

TESTIMONIALS FOR TARA CARIASO

TESTIMONIALS FOR TARA CARIASO AND WAXING MOON MASKS

"Tara was a wonderful workshop leader, trainer, and consultant. She is one of those artists who can wear multiple hats with ease and competence. For our faculty directed commedia dell-arte project, I relied on her as an artist-instructor in residence, an expert advisor, as well as mask designer and builder. We found her work outstanding in all areas; she was open-minded, dedicated to collaboration, and committed to strong results. As a trainer, Tara challenged the acting students with an approach that was both tough and inspiring. She drew on a variety of traditional physical theatre methods and schools of thought while remaining flexible to the needs and impulses of the students. They admired her tremendously, and worked hard to meet her high expectations. Tara is a very warm, upbeat, and engaging person who communicates well and knows how to work within a larger artistic team. I cannot recommend her enough.

— *Colette Searls, UMBC Theatre Department, UNIMA-USA Board of Directors*

Tara Cariaso and Waxing Moon Theatre created a beautiful set of 22 Commedia masks for a production of Bertolt Brecht's "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" this past fall 2011 at Loyola Blakefield in Towson, Md. Not only did Tara create the mask designs and provide plaster molds for the students to use in fabricating the paper maché masks, she also supervised them throughout the entire process which took about six weeks. A particularly wonderful part of the mask making exercise is that the students were able to connect the masks they were building to the Commedia stock characters that the masks represent. Using physical movement and comic improvisation based on the Commedia, Tara was able to spread an enthusiasm and joy for the process from the initial building of the masks all the way through the rehearsal of the Commedia movement and into the performances. Bravo!"

— *Christian Garretson, Loyola Blakesfield High School*