

MO Thespian Newsletter

Pre-Leadership Edition

August 2012

For Sponsors

Leadership conference is just around the corner! Make sure you look through all of the included information and share with your students. The July meeting was full of important decisions for the state board and the student officers as we put together the conference schedule and put the finishing touches on Leadership, as well as a major update of the website. Updates will continue to come out as we are given more information from the Marriott and the America's Center. Make sure to keep an eye out for updates, and start putting together your registration paperwork, purchase orders and everything else you need for a seamless conference experience! Reminder: Any adult wishing to apply for the State Board must submit by September 1.

Leadership

Unlike the state conference, schools will still be responsible for making their own hotel reservations for Leadership. The Truman Hotel (where Leadership will be held) has a block of rooms available for \$62 + tax (\$66.34). The group code is THESP and phone number to reserve rooms is 573-635-7171. A reminder that the cost of Leadership this year will be \$12 per person attending (students and adults) and this will include lunch and all registration materials. Payment for Leadership is due by Sept 8th (payment can be brought to Leadership). There will be some activities planned for Friday, Sept 7th. Officially the start/stop times of Leadership on Saturday, Sept 8th will be as follows: Registration 8:15-8:45 and Closing Session 5-5:30. A complete schedule will be posted on line sometime before July 31st. Due to the large amount of changes in a variety of areas, if you are unable to attend Leadership this year you might want to connect with another Troupe Director to find out what you missed.

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Conference Registration

Conference consent and health forms will be posted online this summer for anyone wishing to get a head start on registration for next year. This year, our hotel accommodations will be in the same site as our conference (St. Louis Grand Renaissance), making for "one-stop conferencing"!! The hotel has plenty of rooms for all; your **reservations will be made through Missouri State Thespians**. Food options are still in progress, but will be available for you by Leadership. A rooming list form will be on the website by mid-summer.

Handy information concerning rooms:

All rooms with hotel tax – \$116.74 (1-4 persons)

- All reservations, (numbers only) to Debbie Corbin, by email, mail or phone.
- All rooming lists (names) to Debbie Corbin by email or mail only.
- All monies for hotel rooms to Jennifer Forrest-James by mail or paypal.

Dates/deadlines:

- You can begin to order your rooms NOW!
- October 1 - Numbers of rooms per school
- November 1 - All rooming lists due
- November 30 - All rooming finalized

Conference 2013 Opportunities at a Glance:

- Go to workshops
- Write a script for Page to Stage
- Act or stage manage Page to Stage
- Enter a performance IE
- Enter a technical IE
- Audition for the All-State Show
- Audition for the ITS scholarships in Performance, Technical Theatre or Theatre Education
- Submit for the Theatre for Life Scholarship
- Get together a Tech Challenge team
- Enter a team in the Improv Olympix
- See some one-act plays
- Visit colleges and vendors

Get involved!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2012

PLACE: TRUMAN HOTEL, JEFFERSON CITY

DATE: SEPTEMBER 8

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2013

PLACE: MARRIOTT RENAISSANCE GRAND (ST. LOUIS)

DATE: JANUARY 10-12

Mainstage and One Act Productions

Any school that is interested in submitting a one act for performance at the 2013 festival must do so by September 1st. Please remember that all one act performances must be simplistic in nature. Large sets and elaborate lighting will not be possible in the MO Thespian one act spaces. All Mainstage submissions must be received four weeks before your performance. The last possible submission date is October 27, 2012.

Sponsors!!!! Contact

ahetz@parkwayschools.net if you are interested in serving on the one act reading committee for the 2013 conference!

HELP WANTED!!

1. Amie Gossett needs troupe directors to supervise Page-To-Stage auditions during workshops 1, 2 or 3. Contact Amie at : mstpagetostage@gmail.com
2. Chad Little needs a troupe director to serve as House Manager for the Mainstage theatre. The House Manager will be in charge of the ushers and enforcing proper theatre etiquette.
3. Improv Olympix is looking for one more sponsor who would like to help with pre-conference planning of the event with Jen and Janine.

