



Administrative Report

K E A N U N I V E R S I T Y

A Record of Policy and Information on Events Published by the Office of Media & Publications

KEAN STUDENT WINS ASTA/NJ SOLO STRINGS COMPETITION

Alex Valencia of Ridgefield, N.J., has won the 2007 ASTA/NJ Solo Strings Competition in the Senior Division. Held at Kean University on November 4, the competition was coordinated by Christopher Kenniff, assistant professor at Kean and director of the Chamber Music Institute and Valencia's instructor. The guitarists performed anonymously for a panel of judges, including Brett Deubner, one-half of the Duo Fresco with Kenniff, Mary Ann Mumm, assistant director of ASTA/NJ Chamber Music Institute at Kean, and Brennan Sweet, concert artist in violin at Kean.

"By all accounts, Alex Valencia ran away with the prize," said Kenniff. "During his three years at Kean University, Alex has consistently aspired to the highest level of accomplishment in all of his music studies at Kean, especially with regard to his guitar playing and this award is well deserved." Kenniff noted that competitors in Valencia's division study at the Mannes Conservatory of Music, The Juilliard School and the College of New Jersey. Valencia will receive a cash prize of \$400, compete for the Grand Prize – overall winner across all four divisions of this competition – and will be featured in at least one winner's concert.

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The winner of the ASTA/NJ Solo Strings Competition Senior Division Alex Valencia with his guitar and instructor Concert Artist Christopher Kenniff

Student Soprano Meets Australian Tenor

Student Vocalist Receives Advice from Dion Molinas of The Ten Tenors



The audience just simply would not let The Ten Tenors leave the stage after their performance in the Wilkins Theatre on November 4. Standing ovations, outbursts of "bravo", three encores and receipt of 10 red roses – one for each – were evidence that everyone had an unforgettable Sunday afternoon in the company of the Australian musical export that has taken the United States audiences by storm. Perhaps, the experience was most memorable for Stephanie Chelston, a soprano voice student and an usher at the event for the Theatre Management and Programming Office. After the concert, all 10 Aussies mingled in the Wilkins Theatre lobby, signed programs and playbills and posed for photographs after what appeared to be an exhausting performance.

Dion Molinas, one of The Ten, took his time to explain to Chelston the act of preparation. "You must keep practicing and practicing over and over again – in particular your breathing – until you know your material by heart so you don't have to focus as much on the 'little stuff' when you perform for an audience," Molinas said. All 10 spent about 30 minutes with their fans before Molinas said it was time to go. "We're going to Alabama next; that's 16 hours on the bus!" Curiously, Molinas

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Soprano Stephanie Chelston met tenor Dion Molinas in the Wilkins Theatre lobby after the concert with Australian group, The Ten Tenors.

Faculty Senate Meeting

The Kean Faculty Senate will hold an executive-committee meeting on Tuesday, November 20, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Center for Academic Success, Room 308. For further information, please call Gloria Duff 7-4235.

Frederick Douglass from Slavery to Freedom

During the month of November, the Nancy Thompson Library is hosting the *Frederick Douglass from Slavery to Freedom: the Journey to New York City* traveling exhibition, a national touring exhibition from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. The exhibition traces Frederick Douglass' life under slavery and his daring escape to freedom in 1838. It highlights the role of literacy in enabling Douglass to resist bondage and, once free, to champion civil rights for all Americans.

Based largely on materials drawn from the Gilder Lehrman Collection, the Frederick Douglass exhibition of interpretive and educational material uses images, broadsides and letters to explore the early life of Douglass. It explores the theme of slavery and abolition in 19th century America through the life of one of the most famous men in 19th century America. Among the highlights of the exhibit are: a broadside, entitled *Slave Market of America* from the American Anti-Slavery Society, excerpts and quotes from Douglass' autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: an American Slave*, and a letter from Douglass to Hugh Auld, his former owner.

Please call the University Librarian's office at 7-4600 if you have any questions about the Douglass exhibition.

Administrative Report

The deadline for the *Administrative Report* is Friday at noon for publication one week from the following Monday. Please e-mail your information to news@kean.edu.

