



TEXAS COLLEGE

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RENOWNED TV AND THEATER ACTOR SPEAKS AT TEXAS COLLEGE'S 2012 FALL CONVOCATION

Tyler, Texas – On Wednesday, September 26, 2012 at 11 a.m., the Texas College family will assemble for Fall Convocation in the Gus F. Taylor Gymnasium. This occasion marks the opening of the academic year. This year's theme is *Transformation with Deliberate Accountability*. The speaker for the occasion, Mr. Marc Gomes, is a renowned TV and theater actor and director.

Marc Gomes enjoys a prolific career in television, theater and beyond. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Theater - Acting from the Ryerson University Theater School. His career began with acclaim at many of Canada's most esteemed theaters in notable productions of, *As You Like It*, *A Slow Dance On the Killing Ground*, *Edmond*, *A Taste of Honey* and the North American premiere of Ryszard Kapuscinski's *The Emperor*.

His work in the theater led to numerous appearances in leading roles in television and film. He has starred in several television series including *Lightning Force*, *The Crow: Stairway to Heaven*, *Sue Thomas: FBeye* and ABC's *Commander in Chief*. Recently, he has been seen on *Criminal Minds* on CBS, *Detention* for Lifetime, and *Medium* on NBC. In 2009, Marc was one of seven filmmakers awarded the first UNIDO Cinematic & Entrepreneurial Motivation Award (CEMA) by UNIDO-CARIBBEAN: Partnership for the Creative Audiovisual Industries, as a new voice in cinema in the Caribbean. The award came for his screenplay adaptation of the Caribbean classic novel, *Corentyne Thunder*. Gomes has directed several plays and wrote and directed the short film, *Stir Crazy*, which made film festival appearances in North America and Europe in 2002 and 2003.

In 2010, Marc joined the faculty at the American Musical & Dramatic Academy (AMDA) Los Angeles campus. AMDA is a highly regarded college for the Performing Arts that offer BFA degrees in Acting, Dance and Musical Theatre. The school was established in 1965 in New York.

Through his MG Studio, he coaches actors and directors privately, utilizing the basics of Kristin Linklater's work, which emphasizes attaining a free body and voice as the foundation for the actor to be fully expressed. He works with actors, Roma Maffia (*Nip Tuck*, *Internal Affairs*), Taylor Nichols (*Barcelona*, *Mind of the Married Man*) among others, and directors such as Bryce Zabel (*Poseidon Adventure*, *Dark Skies*), and Ken Haines (*Sue Thomas: FBeye*, *Til Death Do Us Part*.)

As a guest teacher-artist member of *The Unusual Suspects Theater Company*, Gomes volunteers with underage offenders in the Los Angeles penal system. The company works with former gang members, using aspects of theater; writing, staging and performing, as a means to foster pride, self-confidence and racial tolerance. Marc is a 2012 recipient of the Distinguished Guyanese-American Award by the Guyanese-American Business & Professional Association of New York and Guyana's Consul General.

About Texas College (TC)

Texas College is a historical black college founded in 1894, by a group of CME ministers. Our mission, which continues to embody the principles of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, is to *ensure that the student body experiences balanced, intellectual, psychological, social and spiritual development, aimed at enabling them to become active productive members of society where they live and work.* (Recast and approved by the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting, April 15, 2011). The College pursues this mission through the core values of academic excellence; integrity; perseverance; social responsibility; tolerance; and community service. TC is led by its 23rd President Dr. Dwight Fennell. To learn more about Texas College log on to www.texascollege.edu. For information regarding planned giving, endowed scholarships and sponsorships, please contact The Office of Institutional Advancement at 903.593.8311 ext. 2270.

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