

Platt Student Performing Arts House

Performing Arts!

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Welcome to PAC!

Hello, and welcome! This is the Performing Arts Council (PAC) Newsletter for incoming members of the Class of 2012 and other newcomers to student performing arts!

Here, you will find information about people in PAC you'll meet or want to meet during the coming year, people who've graduated and carry the life lessons learned as a student at Penn participating in Performing Arts, and everything from the beginning of auditions to final performances.

PAC is a kind of association of approximately 45 different student performing groups, and PAC groups get priority performance and rehearsal spaces among other benefits. If you're interested in acting, there are plenty of groups for you. If sketch or stand-up comedy is more your forte, you've got a home. Dance, A Cappella, and

Instrumental and Vocal music span genres and styles from Jazz to Hip-Hop to Classical and back again. Finally, if you prefer to stay behind the scenes, nearly **every group** needs someone like you to handle the technical aspects of their show.

Most groups perform one Solo performance and one collaboration every year, though some groups choose to do only a single show per year or two collaborative shows depending on their needs and requirements.

Each type of group is collected into a subcommittee with similar groups and each subcommittee elects a chair to serve on the PAC Executive Board, along with a Community Service Chair elected from the general body. These five student leaders manage inter-group communications, scheduling, recruitment, finances, and organize Performing Arts Nights

for Freshmen just after NSO and for families during Family Weekend. The Executive Board also manages PACster, an announcement e-mail list which includes information about auditions and technical interviews, upcoming PAC performances, internships in the arts, and much, much more!

This newsletter, to which you subscribed by indicating interest in the performing arts via Campus Express, represents the pre-freshman version of PACster. Older versions will be available on our website in case you sign up late! Enjoy, and welcome to Penn!



PACstArs: Jaime McCarthy, SMAC Chair

Jaime McCarthy '09 (left) has climbed the ladder to Chair PAC's most heterogeneous subcommittee.

Jaime McCarthy hails from Wyndmoor, PA, and is a Senior in the Jerome Fisher Management and Technology Program (M&T) majoring in Finance and Mechanical Engineering. In addition to serving on the Performing Arts Council Executive Board (PAC) and chairing the SMAC

subcommittee, Jamie also writes and performs in the cast of the Mask and Wig Club, Penn's all-male musical comedy troupe.

His main role on the PAC Exec Board is Community Coordinator, where his responsibilities focus on planning Freshman Performing Arts Night (FPAN), a sampling of all 40+ performing groups at Penn held during the first week of school, and Family Performing Arts Night

(FamPAN). Jamie also organizes community gatherings and social events, such as the annual PAC party **Bacchanal**.

Don't be intimidated by his tall stature, as he is generally pleasant, loves acronyms (LA), and wants to meet/say hello to you on Locust Walk!

Platt Student Performing Arts House

Student Performing Arts finally has a place to call home.

The Platt Student Performing Arts House, named for Marc E. Platt ('79) and Julie Beren Platt ('79), and made possible by their generous gift, is a program of the Division of University Life and home to the Performing Arts Council (PAC). It offers a wide range of performance-related opportunities to students at the University of Pennsylvania. Its programs and resources are available to all Penn students, and include: Technical and Production Support, Alumni Networking,

Community Engagement, Workshops and Master Classes, the Jane M. Wallace Award for Summer Theatre Internship, and the Stouffer College House Music Program.

The indelible mark Student Performing Arts has left on thousands of students since its inception has finally earned the recognition of the University at large, and the space is truly a blessing for every student group, as well as for the community at large. Platt House hosts many community service functions, including the After School Arts Program (ASAP).

Conveniently located at

37th and Spruce Streets, just outside of the Upper Quad Entrance, Platt House boasts a Dance Rehearsal Room, a Musical Theatre Rehearsal Room, three additional rehearsal spaces, as well as offices for the Director and Associate Director of SPA, for PAC Executive Board, and a multi-purpose office. In the main lobby, a Cabaret stage occupies the North wall, while computer stations and kitchenette round off what has become a home away from home for many students in PAC.

imPACT How did joining PAC shape your college experience?

