

**Mississippi Theatre Association Annual Festival**

January 12-15, 2006

Starkville, MS

Schedule of Events

**Thursday, January 12, 2006**

**McComas Hall Theatre**

6:00 p.m. High School Senior & Junior Auditions (Pre-Registration Required)  
Registration and Setup

7:00 p.m. Auditions Begin

**Friday, January 13, 2006**  
**McComas Hall Theatre**

- 7:00 a.m. High School Director's Meeting – Block I  
Location: McComas Hall Theatre
- 7:00 a.m. Registration  
Location: McComas Hall Lobby
- 8:00 a.m. Meeting for secondary teachers receiving CEU credit  
McComas Hall Theatre Lobby
- 8:15 a.m. High School Respondent's Meeting  
Location: McComas Hall Green Room

Performance Block 1 / McComas Hall

9:00 a.m.

STARKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
Wiley and the Harry Man by Suzan Zeder  
Directed by Mandy Kinney

BILOXI HIGH SCHOOL  
*Beautiful Beulah Belle or Virtue's Various Vicissitudes* by Robert C. Yoh  
Directed by Kelly Norris

OAK GROVE HIGH SCHOOL  
*Amelia Earhart* by Kathryn Schultz Miller  
Directed by Suzanne Allmon

- 12:00 p.m. High School Director's Meeting – All other Blocks  
Location: McComas Hall Theatre

1:15 p.m. Workshops

**Making props and other materials on a budget led** by Jim Schroeder, Holmes Community College. Location: McComas Room 004

Ginger Willis, Atlanta Office Sales Manager from Barbizon Lighting Company **will be showing how to turn white light into a myriad of effects for stage.**  
Location: McComas Room 214

**Chicago style.....no, not Pizza....ready, set, improvise** led by head of University of South Alabama Theatre Department, Leon Van Dyke. Location: McComas Room 204

**Auditioning! What does it take** led by Josie Helming. Location: McComas Room 230

**The Performing Body**, led by Dr. Lou Campbell, Professor and Chair of Theatre Belhaven College, Jackson, MS. Location: McComas Room 228

What does the occipital ridge, the Sternoclavicular joint, intercostals, and gestures have in common. Come to this fascinating workshop and discover. Plan to participate and wear appropriate attire.

**How to Begin and Develop Your Portfolio**, led by Kris Dietrich, Assistant Professor of Theatre at Belhaven College, Jackson, MS. Location: McComas Room 211

It is never too early to start developing your portfolio. Come to this session and learn how to document your work, preserve it, and present it. You are invited to bring your portfolio for review and discussion.

Performance Block 2 / McComas Hall Theatre

2:30 p.m.

PILLOW ACADEMY, Greenwood, MS  
*I Never Saw Another Butterfly* by Celeste Raspanti  
Directed by Justin Bixler

HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL  
*Snapshot*, Featuring skits and monologues by Craig Wright, Quincy Long, Deb Margolin, Micheael Bigelow Dixon, Val Smith, David Lindsay-Abaire and Julie Jensen  
Directed by Jay Coker

4:15 p.m. Community Theatre Director's Meeting  
Location: McComas Hall Theatre

5:00 p.m. 10-Minute Play Festival participants meet, McComas Hall Theatre Lobby  
(Writing Lab: McComas Room 216; Other Activities: McComas Room 211)

6:00 p.m. Community Theatre Respondent's Meeting  
Location: McComas Hall Green Room

Performance Block 3 / McComas Hall Theatre

6:30 p.m. Official Welcome  
Presiding: MJ Etua, MTA President

Special Guest: TBA

6:45 p.m.     *“A Conversation with Myrna Colley-Lee”*  
Presiding: MJ Etua

7:30 p.m.

STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE  
*Comfort’s Broken Light* by Aris Bremer  
Directed by Molly Watkins

HATTIESBURG HIGH SCHOOL  
*The Katrina Project: Hell and High Water* by Michael Marks and  
Mackenzie Westmoreland  
Directed by Michael Marks and Mackenzie Westmoreland

10:00 p.m.    Adult Get-Together  
Location: The Abbey Restaurant, 100 East Main Street

Saturday, January 14, 2006

7:00 a.m. Community Theatre Director's meeting  
Location: McComas Hall Theatre

7:30 a.m. Registration  
Location: McComas Hall Lobby

Performance Block 4 / McComas Hall

8:45 a.m. TALLAHATCHIE RIVER PLAYERS  
*It's a Wonderful Life* by James W. Rodgers  
Directed by Evelyn Murry Mason

PICAYUNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL  
*Home* by Samm-Art Williams  
Directed by Tony Seal

BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL  
*A Thousand Cranes* by Kathryn Shultz Miller  
Directed by Juniper Wallace

1:15 p.m. Workshops

**The Economy of Design: Balancing design and time in theatre** led by Chris Rich, Technical Director with Florida Gulf Coast University. Location: McComas Room 204

A workshop and discussion on design ideas, time management and finding balance in production values and schedule.

**The Principles of Stage Management** led by Melissa Nissen, former stage manager for Chicago's Goodman Theatre and Steppenwolf Theatre. Location: McComas Room 230

**Playwriting Workshop: Good Artists Steal**, led by David Thompson, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta. Location: McComas Room 004

For those wondering if they can, or should, write a play for their theatre, this session will provide a starting point by offering sage advice from critics and playwrights.

**Comedy of Masks**, led by Kevin Kern, Mississippi State University. Location: McComas Room 228

Using principles of Commedia dell Arte' with masks provided by the instructor, this hands-on workshop will lead students through the exploration of masked performance. The workshop will increase the actor's physical commitment to a character, while freeing the voice and imagination.

**Three Touchstones for Character Development**, led by David Dye, Troy State University. Location: McComas Room 214

**The pursuit of physical objectives in scene work"** led by Dennis McLeron, University of Alabama Theatre Department. Location: McComas Room 211

This workshop uses a brief A/B dialogue that participants can learn on the spot. In the workshop they will learn how to raise the stakes in a scene and communicate urgency by attempting to accomplish pre-determined physical objectives.

Performance Block 5 / McCain Theatre

2:30 p.m.      **OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
*Forever Plaid* by Stuart Ross, Musical arrangements by James Raitt  
Directed by John Davenport

**DELTA CENTER STAGE**, Greenville, MS  
*A Woman Called Truth* by Sandra Fenichel Asher  
Directed by Sara Armstrong

4:00 p.m.      **Individual Events Festival.** All students participating report to McComas Room 211. (Event Location: Room 204 and 211)

8:00 p.m.      10-Minute Play Festival performances (Level III, 104 East Main Street)  
Youth Social to Follow 10-Minute Play Festival. (Level III, 104 East Main Street)

Performance Block 5

7:15 p.m.      **JUST OVER THE RAINBOW THEATRE**, Hattiesburg, MS  
*Sylvia* by A.R. Gurney  
Directed by Michael Garner

**CENTER PLAYERS**, Madison, MS  
*Laundry and Bourbon* by James McLure  
Directed by Willie Anderson

Note: Production contains some strong language.

10:30 p.m.     Adult Social  
                  Starkville Community Theatre, 108 East Main Street

**Sunday, January 15, 2006**

9:00 a.m.       Division Meetings

                  Community Theatre Division:   Location: McComas 204  
                  High School Division:        Location: McComas 214  
                  College/University Division:    Location: McComas 211

10:30 a.m.     Business Meeting  
                  McComas Hall Theatre

12:15 p.m.     Luncheon & Awards Ceremony  
                  Bost Extension Building, Mississippi State University

                  Keynote Speaker: Sam Haskell, III

2:00 p.m.       MTA Board of Director's Meeting  
                  Location: MSU Adjudicator's Room

Theatre for Youth Festival  
Mississippi State University  
Wise Auditorium

Friday, January 13, 2006

- 9:00 a.m.      *Magic Theatre II*, Perk Players, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Perkinston Campus; directed by Daisha Walker
- 10:00 a.m.      *Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs*, Gulfport Little Theatre; directed by Lee Green Pope
- 11:00 a.m.      *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, Purvis High School; directed by Parker McMullan
- 12:00 p.m.      *Bad Sam and the Devil*, Project P.L.A.Y., Starkville Community Theatre; directed by MJ Etua