



The thing is...
By ANH HUYNH
Columnist

Dressed for Success

Have you ever considered why we put on our best when we're dressing for an interview? Or why we pay extra attention concerning clothes when we're courting?

Clothes are instruments of power. They speak for you visually. Interviewers get 80 percent of their impression from how you look and your personality, the rest is on papers.

Most textbooks will reiterate that we communicate non-verbally more so than verbally.

Unsurprisingly, there's a correlation between dressing well and doing in well at school, at work and in life.

In today's economic condition, graduates are expected to hit the ground running in the workforce. There's no room for mistake, no honeymoon phase, no grace period. Employers are noting that recent grads are not performing adequately.

I've stumbled across a *SJ Mercury* article from September, 2010 entitled "Suited for the job."

A law firm actually hired an interventionist to fix the casual malaise among junior staff. Senior partners were disturbed by the casual blouses, leggings, ill fitting suits, etc.

Who could blame them? Would you trust a sloppily dressed law firm?

All this suggests we should shape our mentality in a professional mode while we're still in college.

We can start by what we wear. Think of school as a job and we're getting paid in knowledge, experience and units.

Show your professors that you are as serious about your future career as they are serious about theirs.

That doesn't mean you have to rock a suit or buy a new dress. Here's the rule of thumb: dress so that you're confident in facing your boss if you randomly run into him/her off the clock.

If we keep this up, we won't have to make such a big leap and we'll already be comfortable in casual business attire. Besides, we'll still have the comfortable clothes for leisure time.

I wish you all well in your academic and professional quest.



During the summer, Holston traveled to Los Angeles and met Patrick Dempsey, on left, on the set of *Grey's Anatomy*. Pictured right, Holston is with his mentor, Al White, and with Martin and Charlie Sheen.

Ohlone student rises amongst the stars

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER
Staff Writer

The last we heard from 18-year-old Ohlone College student Ray Holston III, he received a scholarship on March 11, 2010 from a member of the American College Theatre Festival; paid full tuition to go to the CSU Summer arts Program in San Francisco.

He was there for a month and studied with the Steppenwolf Company and rehearsed Shakespeare from 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

At the program, there were professional and college student actors with an age range of 18-32.

Before the American College Theatre Festival, Ray had auditioned for the Fall 2009 show titled *Rabbit Hole*. He auditioned for the show and in the end, did not make it into the cast.

In Spring 2010, Tom Blank, the director of *Rabbit Hole* and the head of the Theater and Dance Department, invited Holston to attend the festival with the cast and prepare an acting monologue to perform for judges at various workshops.

From that experience, one particular judge looked him at positively, in which he was offered the paid scholarship.

A year later, Holston continued in the direction of acting and he had experienced an opportunity he will never forget, meeting actor Laurence Fishburne.

Holston's mentor, Al White, spoke to Fishburne at a party and told him all about Holston's journey thus far as a driven actor and Fishburne immediately wanted to meet him.

In August 2010, Holston spent a week in Los Angeles in which Fishburne personally gave him a tour of Universal Studios, the *Grey's Anatomy* set and the set of *CSI*. Holston had the pleasure of being introduced to the directors and

producers of both shows and was given advice left and right.

While spending two hours in Fishburne's trailer, his advice to Holston was "Nothing in this industry can substitute for great training. The real people that last in the business are the one's that have great training and a strong foundation. Stay in school. Hone your craft, and become the best actor you can be."

After thoroughly listening to advice from various individuals and "living the life of a celebrity" for a week, Holston realized that this is the life he wanted and he decided that he wanted to continue his education once he came home.

At the end of August, Holston auditioned for Ohlone's fall production of "Time Machine: Love Among the Eloi."

After taking the role as understudy of the character Hook in the show, he decided that he wanted to pursue furthermore other auditions that were occurring; therefore he did not accept the role.

Not too long after that audition, he auditioned for two more shows and received the lead role in both shows.

