

## Arts study aids youth in Lincoln

By Mark Kjeldgaard

Students at Lincoln public schools are studying the technical aspects of theater under a University of Kansas professor this week, as part of a new program of instruction in drama, music, dance and the visual arts. Dr. Charles R. Lown is leading workshops in lighting and set construction in several Lincoln schools.

Lown's visit is sponsored by the Year of the Arts, a program in which artists will visit the Lincoln schools throughout the 1973-74 school year to teach elementary, junior high and high school students about various artistic techniques.

In a press conference Monday, Lown said that he planned to teach the basic skills of set production and lighting. He expressed hope for a relaxed question-answer format allowing the students to ask about problems.

"I've learned that if you go in with a set formula you end up with a set formula," he said. There is no one area that students need to study to the exclusion of others, he added.

"The way to get interest is to involve students in all kinds of theatrical activity," he said.

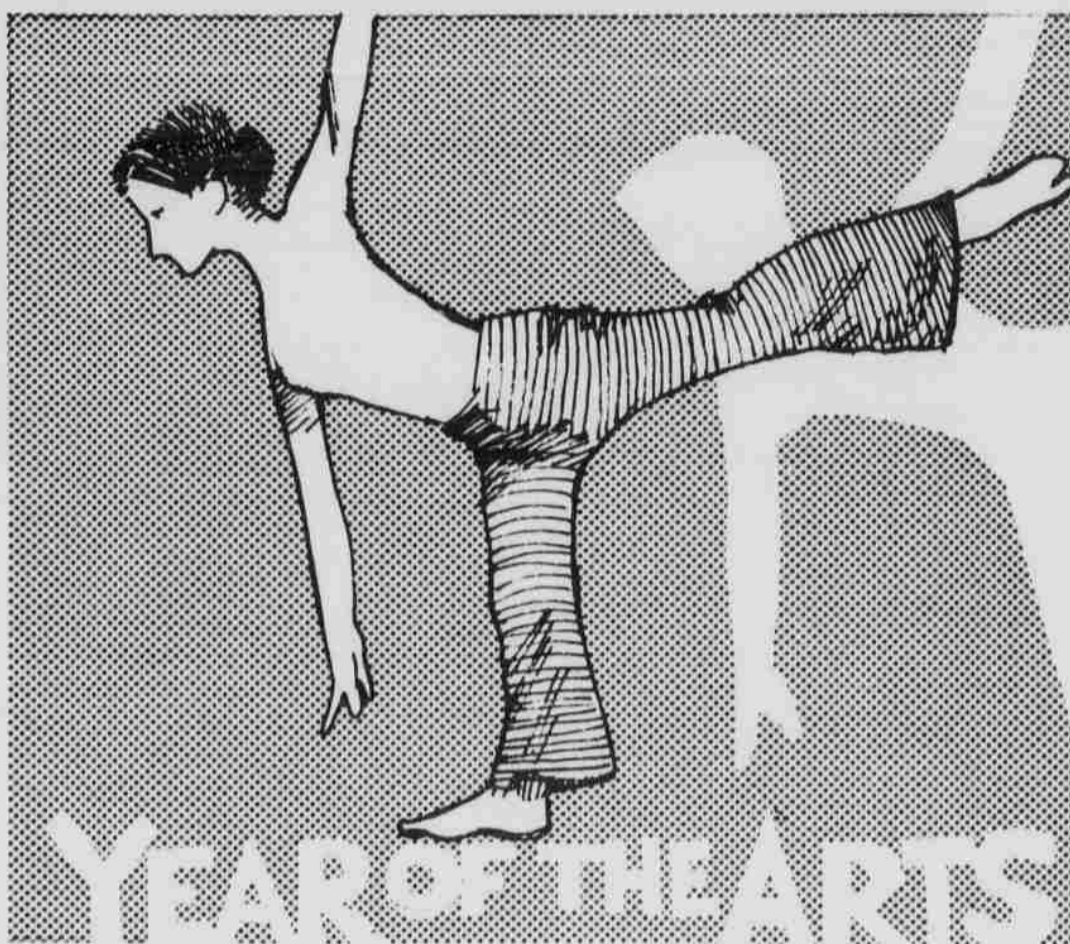
Year of the Arts drama coordinator Louise McDonald, who is working with Lown in the workshops, said that essentials such as backdrops and paint mixing would be emphasized.

Elements of set construction such as the conventional techniques of handling a brush will be as useful to high school students as anything else, Lown said. The workshops have concentrated on the simple abilities needed to build a broader theatrical skill.

A beginning set designer usually will be either too obvious or too subtle for a play's purposes, Lown said. A sense of creative proportion is one of the first things that one must teach to students, he added.

