

ON CUE

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

SUMMER 2007 Linda Roll, Editor

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OCTA REGIONAL

The OCTA regional is now history. What a great weekend to experience the diversity of theater that we have in our own back yard. If you were present for any or all of this past weekend, you experienced a myriad of emotions, from laughter, to tears, from anger to angst.

We had the privilege of seeing a show by the newest members of our community. Acting Up presented an excerpt from “Once On This Island” and it was a thrill to see that our future is in good hands. What a talented group of young people!

We also welcomed the Dayton Theater Guild, who presented “Speaking In Tongues”. What a complicated script and what a lovely job they did. Those in attendance totally enjoyed the presentation. It is hoped that this is just the beginning for this group and that they will participate again.

12 theaters presented 30 minute excerpts from shows that they produced this past season. Of those 12, 5 groups decided to showcase only.

Mariemont Players’ “Queen of Bingo” and Wyoming Players’ “Talk Radio” were the 2 shows selected by the judges to represent the Southwest region at the state OCTA competition in September. “Grease”, presented by Beechmont Players, was selected as our region’s alternate.

The adjudicators this year were Jim LaPolla, Bonnie Froelich and Larry Nielsen who had the difficult task of evaluating the shows and making the decisions as to which theaters would be invited to the State competition.

After the banquet on Saturday, OCTAfest chair Billie Harmon presented the following awards:

Once on This Island, Acting Up

Merit in Acting – Kase Corstanje

Merit in Vocal Performance – Lauren Martinez

Excellence in Acting & Vocal Performance - Kristin Korb

Outstanding in Costuming for Gods and Goddesses – Becky Corstanje

Outstanding in Makeup for Gods and Goddesses

The Nerd , Sunset Players

Merit in Acting – Don Frimming

Excellence in Acting – Adam Drake

The Queen of Bingo, Mariemont Players

Merit in Use of Props

Excellence in Ensemble

Excellence in Acting – Christine Dye

Excellence in Acting – Ann Baker

Excellence in Offstage Acting – Tom Storey

Excellence in Directing – Norma Niinemets

A View From the Bridge, Middletown Lyric Theatre

Merit in Acting – Sharon Einhorn

Merit in Acting – Bruce Lakeman

Excellence in Physical Interpretation – Daniel Caudill

Excellence in Costuming Tracy Botos and Rhonda Lucas

Grease, Beechmont Players

Merit in Costuming – Carol Wagner

Excellence in Acting – Megan Shelley

Excellence in Hair and Makeup for Frenchy – Megan Shelley

Excellence in Choreography – Alyssa Foley

Outstanding in Acting and Vocal Performance – Robert Weidle

Outstanding in Musical Directing – Jay P. Myers

Outstanding in Orchestra

Time of My Life, Tri-County Players

Merit in Acting - Megan Blasch

Merit in Directing – Gregory Charles Vaughan and Sharon Buchtman

Excellence in Acting - Anthony Belanger

Outstanding in Acting – Jeffery Nieman

Parade, Footlighters, Inc.

Outstanding in Directing – Dee Anne Bryll and Ed Cohen

Outstanding in Musical Directing – Paul Strabley

Outstanding in Vocal Directing – Kathy Kramer

Outstanding in Choreography – Dee Anne Bryll

Outstanding in Costuming – Diane Carr

Outstanding in Orchestra

Outstanding in Overall Production

Outstanding in Acting and Vocal Performance – Ken Early

Outstanding in Acting and Vocal Performance – Darin M. Art
Outstanding in Acting and Vocal Performance – Rick Kramer
Outstanding in Acting and Vocal Performance – Pamela Kay Day
Outstanding in Set Design – Dan Dermody
Outstanding in Ensemble – Gloria Mc Nerney, Kelsey Randall and
Abby Palijieg
Outstanding in Acting – Charles McClinton

The Glass Menagerie, Stagecrafters
Merit in Acting – Linzie Greiwe
Merit in Acting – Kathleen Labanz

Defying Gravity, The Drama Workshop
Merit in Acting – Sophie Grant
Excellence in Acting – Ginny Chizer
Excellence in Acting – Gretchen Roose

The Cover of Life, Village Players of Ft. Thomas
Merit in Ensemble
Merit in Lighting – Michael Morehead
Merit in Costuming – Dee Anne Bryll
Outstanding in Acting – Katey Blood

Talk Radio, Wyoming Players, Inc.
Merit in Sound – Mark Aronson
Excellence in Directing – Shannon Casey and Chris Dunn
Excellence in Acting – Tony Belanger
Outstanding in Acting – Alex Cline

Speaking in Tongues, Dayton Theatre Guild
Excellence in Ensemble
Excellence in Directing – Barbara Coriell
Excellence in Costuming – Dayton Theatre Guild

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ACT also presented its annual Orchid Awards after the banquet. This year there were 59 shows eligible for consideration. To win an award, at least 2 of the 3 judges who evaluate the show must nominate a category for an Orchid. Of those 59 shows, there were 334 awards given out. Here is a brief look at the theaters and the award winning shows.

