

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

School of Music, Theatre and Dance



APRIL 2018 – Volume 58

News and updates from the School of Music, Theatre and Dance

Information on upcoming performances on the [SMTD homepage](#)

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Working in the Arts: SMTD Alumni News, April 2018





Luciana Piazza (BFA '15) and **Amanda Rae Evans** (BFA '14) recently completed a successful run in *Seussical the Musical* at the Riverbank Theatre in Marine City. Piazza was one of The Bird Girls and Amanda, “who commands such energy and grace throughout the show” (Encore Michigan) was Mayzie LaBird. Next up — Piazza is starting rehearsals for *Big Fish* at The Encore Musical Theatre Company in Dexter. The show runs from April 26-May 20.

[Read more](#)

Music, Theatre and Dance News: April 2018



The School of Music, Theatre and Dance presented ***Hands on a Hardbody***, an all-American musical, from March 28 through April 7 in the Varner Studio Theatre in Varner Hall. Based on true events and a 1997 documentary of the same name, *Hands on a Hardbody* is the story of 10 hard-luck Texans, armed with nothing but hope, humor and ambition, who have a chance at literally driving away with the American Dream after entering a contest to win a brand-new Nissan hardbody truck.

[Read more](#)

Farewell Jackie Wiggins:

SMTD founding director to retire after 24-year career at OU



On June 30, Distinguished Professor of Music Education Jackie Wiggins will bid a fond farewell to Oakland University and the School of Music, Theatre and Dance where she has mentored and inspired students, scholars and artists for nearly 24 years.

"I'm going to miss the people the most," said Wiggins, founding director of the SMTD and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "They're amazing people. Everyone here is committed to our students, to teaching, and to what our mission is."

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Oakland University
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