

ON CUE

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

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HOW SWEET IT WAS!

That is how to describe this past weekend.

Over 300 people from all over the state of Ohio converged on Columbus for the OCTA conference.

Conference chair Harold Poppe and his committee did a great job of ensuring that everyone in attendance had a good time. Between the workshops, the excerpts and the late night activities, there was plenty to do.

The Southwest region was very well represented with four theatres presenting four very different stories. If you were present at the regionals and observed these shows you know what a good representation we had at the State competition. Those four shows were: The Drama Workshop's "Inherit the Wind"; Mariemont Players production of "Weekend Comedy"; Stagecrafters' "The Retreat From Moscow"; and Dayton Theatre Guild's production of "Boston Marriage". These shows came back to the region with 16 awards. The winners are as follows:

Inherit the Wind

Merit in Acting to Alexander McCracken as Howard

Merit in Ensemble

Merit in Costumes to Elaine Volker and Erin Durkin

Outstanding Production Crew

Outstanding in Acting to Burt McCollom as Henry Drummond

Outstanding in Acting to Wayne Kirsch as Matthew Harrison Brady

Weekend Comedy

Merit in Acting to Eric Day as Frank

Excellence in Ensemble

Outstanding in Acting to Christine Dye as Peggy

The Retreat From Moscow

Merit in Stage Dialect

Excellence in Acting to Michael Ireland as Jamie

Boston Marriage

Excellence in Acting to Elena Monigold as Claire
Outstanding in Acting to Sarah Caplan as Catherine
Outstanding in Acting to Lisa Sadai as Anna
Outstanding in Set Design
Outstanding in Direction to Saul Caplan

Congratulations to all these winners.

At the banquet on Monday, the following awards were also presented. The Travel Award given to The Drama Workshop as the group with the most in attendance.

In the Set Design Competition the SW winners were:
1st place, Dan Dermody for Footlighter's Children of Eden
2nd place to TDW for The House of Frankenstein (sorry, I did not catch the name)

Newsletter/Website awards Awards:
Christine Wolf Footlighters
Debbie Flaig Website design for TDW
Lebanon Theatre Company
Outstanding Functionality
Excellent Website Design
Excellence in Newsletter Content
Excellence for Overall Website

There were no entries from our region for the Technical or the Costume competitions.

Just a reminder as your theatre seasons get into high gear, go to the OCTA website, www.octaweb.org, and check out what it takes to enter any of these competitions above. Urge your techies to enter them. Let's get some full representation for the great work that we do in this area.

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Once again, the SW region was well represented in the late night activities.

John Masterson took second place in the Karoke contest. In the Costume competition, a team calling itself "The Candy Eaters Anonymous Club" brought home a prize as well. The team consisted of Peggy Kenney, Sharon Shelton, Sean Schuster, Ruth Crowley, and Brian Anderson.

At the end of the last day of the conference, the torch is passed from one year to the next.

Arrrgh! Did we ever give the whole room a reason to visit our wonderful region in 2009! As the conference chairs were introduced, a band of pirates descended upon the crowd, taking them hostage. Various suggestions were extended as to what to do with the whole lot of scallywags! Thanks to Hairy Bill the pirate for leading the rousing rendition of "Yo Ho Ho On the O-Hi-O!" Everyone was commanded to make their way to our fair city by the banks of the river or forever be armless!

And the whole state of Ohio knows they are in for a jolly good time in 2009. ARRRGGGGH!!!!

PS...Thanks to ALL the pirates for their help in making this the most successful handoff in the history of OCTA!!! A job well done, mates!Arrggh!

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Apologies are extended for any mistakes, misspellings or name omissions made in this edition of Cuelines. After 3 days of little sleep, it is the editor's bedtime and vacation is just a day away!