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### **SUU's *The Wizard of Oz* Strikes an International Chord**

(Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah) The SUU department of Theatre Arts and Dance will perform *The Wizard of Oz*, directed by Peter Sham, assisted by visiting artist Bixia Zhang. *The Wizard of Oz* will run April 9-11 & 16-18, 2009, in the SUU Auditorium Theatre. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$10 for the public, \$8 for SUU Faculty and Staff, \$5 for students/children and SUU Students attend free with a valid Student ID.

SUU is hosting Bixia Zhang from January to April as a collaborative learning project between an American university theatre department and Chinese university music theatre program. Ms. Zhang will assist Peter Sham, SUU Assistant Professor of Theatre, on the production *The Wizard of Oz*. She will be taking her newfound knowledge back to China with her to put to use at Hunan Normal University.

Ms. Zhang teaches vocal performance courses of bel canto and folk music at her alma-mater, Hunan Normal University in China. She studied vocal art theory at Hunan Normal University and is a singer in her own right. Ms. Zhang has won several awards for her performances in many Chinese competitions. Recently, Ms. Zhang won first prize performing a *Phantom of the Opera* solo at a concert at the Hunan Grand Theatre.

More information about the arts at SUU is available at 435-865-8800 or on our website at [www.suu.edu/arts](http://www.suu.edu/arts)

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### **ABOUT THE COLLEGE**

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of the departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, and a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespearean Festival, the performance group Acclamation, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. Over 550 students are majoring in 16 different degree areas in the arts. Both liberal arts B.A. and B.S. degrees are offered, as well four professional degrees: Bachelor of Music (B.M.); Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Studio Art, Graphic Design, and Arts Education; and the B.F.A. in Theatre. The College's Art and Design, Music, and Dance programs are nationally accredited. More than 60 full and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring students in their pursuit of a degree in the arts. The College regularly enrolls 1100 students each semester in over 195 classes on the SUU campus. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean 435-865-8561 or by e-mail at [cpvamktg@suu.edu](mailto:cpvamktg@suu.edu).