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**Science as Performance: A Proactive Strategy to Communicate and Educate Through Theater,
Music and Dance¹**
BRIAN SCHWARTZ, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York

Theater, music, dance, the literary and the visual arts can convey the joys and controversies of science. We describe a program at the Graduate Center entitled Science as Performance which is designed to communicate to the public the excitement and wonder of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Over the past few years there have been major successes in communicating science to the public through the arts. This is especially evident in theater and film with such recent plays as Copenhagen and the Oscar winning film A Beautiful Mind. The performance series Science and the Arts has been developed and tested at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY) in mid-Manhattan for more than four years, see <http://web.gc.cuny.edu/sciart/> . We have developed working relationships with actors, playwrights, dancers, choreographers, musicians, composers, artists and scientists who work at the intersection of science and the arts. In this presentation we will illustrate many of our collaborations in theater, dance, music and art. The response to the series has shown that the arts can make the sciences accessible, relevant, and exciting to diverse audiences in ways that provide both scientific content and significant artistic and entertainment values. The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant to the Graduate Center to help replicate similar Science and the Arts programs on other campuses by involving both their science departments and their performing arts departments. Some results of campus visits will be described. The author will also describe his involvement with producing two musical versions of a play, Einsteins Dreams based on the novel by Alan Lightman. One production opened at the Teatro da Trindade in Lisbon, Portugal at on October 21, 2005 for a four month run and a second and different production opens at the Prince Music Theater in Philadelphia in March 2006.

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