

At A theater Near You!

director cheri WALSH raises the bar for
brookLYN center for the performing Arts

When Cheri T. Walsh was growing up in Irvine, California, her mother enrolled the three-year-old in a creative movement class. "Which basically meant we ran around in circles to classical music," Walsh says.

At the end of the year, all the little girls put on tutus, gave a performance for their parents, and dutifully posed for photos. End of that tiny ballerina story.

Except, says Walsh, "I just never stopped."

She trained in classical ballet and went on to a full-fledged career in modern dance and musical theater, touring the United States and Europe.

Now the managing director of Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College, Walsh uses her first-hand knowledge of what it takes to put on a show to bring all manner of performing artists to the borough.

"I program from the gut," she says. "I'll see something, I'll love it, and I'll say, 'We must bring it to Brooklyn!'"

While Walsh enjoyed her career as a dancer, she knew she didn't want the long hours of training, frequent travel, and physical pain for little pay to go on for decades. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science instead, and had plans to attend law school. But then she took a trip to New York, expecting to go to a few auditions and possibly take a class, and "completely fell in love with the city." She also fell in love with Robert W. Walsh, now her husband and commissioner of the New York City

Department of Small Business Services.

The two live in Carroll Gardens with their three-year-old son, Liam.

Walsh joined the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts three years ago as director of development and was named managing director summer 2004. "We present things you can't see in Manhattan," she says of the center. "Our mission is to serve Brooklyn, and we remain mindful of its communities."

"Crossover audiences make us very special," Walsh says. The center has a range of programs to please everyone, from Klezmer bands and Chinese acrobats to Brazilian tango dancers and Russian ballet.

Walsh is eager to broaden the programming even further, perhaps one day having larger dance festivals and inviting artists to come for extended teaching residencies. "We want to be the cultural anchor for southern Brooklyn," she says.



Cats at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts, Sunday, May 21

BROOKLYN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Since 1954, the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College has presented dance, theater, music, opera, and family events that reflect the borough's many distinct communities. In recent years, attendance has topped more than 80,000 concertgoers annually. This number includes 37,000 schoolchildren from over 200 schools. Performances take place in the newly renovated 2,400-seat auditorium of Walt Whitman Hall.

A central goal of the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts is to introduce young people to new ideas and other cultures. More than 4,000 children and their family members attend the center's *FamilyFun* series.

Among the great performers to have graced the stage of Whitman Hall are Luciano Pavarotti, Isaac Stern, Gregory Hines, Ray Charles, Joan Sutherland, Tony Bennett, Les Ballets Africains, Isaac Hayes, Vladimir Horowitz, The Temptations, the National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica, José Greco, the Moiseyev Dance Company, and Itzhak Perlman.

This spring don't miss Bob Newhart, The Berenstain Bears, Lazer Vaudeville, and *Cats*, not to mention other assorted thrilling events. See the "Calendar" for details.

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE

Late at night? Heavy bags? Too far to walk?

The Office of Campus and Community Safety Services operates a free shuttle service around the perimeter of the campus and to nearby subway stations (the 2, 5, and Q). The van, marked "Brooklyn College," is driven by a safety services officer. Shuttle service is available Monday through Friday, 7:15 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 7:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. All residents who possess a Community Resident ID Pass may use the shuttle. For more information about the shuttle and its route, please call (718) 951-5511.

center for the performing arts

Brooklyn College is planning an extension of its Center for the Performing Arts. The new, architecturally distinguished building will house rehearsal and performance space, set design and construction workshops, a double-height theater, and a grand lobby and arcade for exhibitions as well as classrooms, and meeting and reception rooms. This pavilion for the performing arts will attract theorists and practicing artists, talented students, and accomplished faculty.

Brooklyn College alumni Leonard and Claire Tow have pledged an unprecedented matching gift of \$10 million to Brooklyn College for the new structure, the first building on campus to be financed through a public and private partnership.



WANT TO BECOME AN AMERICAN CITIZEN?

Bring your green card and stop by the Office of Student Affairs, 2113 Boylan Hall. Georgina García, ggarcia@brooklyn.cuny.edu, has a packet for you. It contains everything from an addressed mailing envelope and citizenship application to the *CUNY Citizenship and Naturalization Guide*. This booklet explains the entire naturalization process and contains step-by-step instructions for completing the application as well as lists of legal and other CUNY Citizenship and Immigration Program resources and clinics throughout New York City.