Acting Up:

Grease- 10 awards, Honk Jr.-3, Once On This Island-5

Beechmont Players:

Grease-3 awards, Let Down Your Hair, Rapunzel-1, Tom, Dick and Harry-1

Cincinnati Music Theater:

Hello, Dolly!-4 awards, La Cage Aux Folles-4

Footlighters, Inc:

A Tuna Christmas-8 awards, Parade-17, Seussical-15, The Foreigner-12

Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre:

Barefoot in the Park-3, Nunsense II-5, Smoke on the Mountain-13, The Crucible-8

Lebanon Theatre Company:

Steel Magnolias-5 awards, The School for Scandal-9

Loveland Stage Company:

George M-2 awards, The Good Doctor-3, The Philadelphia Story-8

Mariemont Players:

A Murder of Crows-10 awards, Black Comedy-7, Honk-7, Natural Causes-6, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest-8, The Queen of Bingo-3

Mason Community Players, Inc:

Fiddler on the Roof-2 awards, Cole-1, Hay Fever-4

Middletown Lyric Theatre:

A View From The Bridge-7 awards, Alice In Wonderland-14, Have a Nice Day-5

Milford Theatre Guild:

Life With Father-6 awards, The Mousetrap-1

Showbiz Players:

My Favorite Year-8 awards, The Civil War-9, Urinetown-6

Stagecrafters:

Last of the Red Hot Lovers-2 awards, Love Letters-4, The Glass Menagerie-2

Sunset Players:

Dracula-4 awards, The Nerd-5, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown-2

The Drama Workshop:

Communicating Doors-9 awards, Defying Gravity-10, Mrs. Bob Cratchitt's Wild Christmas Binge-1

The Village Players:

A Midsummer Night's Dream-5 awards, Dial M for Murder-3, The Cover of Life-8 The Wizard of Oz-7

TriCounty Players:

A Gown for his Mistress-1 Award, Time of My Life-3, The Uninvited-4
Wyoming Players:
Talk Radio-6 awards, The Farnsdale Avenue Housing Estate
Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery-2, Vanities-3

Congratulations to all of the nominees and the winners.

It would not be possible to mention the weekend without thanking several people.

Tracy Botos, the ACT 1st Vice President, once again did a magnificent job of organizing the weekend. Unless you have ever done a conference, you have no idea of the myriad of details that have to be attended to.

Joy Sharp, ACT President, had the difficult task once again of the pre-registration process.

Gary Rogers the Stage Manager extraordinaire....awesome job as always.

Dee Anne Bryll, ACT 2nd Vice President handled all of the Orchid awards.

Cathy Lutts who was in charge of the Roger Grooms, Art Rouse and Mario Pitocco awards.

To the rest of the ACT board who have done a wonderful job this year.

To the Southwest OCTA representatives who were present and working in various capacities. Shannon Casey, lead representative and Dan Riggsby who worked on the Pick meeting as well as the OCTA organization of the weekend.

The Split the Pot raffle was a success. ACT has \$262 to spend on the baskets for the state conference. Rilla Foster and Dee Anne Bryll do an excellent job of putting these baskets together. Thanks to all of you who purchased tickets.

And last, but not least, thanks to all the groups who participated in the weekend. All of you fulfilled your job obligations and made for a smooth running event.

Southwest Rocks!

There were some other awards given on Saturday. Joy presented her outgoing board members with a small token of her appreciation. She also presented a personal award to Ritch Stoops for all of his assistance. John Wesseling was presented with the President's award.

The Roger Grooms award went to Loveland Stage Company's Bonnie Schanz.

The Art Rouse Award was presented to Footlighter's Ron and Freida Houck. The Mario Pitocco Award was presented to Beechmont Player's Ed Spencer.

Congratulations to all of you for your dedication to Community Theater in Cincinnati.

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Don't forget to support your region at the annual OCTA conference being held this year at Beechwood on August 31, Sept 1-3. The theme is 007-A License to Thrill

Thrills are on the way....each month more happens and excitement grows.

On Friday night we will host the two youth theatre groups who were chosen as award winners at our OCTA Jr. program in July. We want everyone to be there to support our future thespians....the evening is planned to begin at 8 pm.

