Spotlight Western: You Are a Star!

So no hiding your light under that bushel. Come let your talent shine at Reunion 2011, June 17-19. Friday’s amateur night -- Showcase Western -- is the kickoff: Director Debbie McDuffie ’71 is looking for performers of all stripes, plus behind-the-scenes crew. Can you sing? dance? play the ukulele? twirl a baton? recite Poe’s “Raven”? Send your name, class year and act to mcduffie@arts4jax.com.

That’s just the beginning! Not only do we want your talents, we want your Western (and non-Western) stuff. A silent auction will be held Friday-Saturday and the WCAA needs donations. Got a chair or blazer with the WC crest? a condo at the beach? How ‘bout a theme basket for the pet lover, wine connoisseur, tea or coffee drinker, gardener, chocoholic, gourmet cook? Share your skill and offer a painting, sculpture, jewelry or quilt. Don’t have time to be creative or crafty? Let the recipient choose for herself -- give a gift card. No reasonable item will be refused. Contact the office with your offering. The sooner the better, so bidding can begin online.

Another special attraction: Sheila Curran, from the Western Program’s first class, the Class of ’78, will be on hand to discuss her well-received second novel, Everyone She Loved. Many Westerners have already enjoyed her warm and funny first novel, Diana Lively Is Falling Down.

Need we add: Flags will fly, marchers will parade, delicious food and drink will be consumed, prizes will be awarded, songs will be sung. And a 2011 Alumna Service Award winner will be named! (There is still time to submit your ASA nomination.) As always, ALL Westerners are invited to campus, where we’ll savor old friendships and memories, delight in making new.

Doing Us Proud

The awards just keep coming to Western’s extraordinary alumnae in the field of public service, whether they be volunteers (as in the case of Suzanne Kelley Doswell ’76) or professionals (like Molly Eggleston ’94). And in the literary world, our writers keep being published -- Hank Phillippi Ryan ’71 (she was Ann Sablosky at Western) has added Drive Time to her series of mystery novels. This fall, a novel excerpt by budding author Dan Pribble ’02 won the Ohioana society’s Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant.

Western 3.0

That’s what they’re calling the latest reincarnation of the Western Program, now a living-learning community at Peabody Hall, offering two courses of study: Individualized Studies major and Interdisciplinary Studies minor. For more information, a sample of the curriculum, or profiles of students, alumni and faculty: http://www.cas.muohio.edu/western/

Tea and Cookies

Whether it be an informal pause in the daily routine or a special occasion, what better setting for an afternoon tea than the Peabody parlor? And there was a different kind of matinee happening at Ernst ... two of the many things happening around the campus.

Lunch Break

Our scholarship students are invited to Patterson Place this time each year, to take a break from exams, enjoy lunch with each other and the staff, and receive goody bags to boost them through to semester’s end. Also with the WCAA, Peabody scholars join the Board of Trustees for lunch at both spring and fall meetings.

Attention, Shoppers!

Which is more exciting -- the stunning Western-themed merchandise or the mind-boggling bargain price tags? You decide! Visit our Gift Shop.

’Tis the Season for Giving

You can make it a Happy New Year for your WCAA with a generous contribution to the Annual Fund before year’s end. It’s easy: Just go to our secure giving webpage within the Miami website and make your gift online.

Western e-Round the World

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