MRSA Awareness

Kean University wants students, faculty and employees to be aware of the most up-to-date information related to MRSA. There are no reported cases at Kean University. However, everyone is encouraged to be educated on the topic.

MRSA

(Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*)

What is it?

A difficult-to-treat staph infection, usually contracted in health-care settings, but also in places where people congregate, such as schools, gymnasiums and locker rooms.

How is it spread?

MRSA is usually transmitted by direct skin-to-skin contact or contact with shared items or surfaces that have come into contact with someone else's infection (towels, used bandages, etc.)

What are the signs and symptoms?

People may notice red bumps or an abscess or boil on the skin. The area may feel warm and tender. The site may be red, irritated and swollen. Other symptoms can include fever, chills and headaches.

Can it be treated?

Yes, but doctors must differentiate between simple staph infections and staph infections resistant to standard treatments and use the correct antibiotics. Any patient on antibiotics should use all the medication, since antibiotics first kill weak bacteria, leaving the strongest to multiply.

How can it be prevented?

Avoid sharing personal items and practice good hygiene, such as keeping hands clean by washing with soap or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Any break in the skin should be properly cleaned, treated with a topical antibiotic cream and then covered.

What should you do if you think you have this infection?

Contact the Office of Health Services in Downs Hall, Room 126, or your private physician.

For more information, please visit the Web site www.state.nj.us/health.

WebCT: Tests and Quizzes Workshop

As part of the 21st Century Learning and Teaching series, Dr. Michael Searson, executive director of the Center for External Education and Development, and Mohammad Rahman, professional services specialist in the Office of Information and Computer Services, will present a lecture, entitled *WebCT: Tests and Quizzes*, on Monday, November 19, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Hennings Hall, Room 320. Searson and Rahman will explain how to use WebCT to offer, grade and post results of quizzes and tests. They will also address the issues and techniques related to appropriate testing procedures in an online environment. For further information, contact the center at 7-3869 or via e-mail at cie@kean.edu.

DR. PAUL CROFT...

Title: Assistant Professor
Department of Geology
and Meteorology

Hometown: Fair Haven, N.J.

Place of birth: Red Bank, N.J.

Family: Wife Kathleen and Kids
Erin, Maureen and Jack

Q&A

How did your childhood contribute to what you do now?

I have always enjoyed the outdoors whether playing in the fall leaves on a windy day, running or walking along the beach in the summer or winter watching the waves hit the sand, basking in the winter sun while lying in the sun, or not wanting to come inside the house out of the rain or snow. It was at an early age that I wondered why the weather could become so violent and how it happened. In the second grade my father and elder brothers and sisters went on a Red Cross relief mission to help flooding victims in Pennsylvania following a hurricane. This led me to begin reading about the weather. By the fourth grade I was making my own weather instruments, tracking the weather, and even providing forecasts to my family and writing an almanac. Giving weather reports to fellow classmates and others began in the sixth grade and continued through high school. At that time I also provided weather information to the local newspaper, particularly when stormy weather was occurring or had passed, and made weather presentations to the general public through the county library system.

Please tell me about your Kean experience.

It has been an enjoyable and very rewarding time to work with so many students and faculty from such diverse backgrounds. Everyone brings new and varying perspectives to the table and these have bearing on any problem, issue, or initiative that is under consideration. The staff interaction is also valuable in that you are working on a professional level which incorporates the principles of service and business – and these are important to students as well. It is a pleasure to meet friends from all around campus after only a short walk between buildings.

You might be surprised to learn this about me ...

I'm the last of eight children, and when I was very young it was thought that I might be autistic. Our family lived in the south (Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana) for about 10 years. I like to prepare brunch (eggs, pancakes and more) and home-made cookies when time permits.

Of which accomplishment are you the most proud?

Student achievements based upon the research work, professional experiences, and classroom activities that lead to presentations and publications. These are the fruits of our labor on campus and are evidence that we have had an impact on their lives. The joy of mentoring is seeing the fruits of the struggle.

If you could have dinner with anyone – deceased or alive – who would it be?

