


3-3-2017

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Recommended Citation

Davis, Sarah and News Bureau, Ouachita, "Ouachita seniors Aaden Jones and Kayla Walker to present musical theatre recital March 13" (2017). *Press Releases*. 355.
http://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/press_releases/355

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NEWS

For immediate release

Ouachita seniors Aaden Jones and Kayla Walker to present musical theatre recital March 13

By Sarah Davis

March 3, 2017

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. – Aaden Jones and Kayla Walker will present their senior musical theatre recital on Monday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. The recital, which will be in Ouachita Baptist University's McBeth Recital Hall in Mabee Fine Arts Center, is free and open to the public.

Aaden Jones is a senior musical theatre major from North Little Rock, Ark. He has been a finalist in the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition. Jones is the president of Ouachita Singers and is a member of Ouachita Sounds.

"This recital is kind of like my stamp of my time here at Ouachita. I have come, and I have learned and now it's just time to show that," Jones said. "I want to put on a good show, but I most importantly want everyone to have a great time. I am thankful for Ouachita and all it has done for me as a person and a performer."

Kayla Walker is a senior musical theatre major from North Little Rock, Ark. She is the vice president of Ouachita Singers and a member of Ouachita Sounds. Walker is the vice president of the Alpha Psi Omega national theatre honor society. She has been named a first place winner in upper musical theatre women for NATS state and regional competitions and best leading actress for 2015-2016.

"This is my last big thing to do before I graduate, and I get to do it with my best friend and brother," Walker said. "Ouachita has truly become my home. I've met amazing friends, grown in my talent and grown closer to God here. This place has really encouraged me and pushed me."

Jones and Walker will present several popular compositions from Broadway musicals including Martin Charnin and Charles Strouse's "Easy Street" from *Annie*, Lin-Manuel Miranda's "Dear Theodosia" and "That Would Be Enough" from *Hamilton the Musical* and Charlie Smalls' "Home" from *The Wiz*. Other featured songs include George Gershwin's "It Ain't Necessarily So" from *Porgy and Bess*; Steve Martin and Edie Brickell's "I Had a Vision" from *Bright Star*; Tom Eyer and Henry Krieger's "When I First Saw You" from *Dreamgirls*; Eric Idle, Neil Innes and John Du Prez's "Find Your Grail" from *Spamalot*; and Zina Goldrich and Marcy Heisler's "Alto's Lament" from *Reckless*. Dramatic presentations will include Act 1, Scene 7 of Craig Lucas' *Reckless*; Act 3, Scene 2 of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Act 2, Scene 3 of Donald Margulies' *Time Stands Still*; and Act 3, Scene 1 of Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.

John Alec Briggs, a lecturer of music at Ouachita, and Dr. Scott Holsclaw, professor of theatre arts, were the instructors for Jones, and Dr. Glenda Secrest, professor of music, and Drew Hampton, assistant professor of theatre arts, were the instructors for Walker. The accompanists will be Susan Monroe and Phyllis Walker. Hannah Hines, a junior musical theatre and mass communications double major from Russellville, Ark.; Mackenzie Holtzclaw, a junior musical theatre major from North Little Rock, Ark.; and Will Stotts, a senior musical theatre major from Jonesboro, Ark., will assist Jones and Walker in their musical performances.

For more information, contact Dr. Jon Secrest at secrestj@obu.edu or (870) 245-5134.

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PHOTOS OF JONES AND WALKER AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

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