



## Leadership Conference

Leadership Conference is Sept. 13 at the Capitol Plaza in Jefferson City! Leadership will include a host of new workshops to not only help you with conference but build strong troupe leadership skills. Cost for Leadership is \$15/person. This fee will cover all of the workshops and lunch. Let Jennifer Forrest-James know if you plan on traveling by bus! Please register by August 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Leadership Schedule (detailed schedule online)

**9/12**

#### **For the Early Birds - Friday Night Activities**

- Includes early workshops for students and sponsors and early registration.

**9/13**

#### **8:00am - 8:30am: Registration**

#### **8:40am – 3:30pm: Workshop Sessions, Honor**

#### **Troupe interviews, lunch and candidate voting!**

- Workshops will include information on Individual Events, Parade of Troupes and Honor Awards, College Preparation, Mainstage and One Acts, Scholarships, Troupe Building, Leadership

#### **3:30pm – 4:15pm: Closing Session**

**Hotel for Sept. 12 Capitol Plaza - 415 W McCarty Street,  
Jefferson City, MO 65101 (573) 635-1234**

Room cost for any troupes coming in on Friday night will be \$73.83 per room. This includes hotel taxes. Be sure to clarify your tax exempt status to avoid a higher charge. For those staying on the 12th, a dinner buffet will be offered for \$8.95. A breakfast buffet will also be available the 13<sup>th</sup> for \$10.95. You must use the online hotel form to reserve.

## Congratulations!

Former Missouri State Chapter Director Debbie Corbin was just elected as Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Educational Theatre Association!

## Get Ready for the 2015 Conference

The 2015 Conference is moving to Kansas City! More information about the conference opportunities are forthcoming at Leadership and in upcoming newsletters. Be attentive for updates! Registration for conference will open on September 15<sup>th</sup> and close on November 4<sup>th</sup>. No changes can be made to your registration after November 14<sup>th</sup>, except for pre-registered alternates.

***All updated conference forms on the website will be designated with the year 2015. Please only use updated forms.***

## Conference Schedule

The entire delegation will be seated together this year! The Music Hall is large enough to accommodate everyone. We have general sessions in the theatre before main stage shows, as well as giving our IE Showcase a proper stage on which to perform. Bring out your best performances and we may see you on the stage!

## Conference Fees

- \*HS students: Thespians: \$85/Non-Thespian \$100
- \*Chaperones & 2nd sponsors: \$40
- \*School Fee: \$25
- \*Tech Challenge Teams: \$40 per team
- \*IE Registration: \$10 per entry
- \*Improv Olympix: \$40 per team
- \*Facility fee (for troupes not staying in hotel): \$25 per delegate
- \*Senior Scholarship Fee: \$10
- \*Kansas City Marriott Hotel: \$125.24  
(This rate is only guaranteed when making reservations through Missouri Thespians).

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MO STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2014

PLACE: CAPITOL PLAZA

DATE: SEPTEMBER 13

TIME: 8:00AM REGISTRATION - 4:15PM CLOSING

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

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2015

PLACE: KANSAS CITY MARRIOTT

DATE: JANUARY 8-10

START PLANNING NOW!

### News and Notes

**\*The Middle School Conference will be back** this year! 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!

**\*Congratulations to Denton Williams**, the recipient of the Doug Finney Grant to attend ITF this summer!

**\*Congratulations to STO candidate finalists** Zach Brunkhorst (Fort Zumwalt North), Tristan Johnson (Parkway West), Madeline McKenna (Branson), Easton Morrill (Less Summit West), Amalia Powell (Strafford) and Jonah Schnell (Webster Groves). Voting for the new Missouri STOs will take place at Leadership Conference!

### All-State Wrap Up

The Missouri All State Show, *Violet*, was a resounding success at Festival this summer! Congratulations to the cast and crew, along with directors Sarah Hairston from Chaminade High School and Marty Strohmeyer from Visitation Academy!

### Tech Challenge

Be sure to attend Leadership Conference to get up-to-date information on the Technical Challenge! Updated packets will be available on the website soon. Wait until you see the new Tech Challenge space in Kansas City!

