

UPDATES FROM THE HILL
TIGER PRIDE
EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



Fiddler on the Roof

The School of Communications and Fine Arts recently presented the world renowned musical *Fiddler on the Roof* to more than 1,750 patrons over four days. Under the direction of Traci Ledford, Chair of the Department of Theatre Arts, the cast and crew rehearsed for seven weeks, typically for three to four hours a night, in order to prepare for the performances. Ledford said, "A production of this size and scope requires the all-in effort of all involved, including months of planning and weeks of fourteen-hour days. I was so incredibly blessed to have a wonderful group of collaborators including my creative colleagues, the hardworking and disciplined students, and the dedicated ETBU Faculty and community volunteers."



ETBU Softball Ranked #5 in the Nation

Under the leadership of Head Coach Janae Shirley (05'), the ETBU Softball Team is off to a great start this season. They are ranked #5 in the nation and have a record of 18-4. It is a special year for the program as they were the first team to participate in our Tiger Athletic Mission Experience program. In December they traveled to San Jose, Costa Rica, to play softball and to serve the people of Costa Rica. In addition to playing two exhibition games against the Costa Rican National Team, they also painted and cleaned a local school, participated in Bible distribution, and introduced softball to children who had never swung a bat or thrown a softball in their lives. It was an amazing opportunity for the team members to use the sport they love as a vehicle to share the gospel of Christ. To see a video about their trip click on the picture above.

ETBU Students Serve Over Spring Break

East Texas Baptist University students spent their Spring Break serving others with the love of Christ in a jungle of Belize, St. Tammany Parish of Louisiana, and on South Padre Island in Texas. Ten ETBU students led by Dr. Lisa Seeley, Director of Global Education and the Great Commission Center, recovered water wells and shared the good news of Jesus Christ in Otoxha, Belize, a remote jungle village without electricity or running water. ETBU partnered with Hope Springs Water to support the organization's mission of drilling and reclaiming water wells and teaching public health and hygiene-related practices. The group slept in a thatch building in hammocks while they stayed in the jungle. The students were impressed by the generosity of the families in the region. "The families in the Belize jungles have so little, yet they were so willing to share with us," ETBU freshman Cristal Monzon-Hernandez said. "We were blessed beyond belief by the people of Otoxha as we sought to be a blessing."

In Slidell, Louisiana, East Texas Baptist students participated in Habitat for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge. The group worked on a new home build with the East St. Tammany Parish Habitat chapter. The ETBU students hung floor joists, decked flooring, and framed walls on an elevated pier and beam home that will be above flood level once complete.

Then on South Padre Island, 40 ETBU students from ETBU ministered to other college students in conjunction with the Texas Baptist Student Ministry's "Beach Reach" Spring Break mission. The ETBU Tiger students worked into the early hours of the morning, giving rides and feeding pancakes to Spring Breakers, who excessively indulged in alcohol. Junior Kelsey Dagle shared a small encounter she had that confirmed to her why she was there. "A group of 6 people got on our van, and immediately the conversations were spiritual. We didn't do anything; God was already doing a work in them." Dagle continued, "By the end of the ride, which was well over an hour, four of the students rededicated their lives to the Lord! Praise God for His faithfulness to His promise not only to me, but to all of us Beach Reachers that He is present and moving on the island."



Alumnus Publishes Second Novel

Jana Norwood Kelley's (93') newest book, *Door to Freedom*, was released in February by New Hope Publishers. It is a sequel to her first novel, *Side by Side*. Jana and her husband Kris (94') currently live in Southeast Asia with their three sons. Jana has lived most of her life abroad and her writing is heavily influenced by her time in Africa, the Middle East, and, most recently, Southeast Asia. Jana's work focuses on faith and culture and about living a life that meshes the two. One of her favorite memories of ETBU is playing intramural softball with the Humpback Lavafish. In fact, it was on the intramural field where Kris asked Jana out for their first date. You can learn more about Jana and her writings at www.JanaKelley.com. Congratulations Jana!



If you have any questions please call:

Dr. Scott Bryant
Vice President for Advancement
903.923.2069 | sbryant@etbu.edu

Allison Peteet (99')
Assistant Vice President for Advancement and Director of Alumni Relations
903.923.2073 | apeteet@etbu.edu

Stay in touch and share your news with your ETBU Family. Send your career accomplishments, and family updates to alumni@etbu.edu or click [here](#) to update your address.



Copyright © 2017 East Texas Baptist University, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

One Tiger Drive
Marshall, TX 75679

This email was sent to apeteet@etbu.edu
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
East Texas Baptist University · One Tiger Drive · Marshall, TX 75670 · USA