

WTAMU Theatre Program  
Granted NAST Accreditation

CANYON, Texas — After five years of rigorous review, the theatre program at West Texas A&M University has been granted accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). The WTAMU program is now one of 10 accredited programs in the state of Texas and the first accredited program in The Texas A&M University System.

NAST is the national accrediting agency for theatre and theatre-related disciplines. The agency sets the standards for both undergraduate and graduate programs and reviews the mission, curriculum, faculty and facilities of a program before granting accreditation.

Members of WTAMU’s theatre faculty began the process five years ago with an initial program review, a preliminary application to NAST, then a year later the process of writing a self-study. A 100-page document was compiled and an assessment was made to make sure the program complied with national standards. In the fall of 2012, an accreditation team visited campus and spent three days attending classes, watching performances and reviewing curriculum and syllabi. Throughout the process, recommendations were made, and the WTAMU theatre program followed through by making a few changes to its curriculum, altering or removing classes and hiring a sixth faculty member for musical theatre beginning in the fall of 2014.

“Being granted national accreditation is a tremendous accomplishment for us,” Royal Brantley, director of theatre, said. “It’s a wonderful feeling knowing that our peers, at the national level, view us with academic confidence and artistic respect.”

As an accredited program, WTAMU will provide annual reports and audits to NAST. An accreditation team will visit the WTAMU campus again in five years to review the program’s status and progress to make sure it is being maintained according to NAST standards.

“National accreditation will enhance the University’s reputation and better enable us to recruit high-quality theatre students,” Dr. Jessica Mallard, dean of the Sybil B. Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities, said.

WTAMU is one of 177 theatre programs across the country accredited by NAST. The 10 accredited programs in Texas are Baylor, Del Mar College, KD College Conservatory of Film and Dramatic Arts, Midwestern State, Southern Methodist University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas Tech University, University of Texas — Pan American, WTAMU and the University of Incarnate Word.

Dimmitt’s  
Citywide Garage  
Sale Is June 7

The Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce announces the annual citywide garage sale, set for Saturday, June 7, from 8-4.

This is the 27th year for the annual event, which traditionally has over 100 families’ participating.

Food vendors will be set up around the Courthouse Square.

For information, contact Chamber Director Karron Smith at 647-2524.

Live Minimally

To be happy, develop positive habits. One such habit is to live minimally.

Clutter has a way of sucking the energy right out of you and replacing it with feelings of chaos. Clutter is an often-unrecognized source of stress that prompts feelings of anxiety, frustration, distraction and even guilt, so give your home and office a clutter makeover, purging it of the excess papers, files, knick-knacks and other “stuff” that not only takes up space in your physical environment, but also in your mind.

**Vacation Bible School At First Baptist Church Is June 16-19**  
Karen Barnes, director of First Baptist Church’s Vacation Bible School, announces the dates for VBS are **June 16 - 19 from 5-7:30 p.m.**  
**It is for kids’ finishing Pre-K through fifth grade this week.**  
**“We are going to try evenings because most of the kids are going to summer school in the mornings,” said Barnes.**  
**The theme is "Gangway to Galilee."**

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**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Church of Christ

Bible Study.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship..... 11:00 a.m.

**Mt. Calvary Baptist Church**  
Garfield Griffin, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.

**El Sendero de la Cruz**  
Roger Velasquez, Pastor  
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Service.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Service..... 7:30 p.m.  
Friday Service.....7:30 p.m.

**King’s Blacksmith**  
**Ed Harris Lumber Co.**

Wisdom, Knowledge,  
Understanding

*And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.*

Isaiah 11:1

  
**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

**First Baptist Church**  
Kenny Lydick, interim pastor  
John Bocko, youth-music minister  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church**  
Wilbur Ormond, Pastor  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship..... 11:00 a.m.

**St. John’s Catholic Church**  
938-2936; Office Hours: Wed.& Fri.: 8:30-12  
Sunday Mass..... 10:00 a.m.  
Friday Mass..... 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday Mass..... 5:00 p.m.  
Sun. Faith Formation (Grades K-5)..... 9-10 a.m.  
Wed. Faith Formation.(Grades 6-12)..... 6-7 p.m.

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