## Page to Stage

Page to Stage gives students the opportunity to write and performed a staged performance of an original piece. At conference, one selected playwright will work with a Master Playwright at conference. We will also need a student stage manager and a few actors. Student playwrights need to submit their script by November 4<sup>th</sup> for the chance to have their work chosen as this year's script. Students interested in being the stage manager need to apply by November 4<sup>th</sup> as well. Please submit your Playwright and Stage Management applications and original scripts to [MSTpagetostage@gmail.com](mailto:MSTpagetostage@gmail.com).

For full details on this exciting opportunity please visit <http://www.mo-thespians.com/pagetostage>.

## Honor Troupes

With leadership right around the corner, hopefully your school is working on your Honor Troupe Scrapbook.

On Friday night of leadership, Mikelle Cortez will be holding a workshop about what to expect at the Honor Troupe Interview and Questions about Honor Troupe. Remember: Document! Document! Document! For every item on your application, you need to have an artifact showing proof that you did indeed participate in that event. This could be pictures, forms, applications, or letters. Remember, honor troupe is from last leadership (2013) to this leadership (2014). Please remember that the judges do not always know what your school has done so that artifact is essential. The application is on the website and ready to be filled out. Remember to bring three copies of that application with you to leadership. If you have any questions or your troupe needs help, please contact Mikelle Cortez at Fulton High School.

***Want points toward honor troupe status?  
Donate money or items to this year's silent  
auction! Contact your state officers for  
information!***

## For Sponsors

**\*Create a profile** and become a part of the EDTA theatre community! Social networking and blogging are available.

**\*There have been changes** to the Missouri State Thespians Constitution! Please review the amended document on the Missouri State website and submit any changes before the Leadership Conference.

**\*Because of a lack of submissions**, there will not be auditions for an All-State Show at this year's conference. If you are interested in submitting for a show to audition in 2016, please look over the requirements on the website. If any sponsor would like to submit possible additions to the show titles listed on the website, please email Jennie at [jforrest-james@parkwayschools.net](mailto:jforrest-james@parkwayschools.net).

\*Two mainstage shows will be chosen to present in the Music Hall. One Acts will be presented all three days, location pending. Mainstage and One Act submission paperwork is being updated and will be posted to the website by the end of July. The last day to submit a mainstage or one act for conference consideration is October 25<sup>th</sup>. The latest date for mainstage adjudication is November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

\*There will be parking in the hotel lot for individual cars. If a bus is going to remain onsite, a permit will need to be secured. Busses cannot be parked on the street for more than 30 minutes without a permit. There are pay lots around the hotel for vans too large to fit in the hotel lot.

### Deadline Date Reminders!

- **October 14<sup>th</sup>**: Deadline to send Debbie Corbin the number of rooms you need in the hotel.
- **November 4<sup>th</sup>**: Registration Complete, Page to Stage entries due, Individual Event titles, Improv Olympix Team Names, Hotel Rooming List Submitted
- **November 14<sup>th</sup>** - No Changes Allowed After this Date
- **December 1<sup>st</sup>** - Payment Due

## Alumni Connection

Sponsors, Your alumni can now register to be included in future Missouri State Thespian news and conference information. Please send all alumni to the "Alumni" tab on our website to be added to our list. This is a great way to stay involved and give back to a great organization.

## Attention Sponsors!!

*Do you want to help plan the conference? Run for the Missouri State Adult Board! Apply by August 30<sup>th</sup>! Also, we are looking for sponsors to serve on reading committees for One Acts, Awards and Page to Stage!*

**Please contact one of the board members below if you are interested!**

**Awards** - [clittle@pkwy.k12.mo.us](mailto:clittle@pkwy.k12.mo.us)

**Page to Stage** - [agossett@pkwy.k12.mo.us](mailto:agossett@pkwy.k12.mo.us)

**One Acts** - [ahetz@pkwy.k12.mo.us](mailto:ahetz@pkwy.k12.mo.us)

## 6 in 60

Something new is coming to the MO State Conference! "6 in 60" will be an opportunity for troupes to prepare and perform a five to ten-minute "bare bones" one act play. Scenic pieces will be limited to one table and two chairs. At Leadership, Debbie Corbin will have some scripts available for any troupe that may want to participate, or you can bring a script of your own to submit! Sign up at Leadership, prepare your one act at school, and then be ready to show off your work, along with five other participating schools, in a workshop room at conference. All spectators will sit on the floor. More details will be available soon! You must sign up at Leadership to participate.