Katie Heaberlin '09

Being in a performing arts group has really changed my college experience for the better. It's one of my favorite parts of Penn! I came to Penn not knowing anyone, and freshman year I met all my friends in the nursing school. It was great to know people from my classes but it wasn't a very diverse population of people.

Sophomore year I got into Quaker Notes, an all-female a cappella group. I quickly became friends with the girls in the group. It's great to now know people in all of the schools, with all sorts of different majors and backgrounds. It's also wonderful to do what I love, singing, in a supportive academic environment like Penn. You work super hard to prepare for your shows, but

everyone understands that school is a priority; they're students too! I'm now a senior in the nursing school, and the president of Quaker Notes, and I couldn't be happier with my performing arts experience. I'll be sad to say goodbye to PAC next year.

Katie Heaberlin, a Senior in the Nursing School, is President of Quakernotes. She has performed with the all-female a cappella group since her sophomore year.



Dick Wolf '69 on perfecting the "brand" of **Law and Order**: "[These shows] are marathon series. They're designed to run for unreasonable periods of time."

Alumni of the Week

Dick Wolf brings Order to the Law.

Dick Wolf '69 (left) made his life in film and television.

After graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, Dick Wolf launched a successful career in advertising; he wrote and produced over 100 TV commercials and penned the slogans "You can't beat Crest for fighting cavities" and "I'm Cheryl, Fly Me" for National Airlines. In 1985, Wolf joined NBC's **Hill Street Blues** team as an executive script consultant and stayed through the show's final

season, earning an Emmy Award for the episode "What are Friends For."

In 1988, Wolf formed his own television production company, Wolf Films. He continued to work in the mystery genre, producing installments of **Gideon Oliver**, with Louis Gossett Jr., and **Christine Cromwell**, with Jaclyn Smith, for ABC's weekly mystery movies. Wolf created, produced, and wrote a slew of primetime drama series: **Mann & Machine**, **H.E.L.P.**, **Crime & Punishment**, and of course, **Law & Order**, which has been nominated for nine Emmy awards and won one in 1997 for Best Drama Series.

In 1999 and 2001,

respectively, Wolf Films launched **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit** and **Law & Order: Criminal Intent**, highly successful "cousins" of the original **Law & Order** which focus on different types of crime. **SVU** focuses on sexually oriented crimes and their effects on the victims, and **Criminal Intent** emphasizes high-profile cases involving VIPs or government officials.

All three iterations of the **Law & Order** have received critical and popular acclaim, and collect awards and audiences.

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"Art should never try to be popular. The public should try to make itself artistic."

Oscar Wilde

PACronyms What are all these letters??

OSL: Office of Student Life

The Office of Student Life has responsibility for student activities and governance, University Life leadership programs, and campus-

wide special events such as Family Weekend, "No Place Like Penn" Weekend, Homecoming, Spring Fling, Hey Day and Ivy Day.

OSL oversees the finance of every student group, including the Performing

Arts Council. For PAC, OSL handles Ticketing and Locust Walk reservations for publicity, not to mention the everyday work involved in maintaining records of every student group on campus.

Next time...

Next time, PACster 2012 introduces Ellie Barr, Community Service Chair for PAC.

We'll meet the president of African Rhythms, one of Penn's cultural

performing groups.

Our Alumni of the Week section will introduce Harold Prince, Tony-winning Director and namesake of a PAC

performance space.

You'll also learn about the annual Performing Arts Career Symposium, hosted by Platt House.

Feedback!

Have a great idea for an article that you'd like to see or a topic YOU want to learn more about? Let us know!

We'd love to hear what you have to say! Contact us at pacexec@gmail.com and let us know how you feel about the PACster 2012 Newsletter!

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.dolphin.upenn.edu/pac/>