

CITY SUBURBAN NEWS

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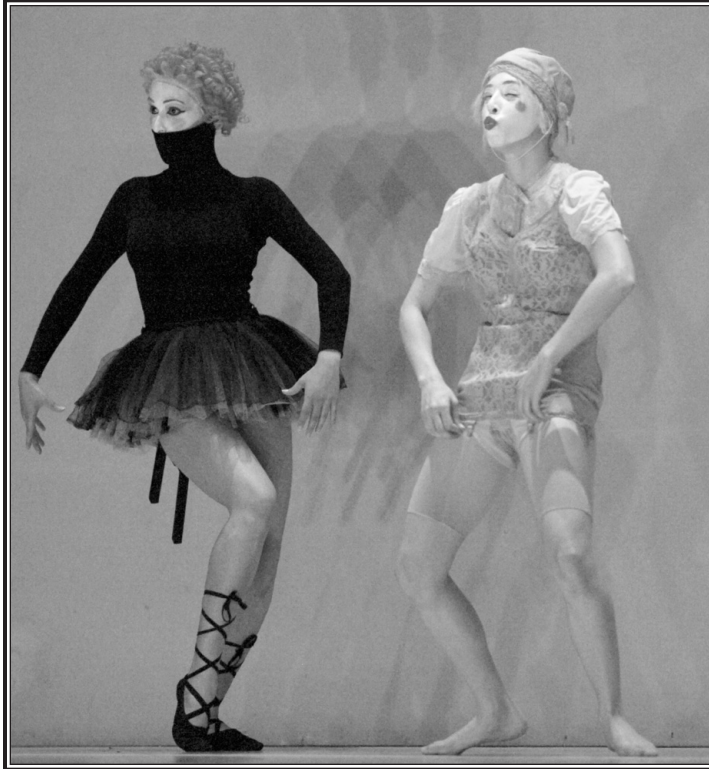
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Dance Celebration Presents the Surrealistic Philly Premiere of *Oyster*

From Israel's Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company



Photo/Elazar Harel

Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company, the critically-lauded Israeli troupe, will appear at the Annenberg Center **February 9 - 11**, in the Philadelphia premiere of "Oyster." The Tim Burton-inspired piece, dance and theatre melded together, is built around the surrealistic world of circus and sideshow spectacle—complete with wandering acrobats and bizarre characters in eclectic costumes.

Atheatrical foray into a circus-world where the bizarre meets the fantastic with "wit, cleverness and odd beauty" (*The Village Voice*) is the stunning premise of Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company's full-length Philadelphia premiere, *Oyster*, **February 9 - 11** at the Annenberg Center as a part of the Dance Celebration 11/12 season.

Drawing its name from filmmaker Tim Burton's

directors Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak's imaginations, create a world that is "part surreal vaudeville, part circus, and part toy store after midnight... a delight for the eye" (*The Village Voice*) with wandering street acrobats, oddly striking creatures and enchanting dance. The cast of 12 performers in doll-like makeup, spiky blonde wigs and tutus alternately become puppets or puppeteers. In one delightful scene, a girl in a bouffant dress be-

See *Philly Premiere of "Oyster"* on page 11

Rachel Simon Keynotes Brighter Futures 20th Anniversary Event



Rachel Simon, award-winning Bryn Mawr College alumna and author, will be the keynote speaker at the 20th anniversary MyFuture MyPlace Brighter Futures Awards event.

Rachel Simon, the award-winning Bryn Mawr College alumna and author of five books, including "Riding the Bus with My Sister" and her new novel, "The Story of Beautiful Girl," will be the keynote speaker at the 20th anniversary MyFuture MyPlace Brighter Futures Awards event, sponsored by Philadelphia Intellectual disAbility Services (IDS) and its Public Awareness Committee on Wednesday, **March 21, 2012**, starting at 9 a.m. at the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia Hotel, 16th and Race Streets.

Kathy Sykes, director of IDS (a division of the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services), is delighted that Ms. Simon, a long-time advocate for people with special needs, will keynote the celebration. Simon's latest

See *Rachel Simon Keynote Speaker* on page 11

Jefferson Staff Volunteers at General Clinic in Sierra Leone

On Sunday, January 29, three physicians and two nurses from the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Emergency Department (ED) traveled to Sierra Leone to help improve the quality of healthcare and its delivery within the impoverished West African country. The Jefferson physicians will stay for two weeks and the nurses for six weeks. This will be the second trip for Jefferson's team in a little more than a year.

The trip is being coordinated with Wellbody Alliance, a US-based non-governmental organization. With assistance from Dr. Bailor Barrie, a Sierra Leonean physician and co-founder of Wellbody, Jefferson staff conducted a preliminary survey of the local healthcare infrastructure and capacity in October 2010. During this upcoming trip, the Jefferson



son team will provide clinical care and help train local healthcare workers to perform point-of-care ultrasound. The Jefferson team is looking to learn from the Sierra

From left – Jefferson Emergency Department's Dr. Matthew Fields; Nurses Maren Lundby and Adrienne Marks; and Dr. Arthur Au to volunteer at a Sierra Leone clinic to help improve healthcare delivery in the impoverished country.

Leoneans as well. "For several years, Jefferson's ED has been building collaborations with physicians and institutions worldwide to create a mutual learning experience," says Bon S. Ku, MD, MPP, emergency medicine physician at Jefferson who, with Dr. Harsh Sule, director

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