The biggest change this year is the schedule format. All workshops will be held in the morning from 9-11:30 am and there will be no workshops on Friday night....walking the stage and learning how to maneuver back stage for the excerpting theatres will take place in the morning as well....this gives you the opportunity to sleep in if you choose, attend a workshop, eat lunch/breakfast before you enter the ballroom for excerpts. The first excerpt will begin at approximately 11:45 am. On Saturday there will be 3 sessions

11:30 am-1:25 pm is the first one....an hour break for load out and in, walk the stage and we begin again (3:45-7:15 pm) with the 2nd session and when it ends you are off to dinner on your own or to the delegates dinner/annual meeting....3rd session will be 8:15-10 pm and end around 10:45 pm with load out for the day. The late night games will begin at 11 pm.

Sunday: Load in begins at 8 am and workshops resume from 9-11:30 am....there are two sessions on Sunday. Sessions 1 will begin at approx 11:45 am and end around 2:15 pm....an hour break to load out and in, walk the stage and session 2 begins at 3:50-6:20 pm. Load out for the afternoon session follows.

Then you are off to get ready for the masquerade ball/dinner/awards and dance and then late night games, sing-along, etc. will fill your evening.

Monday will see workshops again from 9-11:30 am, striking costume/set design and getting ready to attend the awards banquet/brunch. Hopefully the festivities come to a close around 2:30 pm and you are on your way home.

Check out the OCTA website for more information and to download registration forms. That site is www.octaweb.org.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

added May 21, 2007

Want to advertise your full season, have a special set to rent, have a business of your own to publicize???? Advertise in the *OCTA 007 ... A LICENSE TO THRILL* conference program.

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Full-page	\$100
Half-page	\$60

You must send camera ready artwork to:

Marilyn Hubbard

dmhubbard@centurytl.net

or send hard copy to her:
4218 Ford Lane
Vermillion Ohio 44089.

Deadline: June 4, 2007

Questions? Contact Ginny Morrison email:weedz@bright.net or call: 330-416-5937

Spotlight on: Peggy Kenney

As a member of Footlighters since the mid 70's, Peggy has served in a variety of roles both on and off the stage. Behind the scenes she has done everything from costumes and prop mistress to ticket chair. Imagine that! Over the years Peggy had numerous positions on the board including 5 terms as president. Most recently she served as an Orchid award winning co-producer for *Love, Sex and the IRS*. She will be a co-producer of BALLROOM in the fall.

On stage Peggy has performed with both Footlighters and Village Players. However, the last times she appeared on Footlighter's stages were in the choruses of *Dark of the Moon* and the summer revue, *The Sound of*

Our Music. Most recent Peggy appeared and co-produced *Harvey* for Village Players.

As a member of the state OCTA (Ohio Community Theatre Association) board, Peggy is the administrative vice president responsible for Marketing, Membership and Public Relations. She is quite proud to be the recipient of the 1992 ART ROUSE Award presented by ACT-Cincinnati and the 1993 OCTA President's Award. Peggy feels one of the best accomplishments she has done in theatre was serving as the chair of the 1993 OCTA state conference, *A Blast on the River*. At that time, her feeling was that she made many new friends and connections both in Footlighters and other theatre groups in the tri-state area which have lasted over the years.

Her first real stage appearance was at Music Hall in the Girl Scout Symphony.

Her first show with Footlighters was in 1971 in *Hello, Dolly!* but she did other things in high school and college. Her youth club always did a summer musical. Whenever she was cast in a show she had to choose between basketball and the stage. She picked varsity basketball so she only had time to work back stage or do walk on parts. . Then she did summer shows at Mt St.Joe -- *Sound of Music* and *Music Man* where she was cast as Ethel Tufflemeyer. She also did a few other things during the year in college. When she saw audition notices for Footlighters, she thought it was the same group that she had worked with at Mt. St Joe.

When she went to auditions she found out it was a completely different group. She got a part in the show and have been with the group ever since . She joined Village Players later but it was still at the time when you had to be accepted into the Ft. Thomas Women's Club before you could audition for a show. Things have changed since then.

She also directs the shows at St. Rita each spring. When she started in 1972, there were 3 directors on the team and they would alternate between serving as the technical director, music director, choreographer etc. However, over the years, the others are no longer on the team so she directs every year. Some of her favorite musicals shows which she has directed are ANNIE GET YOUR GUN (twice), CINDERELLA, PINOCCHIO, WIZARD OF OZ and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (not the Disney version) Other shows which maybe people haven't heard of are: WAY OUT WEST IN A DRESS, LUMBERJACKS AND WEDDINGBELLS, and TIME AND TIME AGAIN

It really depends on the students what show we can pick to do. She really has lost count of just how many shows, but she thinks she has directed 25 or so and has worked on 34.

When you see her the next time, say “Hi” and get to know this wonderful theater person.