ITS Milestone

Joe Norton made a heartfelt announcement at Festival honoring the students of the International Thespian Society for raising over \$1,000,000 for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids. Congratulations to all of our students for contributing to this outstanding cause and showing great compassion for others.

Colleges/Vendors

We encourage all students and teachers to visit the many tables next year, and bring some extra cash to purchase scripts, educational DVDs and even some whimsical jewelry to take home. We are very excited about the move to the Marriot, which will put our colleges and vendors in a much more accessible area! Remember – the college tables are not just for seniors! Encourage juniors and sophomores to research their future plans now! Send suggestions for universities you would like to see at conference to: tngus@fz.k12.mo.us.

Honor Troupes

Just a reminder that to earn Honor Troupe status this year, a student-led presentation of no more than 3 students will present to a panel of judges (one state board student, adult state board, and another troupe sponsor) at Leadership Conference in September. Presentations must be in a scrapbook, powerpoint, or Prezi. A projector will be provided, but each school should bring their own laptop to ensure that your presentation will play. Honor Troupes will be announced at state conference. If you have any questions, please contact Mikelle Cortez at mcortez@fulton58.org.

MO State on Facebook!

Be sure to visit the Missouri State Thespians Facebook page for information from your student officers! From your newsfeed or homepage on Facebook, search "Missouri Thespians." There are a few groups. Be sure to join the one with over 180 members.

Don't forget to put together a parade of troupes slide for conference and send it to paradeoftroupes@hotmail.com

Individual Events

The Individual Events will be back for conference 2013! Detailed information will go up on the web site this summer, but here are the basics for you:

1. Each school may only have one entry for each category.
2. Each student may only be entered in one event.
3. Categories for performance include monologue, duet acting, group acting, solo musical, duet musical, group musical, group Broadway dance and mime.
4. Categories for technical theatre include Costume Design, Lighting Design, Theatre Marketing, Scenic Design, Short Film, Sound Design, and Stage Management.

All categories, except group Broadway Dance, are also national categories. Students who receive a superior rating at state level will be eligible to compete at Festival. All superior ratings may also be asked to perform/display their entry at Missouri Arts Education Day in Jefferson City.

Improv Olympix

We are looking forward to bringing this event back to conference this year! Each school may enter one team. Teams must have five members and have at least two members of the opposite sex.

Tech Challenge

Tech Challenge is the perfect time for the techies to show their stuff! Different events have included light hang and focus, sound system set up, costume quick change, sew a button, fold a drop, knot tying, prop shift and cable roll up relay. Put together your three or four member team (with one member of the opposite sex) and come out and compete!

Etiquette Video

We are once again looking for creative theatre etiquette videos! Get your troupe together and put together a message for your fellow Thespians. Videos should be no longer than three minutes. Submit your DVD, postmarked by December 1st, to Jennie Forrest James.

Scholarships

The scholarship registration process will undergo some changes for the 2013 conference. All changes will be discussed at Leadership conference. Missouri Thespians offers eleven total scholarships: four performance, three technical, three theatre education and one Theatre for Life.

Page to Stage

For Student Playwrights:

1. **Development:** The opportunity to work one-on-one with a Master Playwright who will help you revise and polish your script.
2. **Workshop:** Rehearsal time with the Master Playwright, director and a cast of student actors, to realize your creative vision.
3. **Performance:** A staged reading of your play for an audience of hundreds of your fellow students.
4. **Selection:** THREE student scripts will be chosen to receive professional coaching and staged reading at the 2012-2013 Missouri State Thespian Festival.

For Actors:

We will need actors who are excited about 'creating' a role in a brand new play and performing it (script in hand) with only a few hours of rehearsal! If chosen, actors must attend the Friday workshop session designated for their particular script and the corresponding time for performance on Saturday. The readings will be done with script in hand—no memorization required—but it helps if you feel confident about thinking on your feet and being a part of the creative process! Many times, an actor's choices in workshops help the playwright discover who the character really is and what they need to write next.

For Stage Managers:

We need a student stage manager for each play who will film auditions, introduce the play and the author, read descriptions and stage directions, and supervise set-up and strike any chairs, tables or props used.