My wife (and the dog).

If your TV is broken and you could pick only one channel, which would it be?

EWTN – so that I could be in touch with the lives of all peoples of the world – virtually.

“Always remember to work with people as you would like them to work with you to ensure that the work will get done – and that it will be done well.”

DR. PAUL CROFT



What hobbies do you have?

Gardening, long walks/hikes, playing with the family dog, and playing baseball.

If you had to pick song lyrics to live by, which would they be?

“But we decide which is right, and which is an illusion” and “Love Reign Over Me”

What are your favorite books?

Charlie Brown & Snoopy, *Calvin & Hobbes*, *Crime and Punishment* (Dostoyevsky), and *Soliloquies* (Augustine)

What is your favorite movie?

It's a Wonderful Life and the *Star Wars* series.

If you had a million dollars, what would you do with it?

Pay for my kids to go to college and then travel the world to meet peoples, witness their culture, and examine the local weather and climate conditions.

What do you think you'd be doing if Kean hadn't worked out for you?

I would probably be in a farming community in South America helping those in need of education or simply working at the Jersey Shore at a retreat house to help guide people in their quest for understanding of themselves and this world.

What is your personal philosophy?

It's about the people, not the work. Always remember to work with people as you would like them to work with you to ensure that the work will get done – and that it will be done well.

Bringing Together Theory and Practice



(right to left) Dr. Kemal Gürsoy; Mr. Joseph Paperman, conference chair; Dr. Alfred Ntoko, dean of the College of Business and Public Administration; Dr. Bin Zhou, new faculty in the Department of Management; Mike Kim; Dr. Jie Yang, another new faculty in the management department; and students Caitlin Slemmer, James Larkins and Nicole Cignarella, at this year's Ott Quality Conference.

Kean's management education program stepped outside of the classroom on October 5, as faculty and nearly a dozen students from the College of Business and Public Administration (CBPA) attended the 59th annual Ott Quality Conference held at Rutgers University, Newark. "The conference provides an excellent opportunity for our students to link classroom materials with real business, preparing them for their future careers," said Dr. Bin Zhou, assistant professor in the Department of Management and organizer of the event.

As one of the nation's oldest annual conferences on Quality Management and Control, the Ott Conference is dedicated to providing novice and seasoned practitioners, quality managers, project management professionals, business leaders, and students with useful and updated information that will help to

improve their knowledge and professional development. Key speakers of this year's conference included Howard Roberts, president of New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and Mike Wilke, COO of PB's Americas. Among the topics presented were six sigma, quality auditing, project management, quality basics and organizational development.

Each year, the conference presents an effective means for organizations from both industry and academia to bring theoretical and practical information to the business community as well as to aspiring professionals. "I saw ties between classes I had previously taken throughout my college career and witnessed how they are applied in the 'real world,'" said James Larkins, a senior student of CBPA who attended the conference. "In attending this meeting, I learned more than I expected."

ASTA/NJ SOLO STRINGS COMPETITION

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Valencia performed Johann Kaspar Mertz' arrangement of a Schubert *lied Aufenthalt* and a contemporary work by Bryan Johanson, *Variations on a Finnish Folksong*. "These pieces are technically and musically demanding; quite a bold audition choice, actually," Kenniff noted.

Valencia came to the United States from Colombia in 2001. He first picked up the guitar when he was 13. "The guitar is a very popular instrument in Colombia," he said. "Later, I went to a military school, and to get out of exercising, I joined the school's choir and accompanied it on the guitar. Then I was accepted to the School of Arts in 1999 and received formal training there. In the U.S., I began studying at the Calderon School in East Hanover, N.J. Ms. Kathleen Calderon is a teacher here at Kean, and she recommended Kean to me. I anticipate graduating in 2009." Receiving the first-place nod in the competition "feels very rewarding," Valencia said. "It is

evidence that all the hard work has paid off." The prize money of \$400 will be spent on a new guitar.

