

## **Pioneer Hall of Fame: Sara Romersberger, class of 1968**



University High School welcomes Sara J. Romersberger '68, into the Hall of Fame for her continuing contributions to the arts in dance and theatre. Her work in the field of dance, professional theatre, and commedia masks continues to receive regional, national, and international acclaim. Romersberger currently serves as a Movement Specialist and tenured Associate Professor of Theatre in the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

After graduation from U-High, Romersberger received her bachelor's degree in theatre education from Illinois State University, a master's degree in dance from the University of Illinois, and a certificate of mime/movement from Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris, France. Prior to joining the faculty at Southern Methodist University, she held full-time faculty positions at Illinois Wesleyan University, West Virginia University, and Elon College.

Given her strong roots in modern dance and Jazz, Romersberger has choreographed over fifty-five university and professional musical theatre productions and has danced with the Julie Maloney Dance Company and the Wendy Osserman Company. She has performed her own brand of movement theatre off-Broadway in New York at The Mint Theatre (Jackson Pollock: In the Painting) and Primary Stages (Hanna: A Run-On Odyssey). She also has extensive credits for directing, choreographing, and designing movement in productions at Southern Methodist University. Her professional credits span the United States and the globe, as she has taught in South Africa, Greece, Spain, and the Netherlands. She has also served as artist-in-residence at universities, conferences, and festivals across the country.

In 2005, Romersberger won the Dallas Theatre Critics Award and a 2005 Rabin award for Special Recognition for Outstanding Choreography for her work on *The Wrestling Season* at the Dallas Children's Theatre. She served as President of the Association for Theatre Movement Educations from 2006-2008, and was co-creator of Movement Observation Experimentation (M.O.V.E.). In 2002, she completed her CD Rom entitled *Unlocking the Physicality of Shakespeare's Comedies with the Masks of the Commedia*, and was invited to present at a national conference on the use of masks in theatre. She currently is working on her book, *Wise Enough to Play the Fool: Playing the Clowns of Shakespeare*.

A native of Carlock, Illinois, Romersberger also has three sisters who graduated from U-High: Leslie Thomas '64; Emily Schertz '67; and Margaret Chipman '70. Congratulations to Professor Sara J. Romersberger on her induction into the University High School Hall of Fame.