

**MEREDITH COLLEGE
FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE
2010-2011**

Focus on Excellence is a program of cultural events planned especially for Meredith Honors students, Scholars, and Teaching Fellows. The goal of this program is to provide these students an opportunity to enhance their learning experience through art, dance, history, music, and theatre, while promoting friendships among students with similar interests.

**FOCUS ON THE ZOO
NORTH CAROLINA ZOO
Saturday, September 11, 2010, 7:30 AM
Asheboro, NC**

We are pleased to announce that Janice and Ed Swab and Larry and Janet Grimes will accompany the group on this trip. Janice and Ed will do a tour of the Aviary, and Larry and Janet will take us through the insect house or look at some of the animals.

Lunch will be on your own. There are three restaurants open during park hours where you can purchase burgers, hot dogs, pizza, chicken tenders, wraps, salads, fruit snacks, desserts and drinks. There are plenty of snack bars where you will find your favorite snacks.

Meet in front of Johnson Hall at 7:30 AM to leave for Asheboro to arrive at the Zoo by 9:00 AM. At 4:00 PM, the bus will depart the Zoo to return to campus.

**FOCUS ON BALLET
DRACULA
Sunday, October 24, 2010, 2:00 PM
Fletcher Opera House**

“Long before the *Twilight* vampires invaded Hollywood, there was Dracula, the original Transylvanian prince of darkness. Now the undead Count swoops into this atmospheric new work created especially for Carolina Ballet. The program also includes a second world premiere ballet.”

Hannah Allen (Honors/Presidential) will introduce the ballet in the rotunda at 1:00 PM. The bus will leave for Fletcher Opera House at 1:15 PM for the 2:00 PM performance.

**FOCUS ON MUSICAL
BILLY ELLIOT
Wednesday, November 10, 2010, 7:30 PM
Durham Performing Arts Center**

“BILLY ELLIOT is the joyous celebration of one young boy’s journey to make his dreams come true. Set in a small town, the story follows Billy as he stumbles out of the boxing ring and into a ballet class to discover a surprising passion. With its award-winning creative team and music by Elton John, BILLY ELLIOT will enchant the dreamer in all of us.”

Alyson Quigley (Honors and TF) will introduce the musical in the rotunda at 6:15 PM for an introduction to the musical, and at 6:30 PM, the bus will leave for DPAC.

FOCUS ON THEATRE***THE LION KING*****Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 7:30 PM****Durham Performing Arts Center**

“Marvel at the breathtaking spectacle of animals brought to life by award-winning director Julie Taymor, whose visual images for this show you’ll remember forever. Thrill to the pulsating rhythms of the African Pridelands and an unforgettable score including Elton John and Tim Rice’s Oscar-winning songs “Can You Feel the Love Tonight” and “Circle of Life.” Let your imagination run wild at the Tony Award-winning Broadway sensation that Newsweek calls “a landmark event in entertainment.” At 6:10 PM, Danny Green, Vice President for Enrollment, and his daughter, Samantha, will introduce the musical in the rotunda. The bus will leave at 6:30 PM for DPAC.

FOCUS ON SYMPHONY***A FESTIVE ANNIVERSARY: 10 YEARS AT MEYMANDI*****Friday, February 11, 2011, 8:00 PM****North Carolina Symphony**

Enjoy a festive 10-year anniversary at Meymandi featuring Grant Llewellyn, Music Director, and Peter Donohoe at the piano.

The program includes:

Shostakovich: Festive Overture

Liszt: Piano Concerto No. 2

Shostakovich: Symphony No. 10.

Chelsea Stith (Honors/Presidential) will introduce the symphony and their program at 7:00 PM in the rotunda. The bus will leave from in front of Johnson Hall at 7:15 PM for Meymandi Auditorium.

FOCUS ON ART**North Carolina Museum of Art****Sunday, March 27, 2011, 2:00 to 4:00 PM**

Meet at the North Carolina Museum of Art where Katie Mabe and Katelyn Moore will have something special organized for you. They will plan around the exhibition “30 Americans,” a contemporary African-American art survey: <http://www.30americans.com/rfc/exhibitionstatement.html>.

You may choose to walk to the NCMA by way of the Beltline Bridge or drive. It is a lovely walk, and on the way, there are beautiful sights to see. If anyone wants to walk as a group, meet at Johnson Hall at 1:00 PM.