"Alex is a truly outstanding student in every respect: academics; dedication to the practice, performance and study of music and related disciplines such as music history, theory, composition; and student leadership. On a personal level, Alex is honest, respectful and a pleasure to work with. It is very gratifying to see Alex win this competition, which is such a marvelous reward for his years of excellent effort," Kenniff said.

A private student of Kenniff's, Ariel Davis, won an honorable mention in the Early Bird Division (ages 9-11).

"The ASTA/NJ Solo Competition is a major event in the state," Kenniff said. "It draws many applicants from New Jersey and other states. The competition was conducted anonymously; the jury knew contestants only by number. Generally, this competition draws the top players in the state."



The Twenty-First Annual Celebration of Africana Studies at Kean

The Office of Africana Studies invites all to attend a series of programs in celebration of the founding of Africana Studies at Kean from Monday, November 12, to Thursday, November 15. All events are free, and faculty members are encouraged to bring their classes.

Students would receive co-curricular credit for attending. For more information, contact the Office of Africana Studies at 7-3915.

The following program explores the theme of *Celebrating African Cultural Connections: The Caribbean*

Monday, November 12

The Africans of Cuba

10 a.m. to noon, University Center, Room 228

Lecture by Dr. Orlando Edreira, professor of the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures

A film showing/discussion about the origins of black hair, entitled, *400 years without a comb* by Willie Morrow, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., University Center, Room 228

PASU/C.B.P Student Meet & Greet, 3:30 p.m., University Center, Room 228. Light Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, November 13

Poetry performance by Ras Fikre, entitled *From Marcus Garvey to Mikey Smith: Word sounds have power*, 10 a.m. to noon, University Center, Room 228

Lecture by Dr. Rodney Shabazz, *The Rise of Downpression & ReAscension of Roots Reggae*, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., University Center, Room 228

Wednesday, November 14

Lecture by the Honorable Dr. Harold Robertson, entitled *Slavery in Trinidad & Tobago*, 10 a.m. to noon, University Center, Room 228

Musical Performance by Freddie Harris called, *The Music of the Steel Pans*, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., University Center, Room 228

Thursday, November 15

Lecture by professor Norris Hobbins, entitled *The Jamaican Experience*, 10 a.m. to noon, University Center, Room 228

Lecture by professor Gloria Hobbins entitled *The Grenada Experience*, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., University Center, Room 228

KEAN STAGE



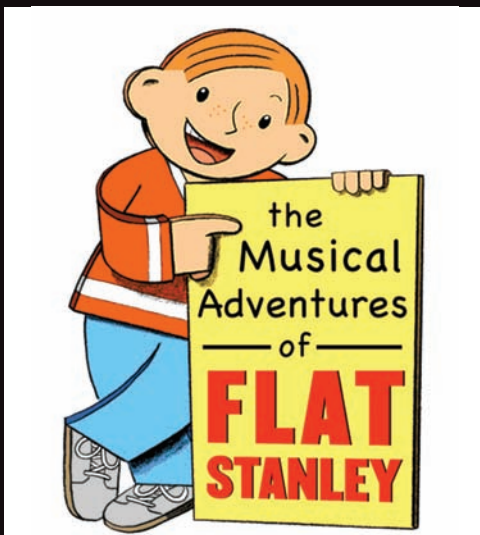
Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia presents
**LEO LIONNI'S SWIMMY,
FREDERICK AND INCH BY INCH**

November 29, 2007 at 7 p.m.
Wilkins Theatre



New Jersey Dance Theatre
Ensemble presents
THE NUTCRACKER

December 1, at 2 and 7 p.m.
December 2, at 2 p.m.
Wilkins Theatre



**THE MUSICAL ADVENTURES
OF FLAT STANLEY**

December 7, at 7 p.m.
Wilkins Theatre

PERFORMANCE: JAZZ HAPPENING

Monday, November 19, at 8 p.m.
Wilkins Theatre

DEBORAH DWORK LECTURE

November 26, at 7:50 p.m.
Wilkins Theatre

NESSE GODIN STUDENT LECTURE

November 27, at 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Wilkins Theatre

