



“Pear”
by Jim Lin

The Hope Beat



A Quarter Note



Fall 2009

Mission Statement

Hope University transforms the lives of adults with developmental disabilities through the arts.



We would like to thank Carlos “Charlie” Decastro at Interceramic Tile and Stone Gallery in Anaheim for their generous donation of tile for the mosaic section of our Integrity House mural. They gave every color and quantity that we needed to complete the design. Special thanks also to Michael Guzijan for making the connection.

Hope University



Calendar 2010

Available Soon!

Featuring the artists of Hope University

Challenged but Blessed

By Janice Reyes, Executive Director

As we are in the last quarter of 2009, time continues to fly. We look back at the challenges of the year and feel blessed to have not only survived, but to have reached new levels of success. Everyone pitched in, including the board, staff, parents, students, and even bus drivers.

To address the cutbacks in state funds, it became necessary to reduce hours for all of our employees. This truly was a heartbreaking task. We also reached out to our families, emphasizing the importance of regular student attendance. Now more students are attending consistently, which also helps us financially. In addition, Lisa Lo Russo, Art Instructor, implemented a recycling program, and everyone is supporting the effort.

Despite the financial challenges, we continue to look for ways to offer our students more opportunities in the arts. Through the efforts of our Artistic Director, Shelley RuggThorp, a great new experience evolved.



MLuM member, Michael Raco-Rands, works with student, Ron Langloe on a recording for “Beau Monde Float”.



Standing ovation for Beau Monde Float performance at the Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton.

With funding support from several grants, we created “Beau Monde Float”, a multi-media performance piece. This gave our students the great experience of working with a team of professional performers (MLuM), and presenting a production in a high tech theater. The piece was created from interactions between our students and MLuM. After a two year period of planning and rehearsals, it came together. The students, staff and MLuM members were so elated, they not only plan to repeat this performance, but hope to work together again on new projects.

Our Board of Directors has also helped our organization by seeking financial support, fundraising, personally donating, volunteering and community outreach. They continue to spend much

time planning the direction that will make our dreams become realities. Their major goal is for us to obtain our own facility, where we will be able to support our diverse curriculum and serve more students.

Even though monies were scarce, we were blessed with the loyalty of supporters from over the last 30 years. We cannot express enough our gratitude to all of you who recognize the importance of what we do and the great need which exists. When you attend our events and applaud our students, it brings such joy to them and their families. With your ongoing support, we know that we will be able to continue to provide this vital service. WE OFFER YOU OUR GREATEST THANKS AND WISH YOU ALL THE BEST FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!!

“Sounds of Christmas” By Minako Kamimura, Music Therapist

Join us at the Plummer Auditorium to experience the “Sounds of Christmas”. Many of your favorite Christmas tunes will be performed by the Hi Hopes, Choir and Handbells, along with performances by the Dance and Drama Troupes. Come prepared to sing some of your favorites with live accompaniment during the “audience sing-along.” But the most inspirational moment of the evening will be the world premier performance of an original Christmas song written by Hope University students called “Joy Of Giving- Merry Christmas To You”.



Vocalist, Cathy Acton, sings.



Handbell players perform.

It all happened during one music culture class, when Kiho Moriwaki, Music Therapist, was playing a simple yet catchy chord progression on the piano: C major, A minor, F major, G7, back to C major. Lori Reyes, a student, spontaneously sang and the words rolled out of her heart and mouth. “Yes, it’s Christmas, merry, merry Christmas to all the people around the world.” Everyone in the class liked the lyrical and tender sound of it. It was a perfect chorus to a song. They just needed a verse to go with it.

In no time, ideas were shared and compiled into two verses. These are some excerpts: “Hear the sounds of choirs, sing a song with desire” (April Renick); “We all have a spirit to live together, we’ll share this world forever” (Kim Mumper); “Best gifts come from the heart, from which we never part” (Dena Schott). Before the 50 minute class had come to an end, “Joy of Giving- Merry Christmas To You” was ready to go. The original lyricists will sing their line, center stage, at our annual holiday production. Hi

Hopes will provide accompaniment on the drums, guitar and keyboards. We hope to fill the Plummer Auditorium with such inspiring and wonderful sounds of Christmas and showcase the talent, dedication and powerful spirit of the Hope University students.

Save the Date: Friday, December 18th, 7pm, at Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton.

Tickets are available through brownpapertickets.com, at the door or by calling Hope University at (714)778-4440.

Art and Music Lovers!

You are cordially invited to attend an exhibition opening and artist reception, followed by dinner with the Hi Hopes.

Art a process for life

An exhibition by adults with special needs

at APC Fine Arts and Graphics Gallery
1621 Cabrillo Avenue, Torrance CA 90501

FREE RECEPTION:

Sunday, November 15, 2009

2:00 – 6:00 pm

Dinner with the Hi Hopes at By Brazil

By Brazil is next door to gallery

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Pre-sale: \$35 / at the door: \$40

Exhibition: November 9 - December 19

Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9:00am – 5:00pm

Sat. 11:00am – 4:00pm



Papier maché sculptures of the Hi Hopes by Sharon Mauck will be on display.

An Open Letter to Marco, MLuM and all Hope University Friends

We had the pleasure of experiencing “Beau Monde Float, Thirteen Six Views of Sound Beauty”.

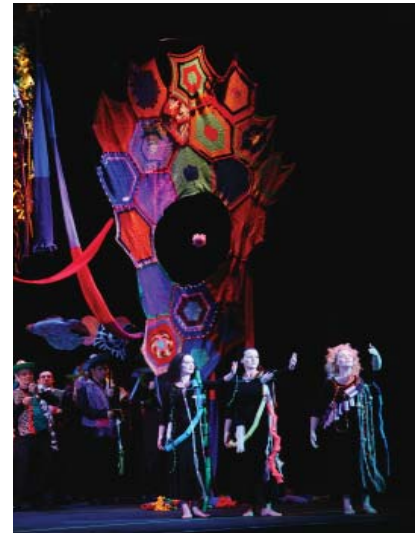
We had been looking forward to seeing this show and the glow on the faces of the performers was well worth the wait. They looked so excited and exuberant, they seemed to be expanding and growing right before our very eyes.

The opera was so wonderful to see and experience. I liked the way you made the audience a part of the performance. All the students at Hope U seemed to enjoy the production, from rehearsal through to opening night. I went backstage with them and saw how proud they were of making their own costumes and being part of something so wonderful.

When the curtain opened, joy and pride seemed to burst in my chest when I saw my sister, Joanna, in the spotlight. I’m so grateful to everyone who helped with this wonderful performance.

I have never experienced the pleasure and pride of being a parent and when my parents passed away, I became Joanna’s conservator. You gave me a sense of parental pride when I saw her perform so well that Saturday. You brought something out in all of us and I am very grateful.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,
Carolyn Smith Buon-Cristiani





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A Fine Arts Program For Adults With Developmental Disabilities

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We are building our email list. Please assist us by sending an email to:
h.university@att.net

Check out the Hope University blog to find out the latest about Hope U.
www.hopeuniversity.blogspot.com

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