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COMMUNIQUE

LINDENWOOD
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UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

Baum Selected As August Employee of the Month

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Lindenwood University Athletic Development Director Jane Baum has been named the Employee of the Month for August. She has worked at the University since 2009 cultivating community and financial support for the school's athletic programs.

"Jane is devoted to her alma mater, Lindenwood, and to her work in advancement," said Vice President of Institutional Advancement Lucy Morros, Ph.D. "She just led the complex and successful effort to raise many dollars for athletic scholarships through the fabulous Lou Brock Golf Classic. Jane is a multitasker par excellence."

Baum, who earned a bachelor's degree in business and an associate's degree in merchandising from Lindenwood in 1982, came to Lindenwood from Baue Funeral Home, where she served in the development and community services arena. Prior to that, she had been employed as the director of the American Heart Association's annual Heart Walk fundraising event in St. Charles.

"I have felt that Lindenwood was my home since I graduated," Baum said. "Engaging the community, telling them about the great programs we have, and raising money to support our athletic scholarships is really exciting. I love making the 'ask.'"

Her ambition has also played a large role in the development of Lindenwood's Athletic Booster Club, which is dedicated to the continued success of the University's sports programs and its student athletes.

"Jane has shown exceptional leadership in organizing and implementing the club," said Lindenwood President James D. Evans. "She has also conceptualized and shepherded all parties for several fundraisers in support of our athletics program over the past several months."

Baum said she was almost rendered speechless upon learning she'd received the award in recognition of her efforts.

"I'm absolutely humbled because it's such a great honor. I just enjoy doing my job, so to be recognized or rewarded is not what I look for in my position, even though it's a great compliment."

Did You
Know?

Did you know that over the years, the graduating class has given Lindenwood a gift in appreciation for its time here? Most of the gifts were utilitarian, such as silver platters and large clocks, and can be found in the alumni museum and University archives. The largest gift, the gazebo found in the quad, was given by the Class of 1985.

Hickenlooper Receives Award for One-Act

Lindenwood University Professor of English and Creative Writing George Hickenlooper, has been named a recipient of The Arts Club of Washington's Annual "One Act One" play writing awards. The awards recognize authors of outstanding one-act plays and the first act of multi-act works.

Hickenlooper entered his one-act play, *Rules of Engagement*, into the competition in July 2010, after he learned about the opportunity on-line. He revised the piece several times before submitting it.

"I think that was the seventh draft," Hickenlooper said. "I'd written it for my own personal reasons out of a need to express what was in the play, but I did go through several versions. I believe in re-writing."

Hickenlooper will receive a \$500 award for his winning entry and the Arts Club will also present a staged reading or small-scale production of Hickenlooper's play in 2011. The honor is one among many he has received during his more than 45 years as a playwright, including his recent receipt of an award from the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre for his play, *The Sleepwalker*.

"I write the kind of plays I'd like to see but don't always get to," said Hickenlooper. "For example, I've written a lot of historical plays, which I know isn't terribly popular these days, but, I write to please myself and hope to please others in the process."

Graduate Assistant Moves to Troika Entertainment

Lindenwood University Graduate Assistant Abby Powers has accepted a position with Troika Entertainment as head of props for its international Broadway tour of *Fiddler on the Roof*." She departed Wednesday, Oct. 6, to join the crew in Detroit, Mich., at the start of the production's 32-week tour that will cover more than 350 cities across the United States and Canada.

Powers began pursuing an undergraduate degree in theatre performance at Lindenwood in 1998 and completed the program in 2010 after taking multiple breaks to participate in several professional productions around the world. It was while touring with "Sesame Street Live" that she developed professional connections with Troika Entertainment.

"After completing my undergraduate degree in May, I stayed on at Lindenwood and became a graduate assistant in the Theatre Department," said Powers. "I was working on *Grease* with Troika's head prop person and they asked me if I'd like to go out on the road again. This opportunity has been a whirlwind, but it's definitely something I wanted. It just came sooner than I thought."

Dean of the Fine and Performing Arts Department Donnell Walsh noted that Powers is the first Lindenwood student to be offered an immediate, full-time position with the company.

"This milestone represents the kind of fruit to be borne by allowing students to regularly work backstage with visiting professional stage managers, lighting and sound technicians, and production staff," he said. "Contacts for career-minded students can be made in the most appropriate setting, working side-by-side."