**INFORMANCE: NEW WORKS AND
RECENT DISCOVERIES**

December 2, at 3 p.m.
Kean Hall

Buy tickets online at www.keanstage.com or call Kean Stage at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

Sopranos Sing as Part of Master Class Performance

Six of the best student soprano vocalists of the Department of Music demonstrated that they are serious about their zest for music when they gave it their all for Dr. Patti Peterson, chair of the Voice Division of the University of Colorado at Boulder. Dr. Anthony Scelba, chair of the Department of Music, invited Peterson to give a master class on October 29 in Kean Hall. Students Christine Danelson, Carol Cuneo, Leo Campos, Kelly Bennett, Stephanie Chelston and Michael Conway each picked a piece of music that they performed accompanied by Lois Anderson on piano before an audience of 50 fellow students, family and faculty.

Peterson listened to each student's selection and then helped with improving his or her technique such as breathing, vowel production and relaxation of the larynx in order to produce the best sound. "The high note should bloom – open up – like a flower," Peterson said, asking, "What are you thinking about when you're singing this song? The imagery of the lyrics should be projected in your posture." She demonstrated her hands-on teaching style by loosening up the students' jaw to release tension, and checking that the soft palate in the back of the mouth was raised by producing snoring sounds. She pointed out "breathiness" and suggested that health issues such as allergies might be the cause. She praised each singer for his or her abilities and said, "The hardest part now is living up to your potential."

Peterson is a soprano whose background includes study in piano, voice, vocal pedagogy, and movement. She



Standing (l-r) Carol Cuneo, Christine Danelson, Stephanie Chelston, Michael Conway, and Leo Campos. Seated (l-r) Dr. Anthony Scelba, chair of the Department of Music, Dr. Patti Peterson, chair of the Voice Division of the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Lois Anderson, pianist

received a Bachelor of Music degree in piano from Salem College and Master and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in voice from the University of Colorado in Boulder. Much of her D.M.A. work involved the performance, translation and study of the songs of Edvard Grieg. She studied voice with Barbara Doscher and Joan Jacobowsky and coached with Gerhard Hüscher, Martin Katz, Martin Isepp, Dalton Baldwin, and Gerard Souza. She has studied modern dance and the Feldenkrais and Alexander movement systems.

Peterson has sung recitals and oratorio throughout the United States and in Germany, often collaborating with dancers and actors in contemporary works. She has given master classes at many colleges in the U.S. and was invited to work with students at the Hochschule für Musik "Hanns Eisler" in Berlin on two occasions. She has made presentations to the College of Music Society, as well as the National Association of Teachers of Singing, which recently published an article by her in the prestigious *Journal of Voice*.

TEN TENORS TAKE TO THE ROAD

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began his musical career playing one of the Von Trapp children in the Australian adaptation of *The Sound of Music*.

The concert opened with *Here's to the Heroes*, the title of their 2006 CD, followed by *Les Coristes*, the Queen standard *Who Wants to Live Forever?*, *Buongiorno Principessa*, *Gladiator Suite: Now We Are Free*, and a Bee Gees medley that had everybody dancing in their seats. *I Still Call Australia Home* sung in perfect harmony ended the program.

The Ten Tenors have a strong live touring profile in Europe, Canada and the United States and a burgeoning recording career. The group performs a diverse repertoire in concert and on their albums. The members are Steven Sowden, Shannon Brown, Drew Graham, Craig Hendry, David Kidd, Liam McLachlan, Dion Molinas, Stewart Morris, Jeff Teale, and Jason Short. For more information, please visit www.thetenors.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND SPORTS

Monday, November 12

Veterans Day Celebration. University is open. Classes held.

The Department of Music will present *The Music Circle* at 7:30 p.m. in Wilkins Theatre. Admission is free. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

Murray Dropkin and Jim Halpin, best selling authors of the *Budget Building Book for Nonprofits*, will present a workshop on budgeting for nonprofits from 9:30 a.m. to noon in Kean Hall. A \$75 registration fee includes a copy of the soon-to-be released second edition of the book, valued at \$45. For further information or to register, please visit the institute's Web site at www.njnon-profit-institute.org or contact Dr. Irwin Nesoff at 7-4044.

