

MO Thespian Newsletter

August 2011

Leadership Conference

Leadership Conference is just a few short weeks away—Sept. 10 at Fulton High School in Fulton, MO!!! Come join us for a day of new friends, new ideas and excitement about the coming school year, especially in YOUR theatre troupe!! Especially for this year: Sarah Davenport, former ITO (International Thespian Officer), from Georgia will be joining us, sharing her vision on leadership from the student's standpoint. Your own state officers (STO) Austin, Loren, Hailey and Jacob have been working on plans for you and have a great day planned. To register, go to mo-thespians.com and click on Leadership. Please note that lunch is included, provided by our hosts, Mikelle Cortez and the Fulton High School Thespians.

Leadership Conference Schedule

9:00-9:30: Opening Session (Gym)

- This is your chance to get to know your state officers and learn about the exciting and informative day they have planned.

9:30-10:20: Session 1: Focus on Leadership with Sarah Davenport, former chair, International Thespian Officer

10:25-11:15: Session 2: How to Be the Guide for Your Own Troupe

11:20-12:10: Session 3: Scholarships and Advocacy - How to make them work for you

12:10-1:00: Lunch

12:30-1:00: Meeting for anyone interested in Running for State Office

1:05-1:55: Session 4: State Conference Information - All you need to know about the 2012 Conference

1:55-2:15: Conference Q&A

2:15-2:30: Closing Session

Hotel for Sept. 9: Holiday Inn Express, 2205 Cardinal Drive, Fulton, MO Exit for Hwy HH, off Hwy 54
573-642-2600 rate: \$80.84 per room,+ tax; bring your tax letter!

Meet your state officers:

Jacob Bogart: Top of the mornin' to ya! Jacob here, wishing you another happy year of theatre....ing. So you want to get to know me, aye? Well, first off, I am a senior at Lee's Summit West High School where I partake in theater (duh), Coffee Break Improv, and Chamber Choir. As troupe Treasurer for the past two years I have helped organize the top TOTS-EAT team in the nation and fundraised thousands of dollars for my troupe. In my free time I enjoy watching trashy reality TV, trolling the interwebs, and washing dishes in a creepy old mansion. I love folk music, thrifting and above all moose. I have an extensive and ever growing collected of stuffed meese. I am physically incapable of taking good pictures and talking quietly. Tweet me, poke me, or just give me a good ole' fashioned high five.

Austin Strassle: Pleasant day thespians! I'm Austin and attend Ruskin High School in Kansas City. Besides enjoying theater I love long walks on the beach of Normandy lit by the nightly moon. Okay, maybe that's a little exaggerated. I do enjoy watching Doctor Who and plan one day to travel through space and time in my own TARDIS (Time and Relative Dimension In Space) machine. I'm a nerd.

Hillary Andert: Why hello there! I'm Hillary and I attend Parkway West High School outside of St. Louis, Missouri. At my high school I am currently drum major of our marching band, president of our chapter of Amnesty international, and a school board member of my high school drama club. I enjoy technical lighting design because of the more focused aspects and the drive to accomplish things due to personal responsibility. In my free time I enjoy playing the clarinet; alto saxophone; and mellophone, bike riding, and swimming. Don't be afraid to say hi and chat sometime at leadership, or you can find me on facebook! See you later!

Loren Howard: Good day Thespians! This is Loren and I belong to Troupe 2533 at Lindbergh High School in St. Louis. Besides fantasizing about being Elphaba in Wicked, I've been involved in theatre for about 6 years now and I've never felt more at home! I'm entering my second year on the board of my thespian troupe, and I have been involved in every show since I entered high school. I have also worked on numerous mission trips, and volunteer days. I plan on keeping theatre as my main extra-curricular throughout my high school career, and then going on to teach high school theatre for the rest of my life! If you ever need anything you can find me on facebook and I'll of course be at Leadership to answer any questions you may have!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MO STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2011

PLACE: FULTON HIGH SCHOOL

DATE: SEPTEMBER 10

TIME: 8:30AM REGISTRATION-2:15PM

BRING YOUR TROUPE OFFICERS FOR A DAY OF LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCE INFORMATION.

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2012

PLACE: MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY (SPRINGFIELD)

DATE: JANUARY 5-7

START PLANNING NOW!

Why Attend Leadership?: From Your State Officers

Austin Strassle: Once upon a time in future thespians from across Missouri gathered at one location for Leadership Conference. You should be one of these individuals! Why? Because your awesome State Officers are leading exciting workshops that day. That's reason enough to go. You'll also be getting important information about how you and your troupe can get the best experience out of State Conference. So get ready because it's going to be awesome. Allons-y!

Hillary Andert: I believe that students should come to leadership to gather the tools and knowledge necessary to have a successful and enjoyable experience at the state level. We have prepared four workshops for you, to come enjoy and learn from, with information and skills to take back to your troupes. We hope that you enjoy the experience!

Loren Howard: Where will you be in September? Leadership of course! You will take back new skills to your troupes to help with bonding and becoming more of a family. Leadership will help you make your trip to state conference this year the best, because YOU can inform your troupe of the exciting things that are bound to unfold at state. Oh and your student officers will be there!

Jacob Bogart: Can't wait till the frigid month of January to get your Thespian fix? Well today is your lucky day! Leadership Conference is just around the corner!

While State Conference at MSU is a great place to see new shows, meet new people, and learn new skills, Leadership is where we get down to the meat. There, you will partake in workshops specifically geared toward troupe officers. You will also get top-secret information about the up-coming State Conference and learn about all the opportunities you and your troupe have at State and how to take advantage of them. So come on down to leadership and Thespian it up!

News and Notes

***Page to Stage, IE's**, Improv Olympix, Tech Challenge and the brand new TECHNICAL IE's will be at conference this year!

***The Middle School Conference will be back** this year, as well! Get those middle school students excited about theatre and build your program early. Talk to your middle school drama sponsor about getting a Junior Thespian Troupe started!

* **New conference forms will be posted on the website** and will again be coming to you via CD at Leadership. THROW THE OLD CD AWAY!

***Congratulations to the All State** cast and crew for an outstanding performance at ITF this past summer!

***Want points toward honor troupe status?** Donate \$50 to this year's silent auction! Contact Shayne Daniel for information!

Joplin news: Many of you know that our sister troupe in Joplin suffered major damage back in May from the tornado that ripped through their town. Ben Martin and I visited with Sarah Brim and her troupe officers last week; they are bouncing back! Many of you made generous offers last May to help the Joplin Thespian troupe as they rebuild. I am enclosing the Joplin wish list created by Sarah & her officers. They will be at Leadership on the 10th, and will be able to take home any & all items you can bring for them. If you have items you would like to donate, please drop me an email, so we can keep track of the items, and Sarah will know how much room she needs to take things home. Joplin Wish List - Website:
<http://www.mo-thespians.com/joplin>

Gearing Up for the 2012 Conference

The 2012 Conference is sure to be great! We are bringing back the Parade of Troupes, so be ready to submit your slide! We have looked at all of the conference evaluation forms and are currently doing our best to address any concerns! We are again at Springfield this year and have hopefully addressed some of the issues from last year. More information about the opportunities at conference are forthcoming at Leadership and in upcoming newsletters. Be attentive for updates!

Email tnigus@fz.k12.mo.us to have your shows included in the newsletter!