CONTINUING ED CLASSES OFFER FUN, NEW OPPORTUNITIES



Want to make a film? Take a spin on the dance floor? Learn English (ESL)? Figure out how to manage your home finances using Quickbooks on the computer?

Continuing Education at Brooklyn College offers a full range of programs for adults and children—for fun, to learn different skills, or even to help launch a new career. Here's just a sampling:

- **Hollywood Film Institute:**
Two-Day Film School, April 8 and 9 or June 10 and 11.
Tuition: \$389.

- **Defensive Driving**, May 20. Tuition: \$40.
- **High School Regents Examination Review Classes**, Math, April 25 to June 13. Chemistry, April 26 to June 14. Tuition: \$250 each.
- **Children's University/Young Persons' Academy**, Monday through Thursday, July 5 to August 10. Tuition: \$1,075, including materials.
- **MS Office Intensive Advanced Course**, April 5 to May 15. Tuition \$1,100, including materials.

For more information or to obtain a catalog, call (718) 951-4141 or stop by 1439 Ingersoll Hall.

GIVE BLOOD—SAVE FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS!

Each day more than 2,000 units of blood are used in the New York metropolitan area. All the blood used to treat accident victims and cancer and transplant patients comes from volunteer donors. Currently there is no artificial substitute.

Nine out of ten of us will need blood at some time in life, and someone in the U.S. needs a transfusion every four seconds. Patients in need of a transfusion would die if blood were not available.

It takes less than one half hour to donate one pint of blood. That pint could help save the lives of several people. Think how much you can do by being a donor!

There is a blood drive on campus from Tuesday, May 9, through Thursday, May 11. If you are between the ages of seventeen and seventy-five and in good health, you may donate blood. See the "Calendar" for details.

A WORLD-CLASS ACT!

Freshman Olga Karmansky of Seagate, Brooklyn, won the 2005 Pan American Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships all-around title in Vitória, Brazil, in November. Born in Tiraspol, Moldova, Olga moved to New York with her parents when she was three and started training in rhythmic gymnastics at age eight. She now trains about thirty hours a week at the Nova Gymnastics Center in Coney Island and is the top-ranked rhythmic gymnast in the United States. Olga enjoys being a Brooklyn College student and juggling academic and athletic challenges. She will compete in the Pacific Alliance Championships in Hawaii in April. In rhythmic gymnastics, athletes work with five different apparatuses—ball, hoop, rope, ribbon, and clubs—each requiring specific jumps, choreography, and skill. Rhythmic gymnastics has been an Olympic sport since 1984.



Saturday, March 25

Women's Softball. BC vs. York College. Doubleheader: Noon, Athletic Field.

An Evening with Bob Newhart. Bob Newhart's career includes decades of stand-up comedy, two long-running television series, and numerous movies. 8 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$20–\$40.

Tuesday, March 28

Men's Tennis. BC vs. Hunter College. 4 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Student Center Film Raps. *Carlito's Way.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Wednesday, March 29

Women's Softball. BC vs. College of St. Elizabeth. Doubleheader: 5 p.m., Athletic Field.

Thursday, March 30

Conservatory Faculty Recital Series. Lars Frandsen, guitar. 2 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall. \$5.

Student Center Film Raps. *Hide and Seek.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Friday, March 31

Conservatory Orchestra with the Brooklyn College Chorale. Haydn, *The Creation.* 7 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$5.

Saturday, April 1

Manding Jata. The fabled city of Timbuktu comes to life in a dance displaying strength, grace, and acrobatics. 8 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$15–\$30.

Sunday, April 2

Open House. For all prospective and accepted students (freshmen, transfers, and graduate). For information, call (718) 951-5001. 10 a.m., Student Center.

Berenstain Bears on Stage. Mama Bear, Papa Bear, Sister Bear, and Brother Bear will take children through classic adventures in this new musical storytelling event, conceived by Stan and Jan Berenstain. 2 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$10–\$20.

Monday, April 3

Men's Tennis. BC vs. SUNY Maritime College. 4 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Tuesday, April 4

Conservatory Faculty Recital Series. Douglas Hedwig, trumpet. 2 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall. \$5.

Women's Softball. BC vs. College of Staten Island. 6 p.m., Athletic Field.

Student Center Film Raps. *Two for the Money.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Wednesday, April 5

Music for Strings II. Conservatory of Music students present chamber works for strings. 5 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Thursday, April 6

Student Center Film Raps. *Happy Gilmore.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Friday, April 7

Women's Softball. BC vs. Lehman College. 4 p.m., Athletic Field.