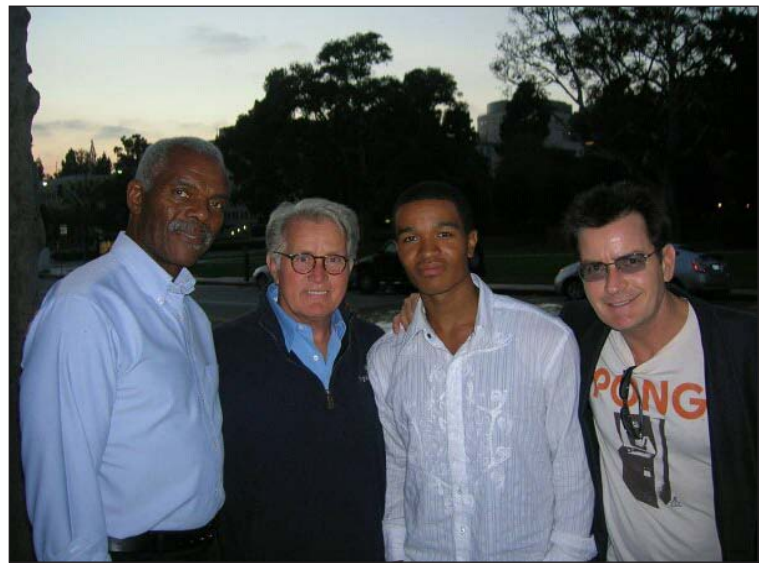
The first show is called "Damaged" and it is a professionally paid production; in which he plays the role of Ivan.

There are 15 performances altogether, and the performances are still continuing in Stockton, Oakland, San Francisco and will be performing in Los Angeles soon.

In the second show, *Xtigone*, he portrays the role of Marcellus. According to the Holston, *Xtigone* is an "urban retelling of the Greek play, *Antigone* at Cal State East Bay."

Holston was able to audition for the show due to the fact that he did a cross registration with East Bay in which he signed up to take classes at the school.

A final fundraiser performance of *Xtigone* will take place at 8 p.m. on Feb. 11,



Photos courtesy of Ray Holston

2011 at Cal State East Bay, coincidentally the same day and time as Time Machine's fundraiser performance in the Jackson Theatre at Ohlone College.

The show got nominated to perform at Humboldt State. He also got an individual Irene Ryan nomination for his role as Marcellus.

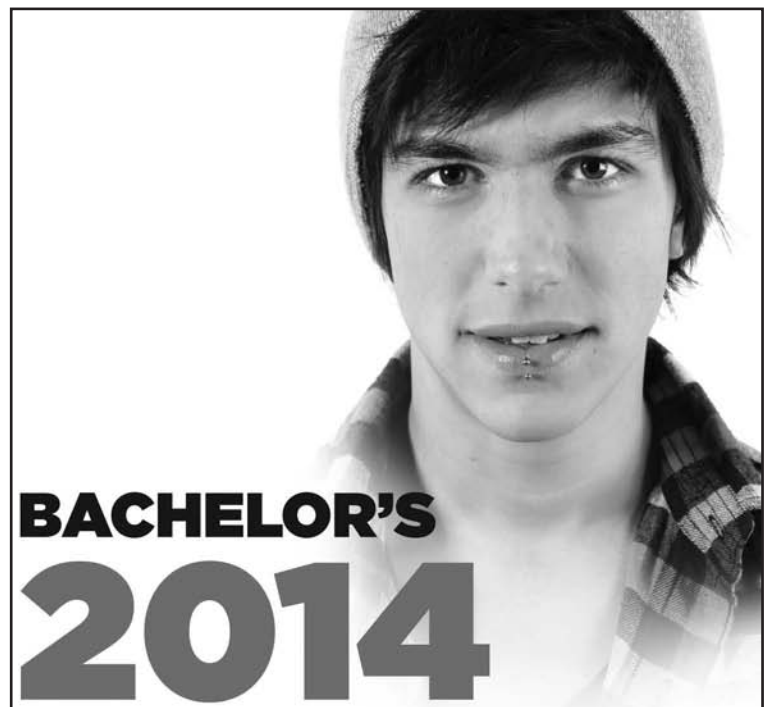
Currently, Holston is rehearsing for his performance at the American College Theatre Festival as well as rehearsing for his upcoming college auditions for Julliard, Purchase Conservatory in

New York and Cal Arts in Los Angeles.

His first audition for Julliard occurred Feb. 6, 2011. According to Holston, "auditions started at 2:30 p.m. and I went at 6 p.m. I was the last one to go and I was the only one out of forty people to get called back."

His next auditions are Feb. 11-12—which are the same days as his Fundraiser performance for the play *Xtigone*.

If Holston does not get into any of these schools, he will move to Los Angeles to further pursue his acting career.



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