

MO Thespian Newsletter

Post Conference

January 2013

For Sponsors

The board will be meeting in March to discuss the conference in-depth. If you have any suggestions or concerns about specific events or the conference as a whole, please email one of your board members and we will address all issues at the meeting.

Missouri Gives Back

The silent auction and Minute to Win it were incredibly successful and we were able to donate \$2,827.70 to the Rainbow House and \$3,152.25 to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids.

Colleges/Vendors

Many colleges and vendors attended conference this year, giving the students of Missouri an opportunity to ask questions and obtain information about their future academic endeavors. 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.

Post Conference Surveys

Please take a few moments to visit these sites and take a brief survey about your conference experience.

Sponsors:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FGQLW3R>

Troupe Officers (1 survey per school)

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FGSKVSD>

Please complete these before February 14.

Mainstage and One Act Productions

Congratulations to all of the schools that brought performances to the 2012 conference:

Mainstage Performances

- Marquette – *Into the Woods*
- Parkway Central – *The Diviners*
- St. Francis Borgia – *Is He Dead?*
- Lindbergh – *Antigone*
- Poplar Bluff – *Greater Tuna*

One Act Performances

- Parkway North – *Summer by the Lake*
- Parkway West – *Actor's Nightmare*
- Webster Groves – *A Zoo Story*
- North Kansas City – *The Least Offensive Play in the Whole Darn World*
- Fort Zumwalt North – *I Hate Shakespeare*

Awards

Tina Croghan of Fort Zumwalt West, was the newest inductee into the Missouri Thespians Hall of Fame. Nona Miller of Owensville, received the Judith Rethwisch Outstanding Theatre Educator Award. And Timothy Kirn of Parkway West, received the Debbie Corbin Service Award. The Administrator of the Year Award went to Karen Hall, the superintendent of Maplewood Richmond Heights. The ITF stipend went to Erin Gaubatz of Parkway North High School. The Jr. Thespian Stipend winners were Sean and Mary Carter from Parkway Northeast Middle School. Congratulations to all!

Extraordinary Techies!

The Technical Challenge once again saw Missouri techies competing "for the gold" in several events. Congratulations to Francis Howell Central for taking first place overall!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN FESTIVAL 2013

PLACE: LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

DATE: JUNE 24-29

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2013

PLACE: JEFFERSON CITY

DATE: SEPTEMBER 7

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2014

PLACE: MARRIOTT GRAND (ST. LOUIS)

DATE: JANUARY 9-11

Scholarship Recipients

Theatre For Life Scholarship

Karlynne Pinder – Parkway Central High School

Education Scholarship

Kathryn Case - Fulton High School

Bob/Marti Fowler Theatre Education Scholarship

Seth Betzler - Parkway West High School

Lana Hagan Theatre Education Scholarship

Nicolas Ricci - Nixa High School

Technical Scholarships

Brady Brock - Belton High School

Robert Donham - Kickapoo High School

Robert Ashurst - Parkview High School

Performance Scholarships

Dane Schnake - Raymore-Peculiar High School

Madelon Wink - Raymore-Peculiar High School

Danielle Feinstein - Parkway North High School

Nathan Eswine - Webster Groves High School

TOTS Eat

Thespians in Missouri collected over 36,068 pounds of food this year! Congratulations to Team GVHV (Grain Valley HS & Harrisonville HS) for earning the Cornucopia Award by collecting 10,938 pounds; the most total weight collected by any team in the nation!

Lee's Summit United was awarded the Community Spirit Award for being the first team registered. Missouri was awarded the Division 3 Cornucopia Award for most total weight for a Chapter, as well as the Division 3 Outstanding Commitment Award.

Page to Stage

Congratulations to our student playwrights who were chosen to showcase their work at the 2013 conference:

Conor Tierney - *Second Chance*
Lee's Summit West

Dieondre Teagle - *Land of the Free*,
Lee's Summit North

Madison Chauncey - *Dancing with Grey Tulips*,
Fort Zumwalt South

Individual Events

Congratulations to the following Superior Individual events which qualified to compete at the International Festival in Lincoln:

Jack Kenney, Monologue - Lindbergh
Tanner Westmoreland, Monologue - Branson
Dakota Payne/Mary Lumley, Duet Acting - Parkway West

Mikaela Clark, Solo Musical - Fort Zumwalt West
Makayla Scott, Solo Musical - Strafford
Jordan Woods/Demi Avery/Erica Krull/Grace Vangel,
Group Musical – Lindbergh

Leslie Insell, Solo Musical - Ladue Horton Watkins
Sean Gunderson, Solo Musical - Francis Howell Central
Kaitly Faseler/Haley Rolland/Brianna McCarthy/Mary
Wampler/Ashlyn Elliott, Group Musical – Nixa

Danielle Feinstein, Solo Musical - Parkway North
Andrew Wright, Lighting Design - Lee's Summit
Alex Pack, Lighting Design - Parkway North
Erin Gaubatz, Theatre Marketing - Parkway North
Clayton Gwinnup, Scenic Design - MICDS
Katy Case, Stage Management - Fulton
Antonio Zapiain Luna, Short Film - Ladue Horton
Watkins

Conor Tierney, Short Film - Lee's Summit West
Henry Leith, Monologue - Moreland Ridge Middle
School

Words from the Sage

The current board would like to extend our thanks and fond farewell of two charismatic and hard-working board members. Both served a number of years to the betterment of the behind the scenes of this organization as well all the members (both adults and students) who were involved during their tenure in office. Whether it was directing the All-State show or helping to run Scholarships or simply giving guidance to others both Ben and Shayne helped to move MST forward. Thank you Shayne Daniels and Ben Martin for stepping up and helping Missouri State Thespians become better theatre artists - both at conference and beyond.



**Words of Wisdom from
Ben Martin
(Terms 1996-99;
2004-2013)**

"The Missouri State Conference is about the widest variety of valuable experiences for students. I was a good teacher but there was only so much in my skill and knowledge set. By being a part of Thespians, the students under my care had access to hundreds of other teachers, either from as close as the neighboring school or as far away as New York. We don't go to the conference to crown winners, but rather to celebrate the art of the theatre. Yes, we can compete, but we have to remember the purpose of the competition is not to hand out a trophy, but rather to push all of us to be ever better practitioners of our art. All who strive to improve ought to be praised. Thespians is great for the big school with beautiful facilities, multiple teachers and students who are privileged enough to take private lessons, perform in a variety of groups and enjoy the benefits of a large metropolitan area. Thespians is CRUCIAL for students in situations where they feel isolated and devalued because only a few of them do what we do. When they connect with other Thespians they realize they are not alone, that there are other people who are like them and they can be just as good as anyone from anywhere."

Words from the Sage cont.



**Favorite Memories
from Shayne Daniel
(aka the Man of Very
Few Words)**

"My favorite memories from the Missouri State Thespians Board would have to include directing the All-State Show Jekyll and Hyde and becoming known as "Old Man Daniels."

Improv Olympix

The Improv Olympix was once again a great success! 22 teams competed this year, with Lindbergh and Ladue tying the top spot, and Parkway South/Smith Cotton taking third. Congratulations to all of the teams!

Honor Troupes

Thirty three Missouri troupes received Honor Troupe status this year! Remember that next year's honor troupes will be awarded at Leadership, so be sure to hang on to any evidence from September 2012-September 2013.

MAAE



Missouri Thespians would like to send a special thank you to the Missouri Arts Council and Missouri Alliance for Arts Education for their assistance with our guest artist Mama Yeye.