

ON CUE

The electronic newsletter of the Association of Community Theatres of Greater Cincinnati

September 2009 Linda Roll, editor
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Pirates invaded the Holiday Inn Hotel Eastgate over Labor Day weekend as the 2009 OCTA state conference once again graced the SW region. What a weekend and if you missed it you missed a great time. The steering committee did an excellent job of putting together a fun weekend. We had 4 theatres excerpting this year and of the 54 awards handed out, they brought home 14 awards. Below is a list of the groups and the awards that were won:

- Tick, Tick... Boom* Showbiz Players
- Merit in Orchestra
- Excellence in Ensemble
- Outstanding in Direction- Bill Geraghty & Jason Gonzalez
- Outstanding in Acting-Zachary Huffman

- You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* Milford Theatre Guild
- Excellence in Orchestra
- Excellence in Ensemble
- Excellence in Vocal Performance for Supertime-Shawn Toadvine

- The M Word/Post Its* Tri-County Players
- Merit in Acting-Elizabeth Chinn Molloy

- Pirates Of Penzance* Beechmont Players, Inc.
- Excellence in Choreography-Autumn Herron
- Excellence in Costumes-Linda Roll
- Excellence in Acting-Dan Cooley
- Outstanding in Orchestra
- Outstanding in Ensemble
- Outstanding for Creative Teamwork (Director, Choreographer, Music Director)- Charles Russell, Autumn Herron, Jay P. Meyers

At this time, I want to remove my editor's hat and give a great big THANK YOU to all those who made the weekend such a success. This is for those who worked backstage, those who worked registration and door security, thanks. And to the steering committee, you are all to be commended for the hard work that went into this weekend. As conference chair, I get the outward thanks, but I truly know who makes the weekend run so smoothly. It is all those who contributed and did their share of the work. Hopefully,

when the conference returns to our region in 2013, we will get 100% participation from all of our member theatres!

Congratulations are in order to winners of the various competitions as well. Once again, a team led by the SW region won the OCTA fued. The Hairy Potters were the first place winners and the second place was taken by another SW group. The culmination of the weekend was a weekend getaway to Gatlinburg in a "little cabin" in the mountains. This weekend was graciously donated by Dee Dunn. In order to win, people had to amass the most coinage. The coins were earned by attending workshops, participating in games, attending excerpts, becoming an OCTA patron among other things. The person(or in this case team) with the greatest amount of points would win. The winner of the weekend getaway was again a team comprised of SW members. They managed to accumulate over 42,000 points by Monday morning. What a great job!

Also winning big this weekend was Michelle Burdett who was the winner of the 10 foot pirate ship that was raffled off and Linda Roll who won the treasure chest that had pictures from shows from all over the state.

Thanks also to Arny Stoller for donating paper to the daily newsletter as well as for his help with reconnecting the sound system when it was moved.(Mark Aronson also deserves a big thank you for his help with this small problem)

The ACT reception that was held on Friday evening was also a great success. Thanks to ACT for the donation towards this reception and to Judy Berrens who put it together. Thanks also to Rilla Foster and Dee Anne Bryll for putting together the SW baskets. They were a huge success.

At Sunday's banquet, this year's recipient of the Spirit Of Community Theatre award was announced.. She joins previous winners Rob Bucher and Linda Roll. The award is given annually to someone who represents what Community Theatre is all about. And this year, the award was given to Rilla Foster. Congratulations Rilla.. You so richly deserve this award.

Peggy Kenney put together some very interesting workshops. There was definitely something for everyone. From technical to administrative to acting/makeup, you could find just about anything you wanted. One of the best received was a choreography workshop given by Gavin Pamer who is a professional actor/choreographer and brother of Lauren Caitlin. He graciously agreed to present this workshop for the non dancing director. It was a huge success as were all of the workshops. See what you miss by not attending???

A congratulation also goes to John Falkenbach from Beaver creek who was elected to the OCTA Board from this region and then at the board meeting was elected as the new treasurer.

So as you can see, it was an event filled weekend and all who attended had a great time. Next year's conference will be in the NW region and will have a 70's theme, so make your plans now to attend next year.

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A new season begins and so does ACT. The general elections were held in May of this year and we have a new president. Cathy Lutts has been elected to lead the activities of ACT.. She follows in the footsteps of outgoing president Joy Sharp. Other new board members are Ritch Stoops who will chair Awards and Bunny Arzsman who will be the

new Publicity chair. Congratulations to all of the board, both new and returning. We look forward to another good year!

The first ACT meeting of the year is Sept 22 at St Rita School for the Deaf on Glendale Milford Road. This is the new location for the meetings. So please mark your calendars, pay your dues and send your theatre delegates. ACT cannot exist without all of you.

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Watch the next newsletter for a look at the new ACT president for 1009-10.