress by sending his Quarksters to prevent scientists and mathematicians from making their discoveries. In the process, the series teaches Newton’s Laws of Motion in a new and engaging way, connecting science and the arts and examining the impact of the Laws of Motion on daily life. The series will be used as supplement to the current fifth grade NC Standard Course of Study motion unit.

*The Adventures of the Open Dream Ensemble* is directed by Joshua Morgan and Brian Sutow, written by Brian Sutow with cinematography by Drew Wolber, all graduates of UNCSA. The series is being created by No Rules Productions ([www.NoRulesProduction.com](http://www.NoRulesProduction.com)) and produced by the Kenan Institute for the Arts.

“We are thrilled about presenting this new web series for children,” said Margaret Mertz, executive director of the Kenan Institute for the Arts. “We think this is a new and exciting way to teach science to children that will engage them in learning in creative ways. We hope that this multimedia, online production will set the high standard for web series geared towards youth.”

Following are bios of the directors and cinematographer:

**Joshua Morgan, Director**, is a professional actor and Co-Artistic Director of No Rules Theatre Company of Washington, DC and Winston-Salem, NC. He studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and Judith Blazer's 2005/2007 company of the Artist's Crossing. Performance credits include roles in *The Trojan Women*, *Godspell*, *Burn This*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Children of Eden*, *Othello*, *Show Boat*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *The Good Doctor*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Les Miserables* to name a few. Joshua has worked as a Musical Director/Rehearsal Pianist for many shows within the NY/NJ/DC tri-state area and coaches a handful of select students. The musical play, *Definition of a Housewife*, conceived and written by himself and Jeffery Self had a workshop production in the summer of 2006 at Columbia University. Most recently he directed three sold-out productions of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Joshua holds an Arts Diploma in Acting from UNCSA.

**Brian Sutow, Director**, is a professional actor, writer, and Co-Artistic Director of No Rules Theatre Company. As a native Chicagoan, Brian has performed professionally at Eclipse Theatre, Company, Apple Tree Theatre, Light Opera Works, American Theatre Company, and Wildbait Theatre Company. Additional professional stage credits include work with Roanoke Island Festival Park, Open Dream Ensemble and most recently the leading role of Guy in NRTC's critically acclaimed production of *Some Girl(s)*. His film work includes appearances in *High Fidelity*, *Train Wreck*, *A Bowl of Cherries* (finalist at the Chicago TV Comedy Pilot Competition) *The SunnySide Singers*, and the comedic web series *Assembly Required*. His original comedic writing has been requested and reviewed by companies like Comedy Central, Cartoon Network, Turner Entertainment, Paradigm and William Morris. This summer, his adaptation of the Kurt Vonnegut short story, *A Long Walk to Forever*, along with his original stage comedy, *Assembly Required: How to Write Produce and Stage a Musical – The Musical* will both appear at the 2010 Capitol Fringe Festival. Brian holds a BFA in Acting from UNCSA.

**Drew Wolber, Cinematographer**, attended the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) for Cinematography and Producing, graduating with a BFA in 2009. During his time at UNCSA, Drew served as Director of Photography on a commercially commissioned piece for FLOW Automotive that was shown in select theaters as part of the promo package before James Cameron's "AVATAR." He also lent his talent and vision to the science fiction film, "Tipota," which received honorable mentions at both at the Asheville Film Festival and the Carolinas Filmmakers Showcase. Drew additionally sought work outside the university, working on commercials for Metro Nursing and H.T. Hackney. Just prior to graduating, Drew produced The Time It Takes, a short film that served as a directing vehicle for mentor Thomas Ackerman, ASC ("Jumanji," "Anchorman"). As a side project, Drew formed Pythian Pictures, a multi-media production company where he produced and managed commercial advertising and shot music videos of local artists for commercial distribution. Outgrowing Pythian, he dissolved the company and began Wolber Enterprises, LLC as an independent record label and production house.

Open Dream Ensemble is a project of the Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts, which incubates projects that sustain artists at every point in their creative development through strategic partnerships that capitalize on visionary thinking in the arts. For more information, visit [www.kenanarts.org](http://www.kenanarts.org).

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts ([www.uncsa.edu](http://www.uncsa.edu)) is the University of North Carolina's conservatory for the arts, dedicated entirely to the professional training of students possessing exceptional talents in the performing, visual and moving image arts. UNCSEA offers students a focused, intense, professional training at the high school, baccalaureate, and masters levels in its schools of Dance, Design and Production, Drama, Filmmaking and Music.

For more information, visit [www.opendreamensemble.com](http://www.opendreamensemble.com).

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