Playwrights often have an inadequate technical sense and misunderstand what a given scene needs in background and lighting, he said. As a remedy to that, Lown has talked to students from the Lincoln playwrighting academy, conducted by playwright Royal Eckert through Year of the Arts.

Lown is familiar with students in



the Midwest, having lived in Lincoln during his work with the UNL theater department from 1957 to 1959. He said he has never found that students from rural areas or small towns were deficient in theater sense, despite a frequent lack of advanced facilities.

"The basic mechanics and the discipline of theater can be taught anywhere," he said. "The real discipline of theater does not reside in having lots of materials, but somewhere else."

Lown's visit is only one part of a program of instruction in drama which will continue throughout the Year of the Arts. Exit, a local creative theater group, will be working with students in Lincoln schools in October.

Later activities in drama include directing workshops with former Guthrie Theater director Edward Payson Call, acting classes with actor Cliff Goodwin and Royal Eckert's playwright academy. Nebraska's Playhouse Puppeteers also will give shows and demonstrations at elementary schools.

In visual and plastic arts, five professionals make up the year's program. UNL glassblower Lloyd

Moore joins artists from throughout the country who will teach ceramics, mosaics, batik and cartoon art.

Fred Matthews, a member of London's Royal Academy of Dancing, will run a dance academy for Lincoln students next summer. Throughout the school year, UNL physical education instructor Barbara Ball will head an academy in modern dance movements.

UNL's composer Robert Beadell heads the Year of the Arts program in music. He will teach composition on both beginning and advanced levels, work with students and staff on a spring concert of original works and compose an extended work for large orchestra and chorus for a performance in May. In addition, the Lincoln Symphony will perform for students on all educational levels.

Performances and exhibits of the work done by students and instructors in Year of the Arts will be presented to the Lincoln community as well. Original plays, compositions and art works will be featured in Pershing Auditorium, the Lincoln Community Playhouse and other places for appreciation by the general public.

## Special Films

Experimental and avant-garde films again will be screened this year as part of the Union Special Films new season. The films are shown nearly every other week on Wednesdays at Sheldon Art Gallery auditorium at 3, 7 and 9 p.m.

The Special Films Committee has selected such films as John Cassavettes' *Faces*, Lionel Rogosin's *Come Back, Africa* and the *Genesis IV and V* series for this year.

Opening the new season this evening will be Jean-Luc Godard's *Tout Va Bien*, starring Jane Fonda and Yves Montand.

## sports shorts

Tryouts for the UNL junior varsity basketball team will be Oct. 22 in the Coliseum at 4:30 p.m. Participants must bring their own equipment. For further information contact assistant basketball coach Lonnie Porter or Al Nissen at 472-2265.

An organizational meeting of the UNL women's swim team will be Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at the swimming pool in the Women's Physical

Education Bldg. All interested women are welcome. For further information contact Elizabeth Gross at 477-3871.

## Scholarships

Scholarships for study and/or research in African countries under the Fulbright-Hays Scholarship Program for graduate students and young professionals will be available for the 1974-75 academic year. The campus deadline to receive applications in Nov. 1, 1973.

## EMBASSY

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**PG** with **JAMES COBURN**

## An Open Letter to All Teachers College Students:

As president of the University of Nebraska Student Education Association (UNSEA), I would like to personally invite you to attend our UNSEA organizational meeting on Wednesday, October 10th, (tonight!) at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union, where the room will be posted.

The meeting will feature Sue Zabel of Dana College, current president of the Student Education Assn. of Nebraska (SEAN), and Mr. John Lynch, executive secretary of the Nebraska State Education Assn. instead of Mr. Eugene Geisler of NSEA as previously scheduled. This should be a very interesting session concerning the topic, "Education... projects and resources", in which various aspects of teacher professional organizations will be discussed, as well as the UNSEA programs for the coming year.

This year UNSEA will be involved in the state SEAN

tutoring project, the Southeast Regional Workshop on Oct. 13 at Nebraska Wesleyan, the Teachers College Advisory Board "Freshman Orientation, and community projects such as day care centers, making reading tapes for the blind, and sponsoring workshops and panels on a variety of educational topics.

UNSEA is affiliated with the National Education Assn. and the Nebraska State Education Assn., and members are able to attend Nebraska teachers' conventions, as well as receive many free publications and the benefits of \$300,000 liability insurance while student teaching.

Don't wait until you're a senior to join, because UNSEA has a lot to offer now... in both projects and resources.

Sincerely,  
Mary (Say) Gold  
President, UNSEA  
State secretary, SEAN

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