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Opening Theatre and Dance Production Highlights Common Book Themes

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09/15/2009 Opening Theatre and Dance Production **Highlights Common Book** Themes

Quick Facts

The production of "You Can't Take It With You" is a Common Book event.

The comedy will run Sept. 29-Oct. 3 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 4 at 2 and 8 p.m. in Johnson Theatre.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The Department of Theatre and Dance will open its 2009-10 season on Tuesday, Sept. 29, with a production of "You Can't Take It With You," a Great Depression-era play selected to complement this year's Common Book, "Growing Up" by Russell Baker.

Directed by Theatre and Dance Chair and Professor Andrew Vorder Bruegge, the Pulitzer Prizewinning comedy will run Sept. 29-Oct. 3 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Johnson Theatre. Performed by a cast of 19 students, George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart's "You Can't Take It With You" explores what happens when Tony Kirby (Nathan Rouse of Clover, S.C.) and Alice Sycamore (Kayla Piscatelli of Graveland, Mass.) fall in love and their very different families -- his discontent, straight-laced Wall Street parents and her happy, eccentric bunch of free spirits -- must learn to coexist.

Chosen for its "Depression-era setting in America," the play presented a unique challenge for the director and the artistic/production staff because there are more than 700 properties and "all of them have to be vintage or vintage-looking items," according to Vorder Bruegge. Work on "You Can't Take It With You" began in April.

Artistic/production staff members who made the 1930s setting come alive include faculty members Anna Sartin, scenic designer; Janet Gray, costume designer; Biff Edge, lighting designer and technical director; and students Nancy VanderBrink of Spartanburg, S.C., sound designer; Shannon Plowden of West Union, S.C., stage manager; and Bailey Glosson of Canton, Ga., assistant stage manager.

"You Can't Take It With You" also is part of Winthrop's Family Weekend Oct. 2-3, and families may purchase discounted tickets online. All seating is reserved. Tickets are \$8 with Winthrop I.D. and \$15 for the general public.

Call the Box Office at 803/323-4014 or e-mail boxoffice@winthrop.edu for ticket information.

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