

# Lobster Alice Comedy Being Staged October 6-8 at SWOSU

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Department of Communication and Theatre will present a hilarious comedy, *Lobster Alice*, this coming Thursday through Saturday, (October 6-8) at 7:30 p.m. in the SWOSU Hilltop Theatre on the Weatherford campus. Members of the company are (front from left): Tammy Hooper, Mountain View; Tyler Powell, Woodward; Sara Molnar, Fay; Carmen Rutledge, Lawton (Lawton Christian School); Nikki Reiss, Moore; and James Brennan, Lawton (Lawton High). Back from left—Merritt Taylor, Cordell; Adam Boothby, Guymon; Cody Carnahan, Sayre; and Kaitlin Belden, Cheyenne. Not pictured is Sara Christoff, Prague; and Dakota Jones, Yukon.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Department of Communication and Theatre is set to open the 2011-2012 theatre season with Kira Obolensky's hilarious comedy, *Lobster Alice*.

The SWOSU Players are presenting the production at 7:30 p.m. nightly on October 6-8 in the SWOSU Hilltop Theatre on the Weatherford campus.

Admission is \$3 for non-SWOSU students, \$5 for adults, and free for individuals with a valid SWOSU ID. Reservations can be made by calling the SWOSU Hilltop Theatre Box Office at 580.774.6046 from 4-7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

According to director Steve Strickler, the play is a fictional speculation of a factual event that took place in 1946. The surrealist artist Salvador Dali went to Hollywood to work at the Disney Studios where he had been commissioned to create a short animated surrealist ballet based on the popular song "Destino" or "You Tempt Me." He spent most of his time with a young animator who was working on the color styling and design of *Alice in Wonderland*. *Lobster Alice* is a highly dramatized account of those six weeks. The play itself becomes extremely surrealistic as the characters work through their madcap adventure.

Obolensky's characters include Salvador Dali, portrayed by senior Cody Carnahan, Sayre; John Finch, portrayed by freshman Merritt Taylor, Cordell; Alice Horowitz, portrayed by freshman Carmen Rutledge, Lawton (Christian); and Thorton/Caterpillar, portrayed by senior Tyler Powell, Woodward.

Other SWOSU students working on the production include: Nikki Reiss, Moore; Kaitlin Belden, Leedey; Tammy Hooper, Mountain View; Sara Molnar, Fay; Adam Boothby, Guymon; Sara Christoff, Prague; James Brennan, Lawton (High); and Dakota Jones, Yukon.

Students involved in scenic construction include: Kirby Broaddus, Altus; Emma Brown, Clinton; Steven Doughty, Yukon; Shawna McCoy, Hydro (Corn Bible Academy); Sarah Mueggenborg, Okarche; Dacia Peterman, Weatherford; and Kara Shepherd, Lookeba-Sickles.

Overseeing the students and the production are SWOSU faculty members Strickler and Stephen Haynes. Haynes is the scenic/costume/lighting designer and technical director. For more information, contact Strickler at 580.774.3082.