The Department of English will host a memorial lecture in honor of the **late Professor Emeritus Stephen J. Haselton** at 3:30 p.m. in CAS, Room 106. For more information, please contact Dr. Ruth Griffith at 7-0387 or via e-mail at rgriffit@kean.edu.

As part of the 21st Century Learning and Teaching series, Luis Rodriguez, librarian in the Nancy Thompson Library, will present a workshop, entitled *Copyright and Fair Use in the 21st Century*, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Hennings Hall, Room 320. For further information, contact the center at 7-3869 or via e-mail at cie@kean.edu.

Tuesday, November 13

The **Faculty Senate** will hold a full-senate meeting from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the University Center, Room 226 A and B. For further information, please call Gloria Duff 7-4235.

Wednesday, November 14

As part of GIS Day, Dr. John Dobosiewicz, assistant professor in the Department of Geology and Meteorology specializing in Graphic Information Systems (GIS), will present a **GIS workshop** from 9:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. in the Science Building, Room 338. To RSVP, please contact Dr. Feng Qi by November 12 at 7-3668 or at fqi@kean.edu.

The **Quality First Initiative Series** continues as the **Institute of Urban Ecosystem Studies** hosts a lecture by Dr. Lora Billings, professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montclair State University, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. in Hennings Hall, Room 113. For additional information, please contact the Institute of Ecosystems Studies at 7-3613, or visit the institute, located in Bruce Hall, Room 101A.

As part of the 21st Century Learning and Teaching series, Dr. Michael Searson, executive director of the Center for External Education and Development, and Mohammad Rahman, professional services specialist in the Office of Information and Computer Services, will present a workshop, entitled *WebCT: Communication Tools*, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Hennings Hall, Room 320. For further information, contact the center at 7-3869 or via e-mail at cie@kean.edu.

A Department of Theatre production of *Othello* will be presented at 5 p.m. in the University Center Little Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for faculty, staff, seniors and alumni; and \$10 for students and children. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

Thursday, November 15

An **On School Time** production of *Othello* will be presented at 10 a.m. in the University Center Little Theatre. For ages 9 to 12. Tickets are \$8 for children and parents; and free for teachers, teacher's aides and nurses. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

As part of GIS Day, Dr. Feng Qi, an assistant professor specializing in Graphic Information Systems (GIS), will present a **GIS workshop** from 2 p.m. to 3:20 p.m. in the Science Building, Room 338. To RSVP, please contact Qi by November 12 at 7-3668 or at fqi@kean.edu.

A Department of Theatre production of *Othello* will be presented at 8 p.m. in the University Center Little Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for faculty, staff, seniors and alumni; and \$10 for students and children. For further information or to purchase tickets,

please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

Friday, November 16

Legendary saxophonist **Branford Marsalis** will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Wilkins Theatre. Tickets are \$30 for faculty, staff, seniors and alumni; and \$20 for students and children. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

A Department of Theatre production of *Othello* will be presented at 8 p.m. in the University Center Little Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for faculty, staff, seniors and alumni; and \$10 for students and children. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, November 17

A Department of Theatre production of *Othello* will be presented at 8 p.m. in the University Center Little Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for faculty, staff, seniors and alumni; and \$10 for students and children. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, November 18

The Lakota Sioux Indian Dance Theatre will perform at 3 p.m. in Wilkins Theatre. Tickets are \$20 for faculty, staff, seniors and alumni; and \$15 for students and children. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call the Kean Stage Box Office at 908-737-SHOW (7469).

The **Concert Choir and Chorale**, under the direction of Dr. Mark Terenzi, will perform Vivaldi's *Gloria*, additional seasonal pieces and a capella works, accompanied by the Kean Chamber Orchestra and with student soloists, at 3 p.m. in Cranford United Methodist Church, 201 Lincoln Avenue, Cranford, N.J.

Fr. Thomas Blind, campus minister, will celebrate **Catholic Mass** at 6 p.m. in the University Center Pre-Function Lobby. For further information, please call the Campus Ministry at 7-4835.