Saturday, April 8

Prep Center Student Recital. 12:30 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Sunday, April 9

David Amram. David Amram and a group of ten other musicians demonstrate the dazzling variety of Jewish music. 2 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$25.

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs in the Student Center require a valid Brooklyn College ID or a Community Resident Pass for admission (see page 4). For tickets and information about events at Whitman Hall, Gershwin Theater, and the New Workshop Theater, call the box office, (718) 951-4500.

Monday, April 10

Men's Tennis. BC vs. SUNY Purchase. 5 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Brooklyn College String Project Spring Showcase. One hundred children, ages five and above, all pupils of BC Conservatory of Music students, perform. 7 p.m., Whitman Hall.

Tuesday, April 11

Brooklyn College Percussion Ensemble and the Royal Irish Academy of Music Percussion Ensemble. The seventh annual joint concert, under the direction of Morris Lang, Brian Willson, and Richard O'Donnell. 2 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$5.

Men's Tennis. BC vs. New York City Tech. 4 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Women's Softball. BC vs. Baruch College. 6 p.m., Athletic Field.

Student Center Film Raps. *The Dukes of Hazzard.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Saturday, April 15

Women's Softball. BC vs. Medgar Evers College. Doubleheader: Noon, Athletic Field.

Lazer Vaudeville. Vaudeville makes a triumphant and high-tech return, featuring black light with juggling, lasers with magic, audience participation with acrobatics and slapstick comedy. 1 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$8–\$15.

Friday, April 21

Men's Tennis. BC vs. York College. 3:30 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Saturday, April 22

Women's Softball. BC vs. New York City Tech. Doubleheader: Noon, Athletic Field.

Russian/American Kids Circus on Stage. One of the world's most exceptional children's circuses returns to Brooklyn for only one performance of high-wire balancing, unicycle riding, and improbable juggling. 1 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$10–\$20.

Sunday, April 23

Yiddishe Cup Klezmer Band. This group does neo-Borscht Belt klezmer comedy that will have you dancing with the shtickmeister! 2 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$25.

Tuesday, April 25

Women's Softball. BC vs. New York City Tech. Doubleheader: 5:30 p.m., Athletic Field.

Student Center Film Raps. *The Man.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Wednesday, April 26

Women's Softball. BC vs. John Jay College. 4 p.m., Athletic Field.

Thursday, April 27

Conservatory Student Chamber Music Recital II. 2 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Student Center Film Raps. *Presumed Innocent.* Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Thursday, April 27, to Sunday, April 30

***The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller.** The tale of a 1692 witch trial, which explores the timeless issues of intolerance, paranoia, and hysteria. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m.; Gershwin Theater. \$12.

Friday, April 28

Men's Tennis. BC vs. Lehman College. 4 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Saturday, April 29

Prep Center Faculty Recital. Victoria Freyburg, Nick Armstrong, Kalin Ivanov, Valerie Coates perform. 12:30 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Saturday, April 29, to Sunday, April 30

National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica. Directed by Professor Rex Nettleford, the company presents the New York premiere of Nettleford's *The King Must Die*, Arsenio Andrade's *Dimensions*, and Christopher Walker's *Urban Fissures*. Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m.; Whitman Hall. \$20–\$40.

Monday, May 1

ConTempo, directed by Tania León. Conservatory students perform contemporary works. 7 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall. \$5.

Monday, May 1, to Friday, May 5

Volunteer Days. Campus and neighborhood cleanup. Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs. For details, call (718) 951-5842.

Tuesday, May 2

Conservatory Guitar Ensemble, directed by Lars Frandsen. 5 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Student Center Film Raps. *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Wednesday, May 3

Men's Tennis. BC vs. St. Joseph's College. 4 p.m., Tennis Courts.

Thursday, May 4

Student Center Film Raps. *Enemy of the State*. Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

CATs Sunday, May 21, 2006, at 4 p.m.

Don't miss your chance to experience the twenty-fifth anniversary tour of Cats! With over 45,000 performances in twenty-six countries, what began with Andrew Lloyd Webber's purchase of a book of poems about cats became one of the longest running shows in Broadway's history. Winner of Best Musical and six other Tony awards, Cats features twenty of Lloyd Webber's timeless melodies, including the hit song Memory. And you thought cats had only nine lives!

Thursday, May 4, to Sunday, May 7

Pre-Thesis Festival. A festival of one-act plays by first-year M.F.A. directing candidates. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m.; New Workshop Theater: \$5.

Friday, May 5, to Sunday, May 7

The Crucible, by Arthur Miller. The tale of a 1692 witch trial, which explores the timeless issues of intolerance, paranoia, and hysteria. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m.; Gershwin Theater: \$12.

