

# Muppets 'wocka wocka' across big screen

By Isaac Soper  
The Clackamas Print

Directed by James Bobin and co-written by Nicholas Stoller and star Jason Segel, "The Muppets" was a very nostalgic experience for me; growing up, I used to watch "The Muppet Show" on television with my family, along with all of the films, my personal favorite being "The Great Muppet Caper." This is the first time since 1999's "Muppets from Space" that Jim Henson's Muppets have been on the big screen.

In the film, Muppet fans Gary (Jason Segel), his girlfriend Mary (played by Amy Adams) and his Muppet twin brother Walter, go on vacation in Hollywood to celebrate the couple's anniversary. Along the way, the trio visits the now-condemned Muppet Theater, only to find that Tex Richman, a maniacal oil tycoon (Chris Cooper), and apparent bad-boy rapper, is looking to destroy the old studio and pump oil (in the middle of Hollywood).

The three Muppet fans finally come in contact with a seemingly retired Kermit the Frog, who after some convincing, is willing to help the trio get the old gang back together again for one last show in an attempt to buy the studio back for the \$10 million price tag.

As always in Muppet repertoire, there are many strange stories in the film, including, but definitely not limited to Adams' character Mary, who is a kindergarten auto mechanics teacher. Fozzie Bear has been living in an alley and is working with a group of fiendish Muppet-like characters known as The Moopets, and Beauregard, the Muppets in-house janitor, who has been living in the condemned Muppet Theater for years in a broom closet, along

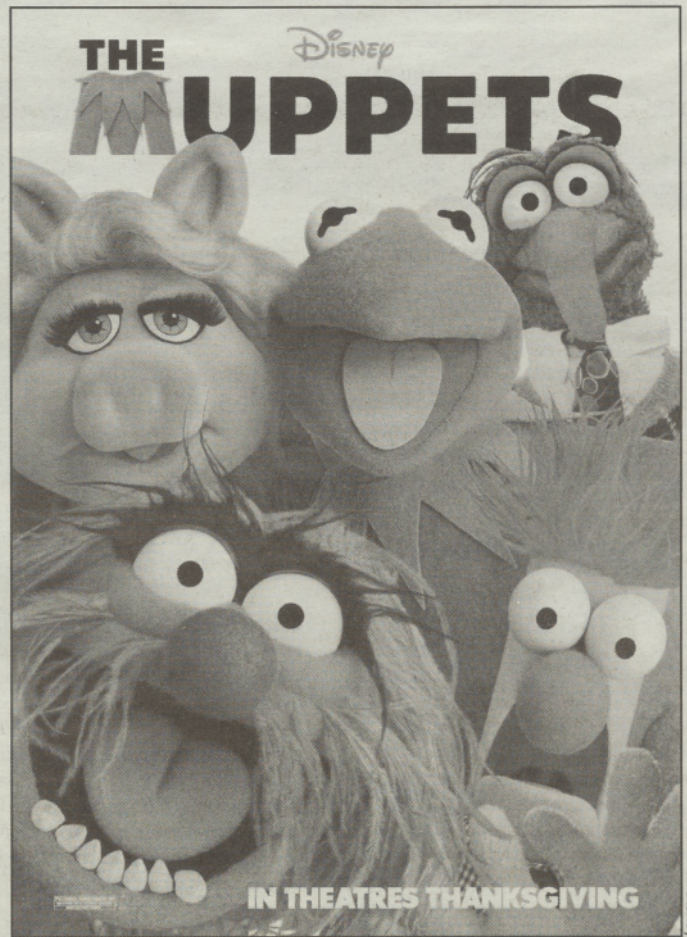
with a possible attempted murder by Uncle Deadly.

Most of the classic Muppet characters and many others are portrayed in the film, including: Kermit the Frog, Fozzie Bear, Miss Piggy, Animal and the rest of Electric Mayhem, along with my favorites, Gonzo, Swedish Chef and Beauregard.

Besides the wide array of Muppets in "The Muppets," there are also humans who star in the film, including a kidnapped Jack Black and crazed hobo Zach Galifianakis, along with many cameos, including Emily Blunt, James Carville, Leslie Feist, Whoopi Goldberg, Selena Gomez, Dave Grohl, Neil Patrick Harris, Judd Hirsch, John Krasinski, Jim Parsons, Rico Rodriguez, Mickey Rooney, Kristen Schaal, Sarah Silverman, Ken Jeong and Donald Glover.

It is fairly apparent that the film's co-writer and star Jason Segel is a fan of the Muppets, most notably after viewing his 2008 film "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," in which his character plays and sings a particularly gloomy rendition of the Muppet Show theme song and throughout the film is working on a "Dracula" musical for puppets (which he admitted in an interview with *New York Times* was a project he had actually been working on before he was a successful actor).

Overall, "The Muppets" was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for me. Although sadly Frank Oz wasn't attached to the film, it was fantastic seeing the beloved characters of my youth upon the silver screen again, in all of their musical, hilarious and sometimes deranged ways. Just remember "drums" is Animal's trigger word. I give "The Muppets" four out of five Fraggles.



## Unique opportunity opens for creative writers

By Chris Taylor  
The Clackamas Print

Throughout history, writers have been prominent. They have written some of the greatest speeches, stories and poems. They have shaped, guided and influenced writing as we know it today. Every generation has their iconic writers and you could be one of them.

Clackamas Community College is opening a new position that holds high merit. The writer laureate is open to students who are in good academic standing, responsible, enthusiastic and willing to retain the position for winter and spring term of 2012. The writer laureate's duties will be to write creatively for on campus readings, Clackamas County events, the "Clackamas Literary Review," graduation and open mics, with some other responsibilities.

"We're looking for someone with a vision," said David Mount, the English department chair. "We want someone with creative writing experience, someone who is very serious about the job."

The writer laureate position was inspired by the Oregon poet laureate. This position is intriguing to writers across campus. "I thought it was interesting," said Ty Spoon, a Writers' Club member. "It's full of prestige, and is a great opportunity to share my work and be recognized for it."

This application process involves providing info including your full name, phone number, email address and student ID number, on top of a letter of recommendation from a CCC instructor from whom you have personally taken a course that they have instructed.

Applicants are asked to provide a one-page letter describing their interest in creative writing and literature, how they envision carrying out the internship and their creative ideas that they wish to share as the writer laureate and a 10-15 page collective of your creative writing.

"It's a pretty hefty application process but people really should apply," said English department instructor Trista Cornelius. "It's real life work experience in creative writing, which is really rare and hard to come by as an undergrad."

"When I started at Clackamas, I didn't know I was a writer but when I heard about the laureate position, I had no doubt that I needed to submit my work," said Spoon.

The deadline for all applications is Dec. 1 at noon. All applications should be emailed to Cornelius as a Microsoft Word document or a PDF file to [tristac@clackamas.edu](mailto:tristac@clackamas.edu). Make sure to include "writer laureate application" in the subject line.

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