



Conference 2014

The 2014 conference is just around the corner! Workshops, scholarship auditions, one act plays, student-written works and main stage productions showcasing the talents of students around Missouri will all be featured. We are so glad you are joining us for this outstanding weekend of theatre!

Keynote Speaker

Missouri Thespians is very excited to welcome Ken Page as our keynote speaker! An excerpt from IMDB: Ken Page is an American cabaret singer and actor from St. Louis, Missouri, best known as the voice of Oogie Boogie, the main antagonist of Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, and for playing Old Deuteronomy in the original Broadway and video cast of *Cats*.

Ken Page began his career in the chorus of The MUNY outdoor theater in St. Louis. After making his Broadway debut in *The Wiz*, Page played Nicely-Nicely Johnson in the all-black revival of *Guys and Dolls* (Theatre World Award). He was then featured in the original cast of the Fats Waller musical revue, *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Drama Desk Award), a role he reprised in the 1982 television broadcast. (Page returned to the show in its 1988 Broadway revival.) In 1982, he played Old Deuteronomy in *Cats*, returning to the part in the 1998 video release.

Ken will talk with the delegation during the first general session on Thursday January 9th at 10:30am.

Conference Schedule

Missouri Thespians will be utilizing a modified split schedule this year. One group will attend the mainstage matinee at 3pm in the Ferrara, with the other half of the delegation attending the 8pm mainstage. Workshops and the IE competition will run concurrently in the hotel during both mainstage timeslots.

Alumni

If you have alumni that are interested in keeping in touch with Missouri State Thespians, have them contact Andrea Martin. MOThespiansInfo@gmail.com.

Mainstages and One Acts

Mainstage Performances

Thursday, January 9th

Missouri All-State Show, *Violet*

Friday, January 10th

Branson High School, *The Miracle Worker*

One Acts

Thursday, January 9th

1:30-2:45 Hazelwood SD, *Almost, Maine*

3:00-4:15 NKCHS, *Controlling Interest*

4:30-5:30 MICDS, *13 Ways...*

8:00-9:15 Parkway West, *Dead*

Saturday, January 11th

1:30-2:15 Staley, *Playwriting 101...*

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Parkway Central Troupe 1876, the recipient of the 2014 Community Outreach Grant!

Page to Stage

After reading the ten submissions, the 2014 Page to Stage selection is *A Hasty Word You Can't Recall* by Jamie Berry from Raymore-Peculiar High School. Maria Vaughn from Belton High School was selected as the Stage Manager. Thank you to all of you who submitted.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2014
PLACE: MARRIOTT RENAISSANCE GRAND
DATE: JANUARY 9-11

ARTS ADVOCACY DAY
PLACE: MISSOURI STATE CAPITOL
DATE: MARCH 12
SUPPORT THE ARTS IN EDUCATION IN MISSOURI!

Have a Smart Phone?

This year we will be utilizing a smartphone app for your conference guide. You will need to download the free Guidebook App (available on Apple and Android). The guidebook will be posted a few days prior to conference and will contain the schedule, maps, workshop listings, links to the colleges and vendors websites and more.

Honor Troupe

32 Honor Troupes will be announced at Conference. We saw some really great presentations at Leadership, and are excited to see all of the great things the troupes of Missouri have accomplished!

Scholarships

All Scholarship Applicants have been notified of their audition/interview times and preparations. If you completed an Accepted application, please check your emails for appropriate times and room numbers. If you have questions please email Andrea Martin at: MSTSCholarships@gmail.com

Theatre for Life Finalists are Emily Roberts, Bridget Smith, Sierra Teson and Joshua Gibson. Each TFL finalist will be guaranteed a \$100.00 gift from Missouri Thespians.

Thank You!!!

The Missouri State Board would like to thank our volunteers that served on the awards reading committees:

Susan Cooper - Blue Springs High School
Allison Fleetwood - Nixa High School
Colleen Norman - Richmond High School
Cathy Kapusciak - Union High School
Susie Allmendinger - Eureka High School
Carolyn Hood - MICDS High School

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

Technical Challenge

Technical Challenge Packets are now available online at the Missouri Thespian website!

Improv Olympix

- 1) Copies of the assessments will be emailed to the sponsors of the teams this week in case they are interested in what they will be assessed on.
- 2) There will be a workshop on Thursday at conference where Mimi Swoboda will be reviewing the rules of the games for any interested competitors and judges.
- 3) The team(s) who are chosen to perform at the IE showcase will be playing a game created especially for the event and will be given the rules to this game at conference.
- 4) Teams who have not yet sent in the names of their teams are listed on the schedule by their school name (which will also be sent to the sponsors this week).

Questions? Email Jennifer Forrest-James

Attention Delegates

There will be no bags included this year with registration BUT there will be nicer sling bags for sale at the Mo Thespian store with the Conference logo and a spot to put your name. Quantities are limited and the price will be \$5!

STO Corner

Hey Thespians! We hope your school year has been awesome so far and we're looking forward to kicking off second semester with thescon. We've been hard at work planning conference this year. We have a few new things this year such as the IE Showcase and we're bringing back some old favorites such as Tehkno Bubbles!! Don't forget our theme, "SHINE! Everyone is a star, but together we make a galaxy." Bring shiny and glow in the dark clothes so you can rock it out at the dance. Your troupe can still donate to our Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS Silent Auction...Any and all donations are acceptable and can go towards state involvement/philanthropy. Contact Chad Little at clittle@parkwayschools.net for more information and where to send your items to. We have two main fundraisers for our charity, Viva Vox. We'll be doing "Penny Wars" and "Minute to Win It," just like last year, so come with your change. There's just about a month left and we can't wait to see you all SHINE!

