

Leadership Conference

Leadership Conference is September 12th at the Capitol Plaza in Jefferson City! Come join us for a day of new friends, new ideas and excitement about the coming school year, especially in YOUR theatre troupe!! Cost for Leadership is \$20/student, \$15/additional sponsor, and \$10/primary sponsor. 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 September 4th.

Leadership Conference Schedule

For the Early Birds - Optional Friday Night Activities include early workshops for students and sponsors and early registration.

Saturday, September 12

8:00am - 8:30am: Registration

8:40am-8:55am: Welcome Session

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

9:50am – 3:00pm: Workshop Sessions, Honor Troupe interviews, lunch and candidate voting!

- *Workshops will include information on Individual Events, Parade of Troupes and Honor Awards, Tech Challenge, Improv Olympix, Mainstage and One Acts, Scholarships, New sponsor Q and A, Adult Member Q and A, Advocacy, Team Building, and of course, Leadership!*

3:10pm – 4:00pm: Closing Session

Leadership Hotels

Hotel for Sept. 11:

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 \$77.04 per room. This includes hotel taxes. Be sure to clarify your tax exempt status to avoid a higher charge. The hotel reservation form is on the Missouri Thespians website under the Leadership Conference Tab. All hotel reservations must be made by August 28th.

Get Ready for the 2016 Conference

The 2016 Conference is once more in 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 13th and close on November 3rd. No changes can be made to your registration after November 15th, except for pre-registered substitute delegates and non-refundable drops.

All updated conference forms on the website will be designated with the year 2016. Please only use updated forms.

Conference Fees

*HS students: Thespians: \$90/Non-Thespian \$105

*Sponsors: \$25

*Chaperones & 2nd sponsors: \$45

*School Fee: \$30

*Tech Challenge Teams: \$40 per team

*IE Registration: \$10 per entry

*Improv Olympix: \$40 per team

*Facility fee (for troupes not staying in conference hotel): \$25 per delegate

*Senior Scholarship Fee: \$20 (paid on accept'd site)

*Kansas City Marriott Hotel: \$125.24 (This rate is only guaranteed when making reservations through Missouri Thespians **on the proper form**).

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Conference Schedules
- 2 News and Notes/Calendar
- 3 STO Corner/Grants

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MO STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2015

PLACE: CAPITOL PLAZA

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2015

TIME: 8:00AM REGISTRATION – 3:30PM CLOSING

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

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2016

PLACE: KANSAS CITY MARRIOTT

DATE: JANUARY 7-9, 2016

START PLANNING NOW!

CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS

PLACE: JEFFERSON CITY

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2016

MISSOURI FINE ARTS DAY

PLACE: JEFFERSON CITY

DATE: MARCH 23, 2016

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.

***Congratulations to STO candidate finalists** Rachel Thompson (FZE), Caleb Ellis (LSN), Madison Crosby (LSW), Maddie DeClue (PkwY W), Emma Drace (Raytown), Shelby Woodroof (Ruskin), Lindy Franker (Strafford) and Jacob Noce (Webster Groves). Voting for the new Missouri STOs will take place at Leadership Conference!

All-State Auditions

The next All-State show is currently under discussion and every effort is being made to have it selected by Leadership so troupes can adequately prepare. Announcements concerning specifics will be made at Leadership.

Tech Challenge

Be sure to attend Leadership Conference to get up-to-date information on the Technical Challenge! Updated packets are now available on the website.

For Sponsors

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

Mainstage/One Acts

It is time once again for us to choose Mainstage and One Acts for this year's Thespian Conference. 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 has been updated and is now available on the website under Mainstages/One Acts.

The last day to submit a mainstage or one act for conference consideration is October 25th. The latest date for mainstage adjudication is November 22nd. If you have any questions about Mainstage adjudication please contact Angie Hetz at ahetz@pkwy.k12.mo.us. If you have questions regarding One Act Submissions or Mainstage and One Act facilities please contact Brad Rackers at brad.rackers@lsr7.net. We hope many of you will consider submitting performances for this year's conference!

Deadline Date Reminders!

