

Evidence Document

for Higher Learning Commission Reaccreditation

Document Title: Punk Rock Opera Gives Lessons on Modern Culture

Office of Origin: Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences

Document Summary:

As part of their *Seminar in United States Culture, Communications, and Institutions*, 20English Language and Culture students saw the opening performance of Green Day's punk rock opera *American Idiot* on April 15, 2016. The play helped illustrate many of the themes of their course on American culture.



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Punk Rock Opera Gives Lessons on Modern Culture

April 18, 2016 🕶 👺 in 👂 🔀













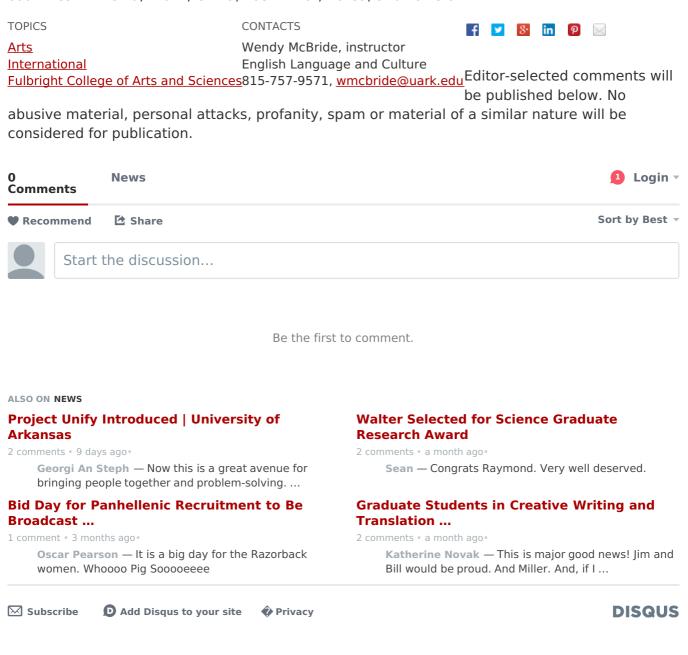
The characters Johnny (Chandler Reid Evans), St. Jimmy (Ross Wagner) and Whatsername (Claire Fossey) on the "American Idiot" stage, presented April 15-24 on campus.

Thanks to welcome support and accommodation from the university's theatre department, a group of international students had the opportunity to combine their language skills and the content of one course in an engaging new element.

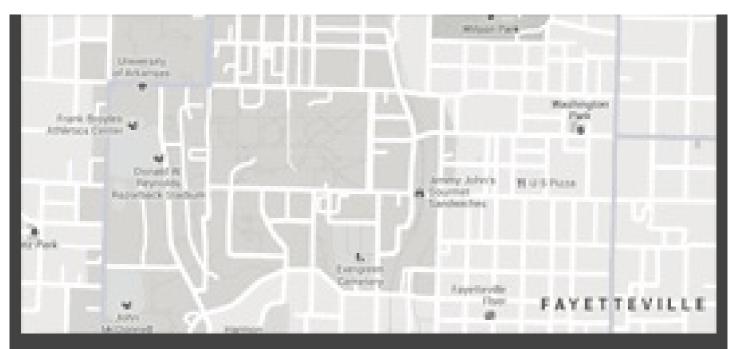
As part of their Seminar in United States Culture, Communications, and Institutions, 20 English Language and Culture students saw the opening performance of Green Day's punk rock opera American Idiot on Friday, April 15 with more background information than typically comes with the playbill. The collaboration was initiated by instructor Wendy McBride: "I couldn't think of a better venue to illustrate many of the themes of our course on American Culture. We were so lucky the theatre department so graciously responded to our requests."

In a lecture the previous week from Michael Riha, Theatre Department chair and set designer extraordinaire, the students heard enthusiasm in the introductory information about the show, the set and the department. This was organized to provide in-depth perspective and to enhance the overall theatre experience. As part of the lecture, they toured the set and saw the view from backstage while learning about the themes and background of the particularly intense and exuberant production.

These English Language and Culture students come from a wide range of fields of study – from journalism and architecture to voice and food science – and from a diverse assortment of native countries: Armenia, Brazil, China, East Timor, Korea, and Pakistan.



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NEWS

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2017 Program Offers Rising Female Leaders Classes in Personal Leadership

Reminder: Lot 44 is Closing Saturday, Nov. 19; All Vehicles Must be Moved

EVENTS

Suzuki Recital (11/19/2016)

Degree Recital: Ashley Batey, clarinet (11/19/2016)

Degree Recital: Melody Schmidt and Megan Dobbs, percussion (11/19/2016)



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