DEPARTMENT NEWS

ALUMNI GATHERING IN NEW YORK CITY TONIGHT
The UC San Diego Theatre Department of Theatre and Dance is having an alumni gathering at O'Lunneys, a Times Square pub (145 West 45th, 10036) tonight, 1/22. We'll be there from 7 - 10 pm and hope any New York alums can stop by. We'll get you a drink.

RAISIN IN THE SUN NEARS PREVIEWS
The UC San Diego Theatre Department of Theatre and Dance begins its Winter quarter with a production of Lorraine Hansberry's classic *A Raisin in the Sun* which begins performances on February 7th in the Weiss Theatre.

A classic of the American stage, *A Raisin in the Sun* follows Walter Younger and his family in Chicago, each feeling confined by their physical home space and the social roles they've been assigned. When an insurance payout after the death of the family's patriarch offers an opportunity to improve their lives, individual priorities and how they affect others come into question.

The Creative Team
Director – Kim Rubinstein
Scenic Designer – Anna Robinson
Costume Designer – Evan Kwong
Assistant Scenic Designer – Samuel Keamy-Minor
Production Stage Manager – Bryan Runion
Assistant Stage Manager – Amber Dettmers

The Cast
Walter Lee Younger – Michael Rishawn
Beneatha Younger – Amara Granderson
Lena Younger – Kimberly Monks
Ruth Younger – Janet Fiki
Joseph Asagai – Xavier Clark
George Murchison / Bobo – Sidney Hill
Mr. Karl Lindner – Andrew Gallop
Travis Younger – TBD
**BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA NAMED BEST OF 2017**

MFA Playwrighting student Anna Moench's new play *Birds of North America* was named one of the best plays of 2017 by Denver's Westword year in review. The play was produced at the 2017 Wagner New Play Festival and had it's professional premiere at the Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company last fall.

**ALUMNI NEWS**

**Launching Ships Performs Tonight in Virginia**

BA alumna Kirsten Brandt and MFA Dance alumna Janet Hayatshahi will be presenting *Launching Ships*, a work-in-progress tonight at Firehouse Theatre. Based loosely on the mythical journey of Helen of Troy, *Launching Ships* is a multi-media, interactive theatrical event examining beauty and objectification. The piece challenges preconceived notions of beauty, attraction, and women's roles in society.

One night only, tonight, Monday, January 22 @ 7:30pm. FREE - no reservations / arrive at Firehouse by 7:30pm / first come-first served, 1609 W Broad Street Richmond, VA 23220.
ENCORES! OFF-CENTER ANNOUNCES 2018 SEASON

MFA Directing alumnus Steven Cosson will direct the Civilians’ *Gone Missing* (July 11-12) in Encores! Off-Center’s season this summer in a show written and directed by Steve with music by the late Michael Friedman, a docu-musical about real people and their accounts of objects they have lost. MFA Directing alumna Anne Kauffman became co-artistic director of Encores! after Michael’s passing last summer.

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Have news to share? Send it to TandDNews@ucsd.edu and we'll pass it along for you. Photos are encouraged. Please be sure to let us know what year you graduated, if you’re an alum. If you’ve changed your name, be sure to tell us what it was when you attended UC. Miss a back edition? Visit the Newsletter Archives.

Sincerely,
UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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