

SWOSU Music Department Plans Opera Nights

11.07.2013

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Music Department has planned two nights of opera this Monday and Tuesday, November 11-12, on the Weatherford campus.

Several groups will be involved in the production of Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. The free performances will be held at 7 p.m. in the Berrong Recital Hall, and the public is invited and encouraged to attend.

The production features the talent of SWOSU music students, who have been rehearsing since August with Dr. Kristin Griffeath, Dr. Robin Griffeath and Dr. Daniel Farris. The SWOSU Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Robert Chambers, and the SWOSU Community Chorus, directed by Farris, will participate. Todd Parker of the SWOSU Art Department has designed and created sets with the help of music and art students.

The opera is a masterwork from the Baroque Era that tells the tragic tale of Dido and Aeneas, whose budding romance is destroyed by the plots of evil witches. Set in English, the work should be approachable and engaging for audience members who have never seen an opera before, according to Dr. Kristin Griffeath.