



Conference 2016

The 2016 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!

Conference Info

Bus permits have been ordered and will be waiting at the hotel upon check-in.

Every attempt is being made to have sponsors' rooms (one per school) ready upon arrival. If the sponsor's room is not ready upon arrival, luggage may be checked at the 12th Street Meeting Room with the attendant. Every item must be tagged. Sponsors will have late check out on Saturday, so luggage may be stored in sponsor's rooms until close of conference.

Sponsors – if you did not send in forms for your alternate delegates to Jennifer Forrest James, please do so immediately. If an emergency arises and you have to substitute a student, we have to have the alternate form on file. A \$5 fee will be charged for any alternate form turned in the day of conference. Please remember that no student or adult may participate in conference activities without the proper, completed forms on file.

Grab and Go breakfast sandwiches will be available for \$3 each Friday and Saturday morning in the lobby of the Aladdin. First come, first served.

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Meals

Please remember that the meals at the Marriott cover two options – vegetarian and non-vegetarian. There was no gluten-free option offered this year. We are attaching the menu for sponsors to peruse for individual dietary issues. No special accommodations can be made to the menu.

Hotel Update

If you have NOT received your invoice for your hotel rooms, contact Debbie Corbin IMMEDIATELY. Do not send any information to Debbie Corbin's personal emails, or information will be lost. Only use mstreservations@gmail.com.

Due to overwhelming response, some of our attendees will be staying in the Aladdin Hotel, right next door to the Marriott.

Reminder, state taxes should already be deducted from your bill, but we must still pay city & lodging taxes. The total without Missouri taxes is \$125.24 per room per night.

Honor Troupe

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!

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

Parade of Troupes

If you missed the deadline for Parade of Troupes and would still like to submit, please do so by Dec. 18th! Send submissions to paradeoftroupes@hotmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2016

PLACE: MARRIOTT RENAISSANCE GRAND
DATE: JANUARY 7-9

MO FINE ARTS SUMMIT 2016

PLACE: STATE CAPITOL, JEFFERSON CITY
DATE: MARCH 30

MO FINE ARTS DAY 2016

PLACE: STATE CAPITOL, JEFFERSON CITY
DATE: MARCH 31

Scholarships Update

If your student applied for a technical theatre, performance or theatre Ed scholarship you both should have received an email with their audition/interview time and location. If you have a student that submitted for the junior auditions or theatre for life interviews you both should have received an email even if they were not chosen as a finalist. If you have any scholarship questions, please email mothespiansinfo@gmail.com

Individual Events Update

All sponsors with IE entries should have received the complete list or times and locations for the IEs. A few reminders for your students:

- All performers must wear all black.
- No props or costumes are allowed.
- Musical entries must have background music on a CD or mp3 player.
- Students will stay in the IE room for the duration of the workshop time.

If you need to drop an entry, please email Theresa Nigus at tnigus@fz.k12.mo.us. We have several groups on the waiting list that would love to take their spot!

Alumni

We are in need of alumni to help with conference – especially if they are involved with a Kansas City area University Please tell your alumni to register on the MST website!

Keynote Speaker

Missouri Thespians is very excited to welcome performer Kyle Dean Massey as our closing speaker!

An excerpt from IMDB:

Kyle Dean Massey is an American actor best known for his work on Broadway in *Pippin*, *Next to Normal*, *Wicked*, *Xanadu* & *Altar Boyz*.



Kyle Dean was raised in Jonesboro, Arkansas, a town 60 miles northwest of Memphis, TN.

Although he spent almost all of his adolescent years singing in school choirs and studying the piano, it was not until his sophomore year of high school that he did his first musical. He received his BFA from Missouri State University, and has now performed in over 60 productions. In addition to his stage work, Kyle Dean has been seen on the screen in *Up All Night* (NBC), *Hart of Dixie* (CW), *Cupid* (ABC), *Sex and the City 2* (HBO Films) and the upcoming film *The Contest*.

Kyle Dean is a passionate supporter of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, The Trevor Project and various human rights groups.

Kyle Dean will speak at Saturday's closing session.

Mainstages and One Acts

Mainstage Performances

Thursday, January 7th

Webster Groves High School, *Hamlet*

Friday, January 8th

Raymore-Peculiar, *Much Ado About Nothing*

One Acts

Thursday, January 7th

3:00-4:15

Parkway South, *Everyman*

4:30-5:30

Parkway South, *Dr. Faustus*

Friday, January 8th

3:00-4:15

Kirkwood, *A Roz by Any Other Name*

4:30-5:30

North KC, *How to Kiss a Girl*

**6 in 60 Performances will take place
Saturday morning!**

Improv Olympix

Improv Olympix Troupe Participant reminders:

Performance times are:

Round 1 Thursday Late night **9:30-11:30pm**

Round 2 Saturday morning **9:00-10:15am**

Round 3 Saturday morning **10:25-11:45am**

Please make sure that all the members of your team know how to play all the games in the informational packet that was sent to you/your troupe sponsor in November and are found online. No directions will be given during actual competition.

Remember also that the approximate time limit for the games in round two and three is 6 minutes and it is the responsibility of the team to 'call' (or end) the scene where they want it unless indicated in a game. **It is strongly suggested that this be a player who is either off on the side lines by that point or is not the main player/focus of the scene.**

Remember that teams are not competing against each other. They are competing for the best rating. Those teams who score superior in all three rounds will be announced at the closing ceremonies and may be invited to perform in the IE showcase.

Finally, I would like a few more sponsors to judge the competition. If you feel like this would be a good fit for your sponsor duty, please contact me at jessicawiningham@lindberghschools.ws.

We look forward to seeing all 37 teams next month!
Jessica Winingham
Improv Olympix Coordinator

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

STO Corner

We are super excited for this upcoming thespian conference. If you weren't aware, the theme is "Magic to Do!" Don't forget to bring your dance clothes for our Magical Midnight Ball. We suggest wearing a costume, whether it be a ball gown or glitter on your eyes.

This year, we are supporting three enchanting causes. The first is Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, where we will be reincarnating our annual silent auction. Any proceeds will be donated to the foundation, and we will be ranked among other states in order of how much we raise. The other cause is our very own "Send a Troupe!"

We are very excited to say that during our conference, we will have a Minute to Give It, in which we will run around the theatre and collect as much as we can. Depending on how much we make, we can send a troupe that doesn't have the financial capacity to attend our conference. This will be a very cool experience for any member of a troupe that has never been, and a tradition that we hope to continue.

The last cause we will be supporting is a "Send a Troupe" to the International Thespian Conference. We are supporting this cause by a Penny War. Every day we will have two buckets and each will be labeled with conflicting ideas such as, Actors vs. Technicians. If you want Actors to win you will put change in the actor bucket or put cash in the technician bucket or vice versa.

Our guest speaker this year will be Kyle Dean Massey, who has had many appearances on Broadway, but is extremely special to us because of his role as Pippin.

One last thing the elevators in the main hotel can be really annoying - just be patient and they will get to your floor. Please refrain from pressing any unnecessary buttons.

Also keep in mind we aren't the only people in the hotel. We cannot wait to meet you all at Conference, and please come say "hi" to us. See you all in almost one month!

-Tristan, Easton, Molly, and Jonah