



AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING

Talk about a golden ticket.

When a friend's friend couldn't attend an inaugural ball on January 21, senior Lauren Alexander found herself with one of the most coveted tickets in town.

"I knew I couldn't pass on this opportunity. The highlight of the evening was people watching; the

other attendees looked dashing," says the public communication major, who draped herself in pearls and purple chiffon for the glamorous gala at the Omni Shoreham, a swanky downtown D.C. hotel.

Alexander wasn't the only student slipping into sparkling heels for the evening.

Sachel Seabrook, a master's student in the School of Communication, twirled across the dance floor with one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen at the Commander in Chief's Ball at the Washington Convention Center, one of only two balls attended by the Obamas.

"To experience this inauguration, to be a part of history, to be in this city and meet generations of Americans who all believe in moving this country forward—it's truly magical," says Seabrook.

CABARET ON HEALTHY CHOICE

WISCONSIN

Urinetown. Tartuffe. Thoroughly Modern Millie. Orpheus Descending. Oklahoma!

Since the first curtain was raised on March 27, 2003, hundreds of actors, singers, dancers, and musicians have showcased their talents at the 300-seat Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre.

Over the last decade, the theatre, which sits on bustling Wisconsin Avenue, has established itself as one of northwest Washington's premier venues, staging 10 major productions each year, from classics by Tennessee Williams and William

Shakespeare to original works by AU faculty and students.

To celebrate the theatre's anniversary, AU reprised *Cabaret*, its first musical. A celebratory toast followed the production, directed by Gail Humphries Mardirosian.

"We asked Mrs. Greenberg for a list of her favorite musicals, and *Cabaret* was one of her choices," says Greg Anderson, the theatre's facilities and production manager. "It's the show that opened the Greenberg Theatre 10 years ago, so we decided it would be a nice circle to celebrate the 10th year with *Cabaret*."

Public health is rapidly becoming one of the hottest disciplines in higher education, and AU is responding by offering a host of new programs.

Students can earn their bachelor's degree in three years in one of those programs, a proposition that proved so popular that 70 people applied for 15 slots in its first year. The university also is offering a minor, a bachelor of arts degree, and a bachelor of science degree.

"People are realizing the importance of how health impacts other sectors, which is driving the interest in public health," says Blake Bennett, assistant director of the Public Health Scholars program. "It is interdisciplinary by nature. The causes, cures, and preventative actions necessary to eliminate diseases extend beyond biological complexity. AU's public health programs were designed with this in mind."

Like students in AU's other three-year bachelor's degree programs, the Public Health Scholars live together on the same floor of the same residence hall.

"I hope to be a doctor with Doctors Without Borders," says freshman Quinn Hirsch. "I have always wanted to be a doctor and I adore community service. I felt like studying public health was a great combination of the two. This program is amazing, and I am having a fantastic time living and learning with others who share my passion."

ALL-ACCESS PASS TO KE\$HA'S "CRAZY" LIFE

Lagan Sebert, SOC/MA '08, documents his pop singer sister's rise to fame in the MTV show *Ke\$ha: My Crazy, Beautiful Life*. The six-part series, which debuted in April, follows the "Tik Tok" singer as she records her new album and travels the globe.



100,000 STRONG FOUNDATION FINDS HOME AT SIS

The 100,000 Strong Foundation, a new State Department initiative to encourage more American students to master Mandarin and study abroad in China, will be housed at AU's School of International Service. The partnership, which aims to strengthen economic and cultural ties between the U.S. and China, was announced by former secretary of state Hillary Clinton in January.