- **October 15th**: Deadline to send Debbie Corbin the number of rooms you need in the hotel.
- **November 3rd**: Registration Complete, including: Page to Stage entries, Individual Event Titles, Improv Olympix Team Names, Hotel Rooming List Submitted, and Bus Passes ordered. IF YOU REQUEST A BUS PASS AT CONFERENCE, IT WILL COST YOU \$200. Get your bus pass on time.
- **November 15th** - No Changes Allowed After this Date
- **December 1st** - Payment Due to Jennifer Forrest-James, No more Individual Event Title Changes after this date.

Scholarships

Scholarship opportunity information can be found on the MO-Thespians.com website. Applications and required information must be uploaded to Acceptd between September 13th-November 3rd. You can do so at www.getacceptd.com. Please email mstscholarships@gmail.com with questions.

Page to Stage

Page to Stage gives students the opportunity to write and perform a staged performance of an original piece. At conference, one selected playwright will work with a Master Playwright. We will also need a student stage manager and a few actors. Student playwrights need to submit their script by November 3rd 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 3rd as well. Please submit your Playwright and Stage Management applications and original scripts to MSTpagetostage@gmail.com.

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 30th! 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@parkwayschools.net

Page to Stage - agossett@parkwayschool.net

One Acts – brad.rackers@lsr7.net

6 in 60

6 in 60 is a great idea if you want more than an IE but less than a one-act. Schools may bring one 10-minute play. If you have a burning desire to perform a particular script, you may submit it to Mikelle Cortez for review. Student-written scripts are eligible, pending board review, but a student may not enter both *6 in 60* AND *Page to Stage*. All script titles and/or scripts for review are due to Mikelle Cortez by November 3rd.

Specifics for all conference activities, registration, and financial aspects will be posted and discussed at Leadership. Troupes that cannot send a representative to Leadership should make every effort to stay in the loop by checking the website. Sponsors may want to contact a board member for questions. Board member emails can be found on the website.

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 (2014) to this leadership (2015). 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!

Arts Heroes Needed!

FASTER THAN A SECOND GRADE ART TEACHER, MORE POWERFUL THAN A BOARD MEMBER, ABLE TO LEAP TALL BALLERINAS IN A SINGLE BOUND.

ARTS HEROES NEEDED FOR THE MISSOURI ARTS AWARDS. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF ARTS EDUCATORS, ARTS ORGANIZATIONS, CREATIVE COMMUNITIES, ARTISTS, LEADERS, AND PHILANTHROPISTS UNTIL NOON, AUGUST 31, 2015.

DON'T LET YOUR ARTS HEROES BE INVISIBLE.

<https://www.missouriartscouncil.org/page/94>

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?

Send a Troupe

The Send a Troupe to Thespian Festival 2015 Grant was created during the 14/15 season with donations from many generous supporters. The goal was to raise enough money so that a Missouri Thespian troupe would have the opportunity to attend the 2016 MST State Conference. In the 2015/16 season, one current Missouri Thespian troupe, who has either never previously attended the MST Conference (preference given to) or one which has not attended with the current troupe sponsor in the last 20 years that can demonstrate financial barriers to attending, will receive a one-time grant to cover the much of the cost associated with attending conference. Specifics and the application can be found on the Missouri Thespians website.

STO Corner

Your 2015-2016 STOs:

Tristan Johnson: Parkway West
Easton Morrill: Lee's Summit West
Molly Powell: Parkview
Jonah Schnell: Webster Groves

Your 2015-2016 Student Thespian Officers want to remind you of a few things. First is that this year we are asking all troupes attending Leadership to make a banner for their troupe and bring it to be displayed in the rotunda of the Capitol Plaza. Banners should be 4'x6'!

Also this year we be auctioning or raffling off themed baskets for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. We are asking troupes to donate these baskets. If your troupe is interested contact Jonah Schnell at jonahschnell@gmail.com.

Hope you are enjoying your summer and don't forget to like our Facebook page (Missouri State Thespians) and follow our Twitter page (@MO_Thespians) and Instagram page (@mo_thespians)!

For Teachers



STAM's 2015 Conference will be held at Tan-Tar-A.
For conference details go to:
<http://speechandtheatremo.org>

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