

[< Back](#) | [Home](#)

Langston honors a musical genius

By: By Da'Janai Woods

Posted: 10/24/07

The music department will honor Linda Twine, an African-American woman who is considered a modern day musical genius, on Monday, Nov. 5 in the I.W. Young Auditorium.

Twine has been the musical director, conductor, and vocal arranger for many Broadway productions, including "Ain't Misbehavin," "Big River," and "The Lady and Her Music." Twine is currently the musical director of "The Color Purple."

The program is expected to last 30 to 45 minutes. Bonita Franklin, choir director, says that the program will pay tribute to Twine and will welcome her home to Oklahoma. The program will feature the LU Marching Pride Band, the Jazz Band, the choir, and student actors from Dr. Benjamin Bates' theater class, who will perform a scene from the play "Seven Guitars" by August Wilson.

Franklin says the program will give students the opportunity to see that their musical abilities can take them anywhere they want to go.

Twine, who is a native of Oklahoma, has been nationally recognized for her musical accomplishments, and will be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame on Nov. 8. Franklin says that only two African-Americans will be honored in this year's Hall of Fame: Twine, and civil rights activist Clara Luper, which is why Franklin feels it is even more important to honor Twine.

While in town, Twine will be in concert with the Ambassador's Choir in Oklahoma City. She will also teach a master's class. During a master's class students have the opportunity to show the teacher or master teacher their musical talents. Franklin says that she will be taking some of LU's talented students to the master's class, and sign-ups will take place this week.

Franklin hopes that anyone interested in the arts and who has a love of music will take part in the celebration on Nov. 5 to honor Linda Twine.

© Copyright 2007 The Gazette