## Workshops

Do you have a great idea for a WORKSHOP PRESENTER for the 2015 Missouri State Thespian conference? If so please let Lara Corvera know by either:

- 1) go to <http://tinyurl.com/naos66r> and enter requested information OR 2) send Name, Affiliation, and Contact Information to [MSTWorkshops@gmail.com](mailto:MSTWorkshops@gmail.com). We especially need information for local Kansas City artists.

## Junior Thespian Troupes

Hey sponsors! Let's encourage our middle schools to charter a Junior Thespian Troupe. Students will be able to start accumulating points toward high school memberships, and your junior troupe can attend the Saturday Junior Conference! We have attached the brochure that walks you through the process. Please share this with your middle school sponsor and let's increase our membership.

## Grants

**The Doug Finney Festival Grant** is a needs based grant is given annually by EDTA to four high school juniors or seniors who are inducted members of ITS and wish to attend the National Festival in June. The grant covers the basic Festival registration fee and reimburses travel expenses up to a dollar amount set at the beginning of each school year. Make sure you apply for this grant!

**The Missouri Thespians ITF Stipend** award is designed to celebrate the contributions a current Junior in high school has made to their local Theatre Department, community, and ITS Troupe. The winner of this award will receive a waiver equal to the cost of their registration fees for the next International Thespian Festival. The student will still be responsible for their transportation to and from the conference.

**The Community Outreach Grant** is a monetary grant given to a deserving Thespian Troupe who presents the best plan of action for increasing the visibility of their troupe and educational theatre within their community. Past recipients have held summer camps for grade schools, performed a District production, or held workshops for the community in a variety of areas relevant to theatre. What great ideas do you have to share with Missouri Thespians?

Email [tnigus@fz.k12.mo.us](mailto:tnigus@fz.k12.mo.us) to have your season included in the newsletter!

## STO Corner

### Your 2014-2015 STOs:

John Yucesoy: Parkway South Troupe 3168  
Chelsea Krenning: Hazelwood West Troupe 786  
Ramey Baro: Smithcotton Troupe 4261  
Keelly Jones: Smithcotton Troupe 4261

Fellow Missouri Thespians, we are honored to announce that the 2015 Thespian Conference theme is **BRANCH OUT!** The basis for the theme is that we want everyone to try new things and spread like the branches of a tree. Grow to new heights, but still stay rooted with things that you already know and enjoy. We are very excited to see you all branching out at conference! This year at conference, we want to push troupes to bring One Acts! All you have to do is submit a script, and fill out a form found here:  
<http://www.mo-thespians.com/mainstage--one-acts>

All of the STOs went to ITF and it made us dream big to have plenty of options of one acts to watch. It is a good way to get your troupe out there, come to state with a purpose, and it is a very exciting process! Students can direct these one acts as well, so troupe directors don't need to feel spread out super thin.

Also, this is our first year introducing a new, fun way to represent your troupe with... **BANNERS!** Make a banner to bring to leadership to show off your troupe to the rest of us! If your troupe receives Honor Troupe status, you will receive a patch to put onto your banner! You bring back the banner year after year to rack up a decorated banner. The banner must be no larger than 4' x 6'. Be on the lookout for our own STO banner! Last but not least, we are bringing back the conference logo competition. It was a huge success, and we hope this year will be even better! Here are the rules:

- 2 colors
- Designs must be submitted for both sides of the shirt
- The design can include words but do not include the dates/year of the conference
- All submissions need to be jpeg format
- No submissions can be copyrighted. Submit your original work.

Submit entries to [jforrest-james@parkwayschools.net](mailto:jforrest-james@parkwayschools.net)  
by August 22<sup>nd</sup>!!!