Welcome to the TGS Newsletter, March 2016.

Here you will find information regarding TGS’s projects, events and news.

Our hope is to utilize our newsletter as a means of sharing our work with each other and with the faculty.

“I JUST AM COMMITTED WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO THEATRE WITH NO INTERMISSION.”

LADY GAGA

© Lifehack Quotes
**Amanda Boyle:**
Amanda Boyle directed a staged reading of a new play, *I'm Not Rick Springfield!*, on March 14th at the Midwest Dramatist Center in Kansas City. She also presented a paper, ‘Then and Now: Race and the Vietnam War,’ at MATC in Minneapolis. While at MATC, Amanda also served as Dramaturg for the Playwriting Symposium’s Dramatists Play Lab, and for Plays in Progress.

**Jenifer Cooper, Leah Mazur, Pamela Rodriguez Montero**
Scenography MFA students make up a significant part of the production team for Kansas Repertory Theatre 2016. Leah Mazur will design costumes and lighting for Angel Street, directed by Peter Zazzali, and Jenifer Cooper will stage manage. Pamela Rodriguez Montero will design costumes and lighting for Harvey, directed by John Rensenhouse. Audiences will be familiar with both plays from their film adaptations: Angel Street is the American title of Gaslight (1944 with Ingrid Bergman), and Harvey (1950) starred Jimmy Stewart and a six-foot-tall invisible rabbit. Production conferences begin this week, and performances run July 15-31.

**Gina Sandi Diaz:**
During winter break, Gina visited Nicaragua to research the cultural performance ‘El Güegüense‘ thanks to a Tinker Foundation Research Grant. This theatre/dance piece is a street performance that combines live music, theatrical dialogue, dance and elaborated masks and costumes to tell the story of a mestizo merchant able to foul Spanish authorities with his wit and cleverness. In 2005, the piece was declared a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. The ethnographic experience and the theoretical work developed during this experience is very important for Gina’s dissertation research in which she is studying mask performance traditions of Costa Rica. This semester, Gina is focusing on her dissertation and preparing for her fieldwork trip to Costa Rica during the summer. Also, on March 10th, the Latin American Graduate Student Organization celebrated the legacy of Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez. As part of the event, the short play ‘Balthazar’s Marvelous Afternoon’ was performed. The play is an adaptation written and directed by Gina and included Rachel Blackburn and Pamela Rodriguez as part of the cast.

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“**The difference between life and art is that art is more bearable.**” – **Charles Bukowski**