Friday, May 5, to Friday, June 2

M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition, Opening Reception. Brooklyn College M.F.A. in art students present their thesis works in a show, entitled *Plan B*. For gallery hours, call (718) 951-5572. Opening reception: Friday, May 5, 6 p.m. Brooklyn War Memorial, 195 Cadman Plaza West.

Saturday, May 6

Prep Center Student Recital. 12:30 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Monday, May 8

Composers Concert I. Conservatory composers present their new works. 7 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Tuesday, May 9

CUNY Wellness Festival. Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs. Noon, Quadrangle.

Brooklyn College Big Band Concert, directed by Salim Washington. The music of Thelonious Monk and other jazz masters. For groups of ten or more, please call (718) 951-5575. 5 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall. \$5.

Student Center Film Raps. *Desperado*. Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Tuesday, May 9, to Thursday, May 11

Blood Drive. Sponsored by the New York Methodist Hospital and the BC Office of Health Programs. For more information, call Lena Lopez, (718) 951-4505. Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Student Center.

Wednesday, May 10

Conservatory Brass Ensemble with the Brooklyn College Percussion Ensemble, directed by Douglas Hedwig and Morris Lang. 5 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall. \$5.

Thursday, May 11

Conservatory Orchestra, directed by Gene Rothman. The Conservatory Concerto Competition winner performs. 5 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$5.

Student Center Film Raps. *The Specialist*. Film and discussion. 6:30 p.m., Student Center.

Friday, May 12

Scenes from Great Operas. 7 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Monday, May 15

Composers Concert II. Conservatory composers present their new works. 7 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Tuesday, May 16

Conservatory Jazz Ensemble, directed by Salim Washington. 5 p.m., Levenson Recital Hall.

Wednesday, May 17

Conservatory Wind Ensemble, directed by Paul Corn. 7 p.m., Whitman Hall, \$5.

Sunday, May 21

Cats. The award-winning musical comes to Brooklyn. 4 p.m., Whitman Hall. \$20-\$45.

Tuesday, June 27

Open House. For transfer students. For more information, call (718) 951-5001. 3 to 7 p.m., Student Center.

Monday, July 24

Open House. For transfer students. For more information, call (718) 951-5001. 3 to 7 p.m., Student Center.

CLIP THIS COUPON AND BRING IT TO THE BROOKLYN CENTER BOX OFFICE FOR DISCOUNTED TICKETS.

**BROOKLYN
CENTER**
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Take 10% off* the regular ticket price of a Brooklyn Center performance.

*Offer excludes Berenstain Bears, Lazer Vaudeville, and Russian/American Kids Circus.

Limit: 6 tickets per coupon.

This coupon is good only for Brooklyn Center professional events.

Offer expires May 21, 2006.

COME ON CAMPUS!

LIBRARY CARD

There are two library membership levels available to our neighbors:

- **Access**—For \$50 per year, you may enjoy the reading rooms, books and materials, electronic databases, and the Internet.
- **Borrowing**—For \$75 per year, you may borrow books in addition to having access privileges.

Come to the library for a day to see if either of these options is right for you. You may obtain a free one-day library card for an exploratory visit. To request a one-day pass or for more information, call (718)951-5346 or (718)951-5335.

RECREATION PASS

Recreation passes are available to all students, staff, faculty, alumni, and community members. Facilities include tennis courts, a fitness center, and a basketball gym. Come to Brooklyn College for fun, fitness, and relaxation!

To check rates or pick up a schedule, stop by the Recreation Center, 125 Roosevelt Hall, or call (718)951-5366.

Note: Due to construction of the West Quad building, the Brooklyn College pool and racquetball courts are closed. We apologize for the inconvenience. The new building will house splendid athletic facilities, featuring a state-of-the-art fitness center and a competition-sized pool. We'll keep you posted!

COMMUNITY RESIDENT ID PASS

Brooklyn College welcomes you to explore and enjoy our campus. The College will issue a photo ID to residents of neighborhoods that border the campus. To obtain a pass you will need to provide proof of local residency—such as a utility bill—and photo identification. For more information, drop by the Office of Campus and Community Safety Services, 0202 Ingersoll Hall, or call (718)951-5511.

Tell us how Brooklyn College might be a better neighbor.

Send your suggestions to:

Brooklyn College Institutional Advancement
2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210
Call (718) 951-5391 or e-mail us at communitycomments@brooklyn.cuny.edu.

Let us know if you wish to be on our mailing list.