



Conference Information

1. If your troupe's rooms are not ready upon arrival, luggage may be checked at the Statler Ballroom with the attendant. Every item must be tagged. Please bring \$1 per bag per check (so \$2 if you need to check the bag at the beginning and end of conference).
2. There will be luggage storage available after check out on Saturday, location TBA.
3. If your school did not send in the alternate consent form please do so immediately. All forms which have not been turned in are now late and will be charged a filing fee of \$5 per form from now until Jan 4th.
4. Any forms received at the conference site will be charged a late filing fee of \$50 per form. This fee goes in effect as of Jan 4th.
5. Jennifer Forrest-James will be emailing troupes with discrepancies this week - if you do not receive an email by 12/18 you can consider your forms filed and correct and you no longer need to worry about them until the state conference.
6. Don't forget to bring copies of your delegate forms for delegates to wear in their badge holders. In addition don't forget to tell students they need to carry insurance cards on their person (unless they have provided you with a copy) as well.

Meals

Please remember that the meals at the America's Center cover two options – vegetarian and non-vegetarian. The menu is available online at mo-thespians.com. No special accommodations can be made to the menu.

Hotel Update

The hotel must be paid by December 15th. If you have not paid, a representative from the Marriott should contact you within a week regarding payment. Please be sure you have sent your Tax Exempt letter to becky.crosby@marriott.com.

Bus Reminder

SP+ Parking is offering parking for oversized vehicles and buses at the Starr Lot located at 611 N 8th Street for the 3 days of conference for \$100 each vehicle. They will grant busses in/out privilege for the 3 days. Advance reservations & payment are required. Anyone needing parking for oversized vehicles or buses should email Lisa Brauch of SP+ Parking at lbrauch@splus.com.

This location is about 8 blocks from the location of the conference. It is the closest location for bus parking they have the conference. There is no security on this lot.

MO State Store

The Missouri State Thespians store is BACK for the 2017 Conference. Don't forget to bring money for snacks, drinks and Thespian merchandise. It will be available throughout the conference.

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Conference Information
- 2 Calendar/Updates
- 3 STO Corner

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MO STATE CONFERENCE 2017

PLACE: MARRIOTT RENAISSANCE GRAND
DATE: JANUARY 12-14

MO FINE ARTS SUMMIT 2017

PLACE: STATE CAPITOL, JEFFERSON CITY
DATE: MARCH 28

MO FINE ARTS DAY 2017

PLACE: STATE CAPITOL, JEFFERSON CITY
DATE: MARCH 29

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 they 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 will be sent 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.

Alumni

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

Keynote Speaker

Missouri Thespians is very excited to welcome performer Ben Jeffrey as our opening speaker! Ben is currently appearing on Broadway as Pumbaa in *The Lion King*. From the *Lion King* cast page: Ben holds an



MFA (Acting) from Rutgers University, where credits included *Antigone*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *In the Sawtooths* and more. His BFA (Acting/Musical Theatre) is from Abilene Christian University, where Credits included *Jane Eyre* and *Seussical*. TV: "The Good Wife," and "Louie."

Mainstages and One Acts

Mainstage Performances - Ferrara

Thursday, January 12th

All State Show, *Iphigenia*

Friday, January 13th

Parkway South, *Nevermore: The Imaginary Life and Mysterious Death of Edgar Allen Poe*

Mainstage Performances – Theatre 123

Friday, January 13th

Ritenour, *The Women of Lockerbie*

One Acts

Thursday, January 12th

1:45-2:45

Liberty Wentzville, *Alice's Adventures with Poorly Cooked Cafeteria Seafood*

3:00-4:00

Lee's Summit North, *The Human Write*

4:15-5:15

Cape Central, *Wit*

8:00-9:00 &

9:15-10:15

Kirkwood, *Stirred, Not Shaken* and *The Role of Della*

The Short Play Festival (formerly 6 in 60) will take place Saturday morning!

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!

Improv Olympix

Improv Olympix Troupe Participant reminders:

Performance times are:

Round 1 Thursday Late night **10:30-11:30pm**

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 now 5 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.

Please contact me with any questions: jessicawiningham@lindberghschools.ws

We look forward to seeing all 38 teams next month!
Jessica Winingham
Improv Olympix Coordinator

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

Short Play Festival

Don't forget to come out and see the Short Play Festival at conference! Here are the participants so far!

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Parkway Central | <i>Cain Town</i> by Douglas Hill |
| Union | Playwrighting 101: <i>The Rooftop Lesson</i> |
| Raytown | <i>Drugs Are Bad</i> by Jonathan Rand |
| Parkview | <i>The Man Who Couldn't Dance</i> by Jason Katims |
| Lafayette | <i>Peter and the Star Catcher</i> by Rick Elice |

Middle School Festival

There is still space available for the Middle School Junior Thespian Conference on Saturday January 14th, 2017. Let your feeder schools know that interested Sponsors can get their registration fee waived if they would like to check out the conference on that day. Contact the Junior Thespian Chair Angie Hetz at ahetz@parkwayschools.net for more information.

STO Corner

Who's ready for Conference?

With Conference just around the corner, it is time for troupes to finalize their baskets for our silent auction. You can find ideas linked on our Missouri Thespian social media pages.

Coming to Conference this year is our #MOThesDuck and trivia night which will be at the same time as the dance. All proceeds for #MOThesDuck goes to our send a troupe to state.

As always, don't forget to like us on Facebook at Missouri State Thespians and follow us on Instagram and Twitter at MO_Thespians.

-Jacob, Caleb, Maddi, & Shelby