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Winthrop University

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Senior Choreography Showcase Gives Students Creative Control

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The Dec. 3-4 Senior Choreography Showcase will put the white sock test to the Johnson stage – creatively speaking, of course.

In the Department of Theatre and Dance's fall 2010 showcase, a piece choreographed by dance major Ashton Waldron of Bristol, Va., will explore various movements done in socks – an unusual sight because modern dance is performed in bare feet. Waldron's piece is one of seven to be featured in the Senior Choreography Showcase Dec. 3 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Johnson Theatre. In designing her piece, Waldron was inspired by a performance she saw at a summer American Dance Festival. Overall, the showcase consists of pieces by six other senior dance majors: Amanda Stafford (Burlington, N.C.); Allison West (Orangeburg, S.C.); Emily Herring (Rock Hill); Herbert Washington (Rock Hill); Michelle Dickinson (Lancaster, S.C.); and Chay Raines (Powder Springs, Ga.).

Mostly modern in style (with some jazz influence), the showcase pieces are designed completely by the dance majors and use student performers. Students comprise the show's technical crew as well. During the showcase, the students have creative control over their pieces, from selecting a theme to auditioning dancers. A part of the undergraduate major in dance, the production allows students to exercise creative control and prepare for future work in the dance field, said showcase faculty coordinator Meg Griffin.

"The showcase is perfect preparation for what dance majors are going to be doing for their careers in dance," said Griffin, who has served as faculty coordinator for the event since 2008.

The Senior Choreography Showcase is part of Rock Hill's ChristmasVille. Tickets are $8 with Winthrop I.D. and $15 for the general public.

Call Winthrop's box office at 803/323-4014 to reserve tickets.

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