

Cast & Crew From HBO's Treme Visit NOCCA For Masterclass

Actors Wendell Pierce, John Goodman, Clarke Peters, Ntare Mwine,
and writer Lolis Eric Elie
Provide Insight To Students

New Orleans, LA ~ New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) was honored to host members of the cast and crew of the new HBO series *Treme*. The new show will feature NOCCA alumnus, community activist and award-winning actor Wendell Pierce.

Treme, by the creator of *The Wire*, explores the lives of several struggling musicians and other New Orleanians in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The special guests provided direct feedback on monologues of NOCCA Drama students who are preparing for the National Unified Drama Auditions taking place in Chicago. NOCCA Media Arts and Theatre Design students were also on-hand as all participated in a question and answer session about training, acting and writing for film, television and stage.

In answering student questions, Wendell Pierce shared, "As actors we are students of human behavior. As a young actor, expand your world to stake your claim." "I had an open mind to learn from every job and every actor," John Goodman explained to young artists seeking to develop their craft. And Clarke Peters encouraged students to always continue to learn as he has with every project he undertakes.

NOCCA has begun its audition season for the 2010 Summer Conservatory (funded by The NOCCA Institute) and the 2010-11 Fall sessions. Middle and high school students who are interested in learning more about NOCCA's application and audition process are encouraged to visit www.nocca.com.

NOCCA is an agency of the state of Louisiana, Bobby Jindal, Governor.

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