

# WASHRA

through performance.

## WSHRA

*Awareness through Performance* is a production created by UW-L students that brings together both upbeat and serious scenes which encourage audience members to acknowledge the dignity and worth of all people. Through creative and artistic messages, the audience is provided with the tools necessary to further engage in dialogue and take action to educate others about the topics discussed.

Friday, Nov. 16  
9:15 P.M.  
Kalahari Resort &  
Conference Center

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN  
LA CROSSE

# HOW IT ALL STARTED...

*Awareness through Performance* (ATP) first debuted on the UW-L campus in the spring of 2005. With its essence largely rooted in the concept of performance studies, where the message is placed above the delivery, ATP exists as an alternative outlet for social activism on campus. Currently, the Research and Resource Center for Campus Climate supports the development and delivery of three performances during the academic year on the UW-L campus.

The ATP Troupe is comprised of students who share a passion for diversity and social justice issues and desire to further explore the dynamics of how these issues shape our world. Because of their commitment to gaining a greater understanding of the institutional oppressions and "isms" that affect all members of our community, these students come together to dialogue, research, reflect, write, and eventually perform real life experiences that touch on topics of racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, classism, heterosexism, gender expression and identity, privilege, hate, cultural differences, and more. Using the stage as their forum for educating, the performers creatively explore, examine and dissect issues that are present in today's society.

It is hoped that by watching these performances, audience members will increase their cross-cultural awareness, embrace a journey towards greater understanding, and become committed to tearing down the barriers in order to create inclusive communities. The performance is designed to begin or, for some, continue the dialogue about difficult social issues even after the performance concludes.

ATP is indeed changing the world... one performance at a time.

To learn more, please visit [www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate/atp](http://www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate/atp).

## \*HISTORY OF STEP

The roots of the "STEPPING" dance dates as far back as the ancestral tribes of Africa.

It has been written that rival tribes would settle disputes by challenging each other to dance. However, "STEPPING" was probably most heavily influenced by an African American dance called Juba. The Juba Dance came from Africa to the West Indies via the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. Juba eventually made it to the United States where it evolved into a rhythmic stomping, patting, and tapping of the body dance style.

During Slavery, Juba was more commonly known as Hambone. At the turn of the nineteenth century, an African American founded fraternity-Alpha Phi Alpha- would sophisticate the Hambone Dance by adding synchronized chanting and beats from the hands and feet. This unified rhythm sport is what we now call "STEPPING."

The roots of "STEPPING" are also heavily connected and influenced by African American college students and Greek organizations. "STEPPING" is practiced at almost every college campus where Black Greek-Letter organizations are represented. This art form allows fraternities and sororities a way of building a deeper and closer bond with each other across different college campuses in the nation, as well as provide an opportunity to connect with common history.

Today youth and adult organizations across America embrace this art form because of how it unifies people through rhythm and dialogue.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO INTEGRATE ATP INTO YOUR SCHOOL...

Contact Beth Hartung ([hartung.beth@uwlax.edu](mailto:hartung.beth@uwlax.edu))  
or Amanda Goodenough ([goodenou.aman@uwlax.edu](mailto:goodenou.aman@uwlax.edu))  
or call the UW-L Research and Resource Center  
for Campus Climate (608) 785-5094,  
[www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate](http://www.uwlax.edu/campusclimate).

# AWARENESS

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WSHRA

## PERFORMERS

Vanessa Armstrong | Ben Cooney  
Chris "Tofer" Femal | Angel Granger | Jill Hayes  
Ramani Kutty | Natasha Musalem-Perez  
Stephanie Souvenir | Jessi Witkins

## ADVISORS

Beth Hartung | Amanda Goodenough

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### AWARENESS IS A STEP\*

Produced & Directed by: Chelsee Flo • [All Cast]

### MIDWESTERN YOUNG ADULT SLANG POCKET THESAURUS (MWYASPT)

Written by: Vanessa Armstrong, Angel Granger, Stephanie Souvenir,  
Janelli Valdez • [Stephanie, Angel, Naty, Tofer]

### SAME BUT DIFFERENT

Written by: Mao Cheng • [Jill, Ramani]

### CLOSET REDHEAD

Written by: Bug Woodworth & Molly Censky • [Jessi, Jill]

### SACRED

Written by: Jessi Witkins, Mao Cheng, Natasha Musalem-Perez,  
Angel Granger • Slideshow Produced by: Terrence Rowe  
[Angel, Naty, Jessi]

### IMAGINE A CLASSROOM: LGBTQQA

Written by: Carolyn Olson, Chelsea O'Neil, & Beth Hartung • [All Cast]

### BULLETS & WINDCHIMES

Written by: Andrea Gibson [Jill]

### HALL OF PAIN

Written by: Beth Hartung, Jill Hayes & Amanda Goodenough  
[All Cast]

### DEFINITION OF MANHOOD

Written by: Tofer Femal • [Tofer]

### REMEDY

Inspired by: Saturday Night Live • Produced by: Vanessa Armstrong &  
Melissa Hill [Vanessa, Stephanie, Naty, Angel, Ben, Jessi, Tofer]

### EVOLUTION

Written by: Andrea Gibson [Ben]

### THIS IS OUR INVITATION

Produced by: Satoshi Toyosaki, Beth Hartung, Andrew Gilbert  
[All Cast]

\*See left for background information

## MUSICAL SELECTIONS

"Apologize" by One Republic  
"If You Were Gay" from the Broadway Musical, Avenue Q  
"How Can You Mend a Broken Heart" by The Beegees

## IMAGES

Courtesy of The British Library, <http://www.bl.uk>

- Retrieved August 20, 2006 from <http://www.strangepersons.com/images/content/4906.jpg>
- Retrieved August 20, 2006 from <http://www.pathumphries.com/peace>
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