

Notes & News

Mississippi Theatre Association



SCT Headed to AACT Festival

The cast and crew of Starkville Community Theatre's award-winning competition show can now add another accolade to their resume — regional champions.

SCT's production of Mississippi playwright Laddy Sartin's *Catfish Moon* was named best production at the Southeastern Theatre Conference's Community Theatre Festival in Birmingham, Ala., in March. The win at the SETC festival qualifies the SCT show to represent Mississippi, the Southeastern U.S. and compete at the American Association of Community Theatre's national festival in Tacoma, Wash., from June 23 to 27.

Directed by Kris Lee, *Catfish Moon* stars Paul Ruff, Gabe Smith, Krista Vowell and Marcus Vowell in a story about three men — childhood friends — who go on an overnight fishing trip to help mend their strained relationships.

The show won a top awards at the Mississippi Theatre Association's annual conference in January, including Best Production, Best Director, Best Actor (Paul Ruff) and Best Supporting Actress (Krista Vowell). The win at SETC is a first for SCT in its 31-year

history. SCT, one of two shows from SETC to advance to AACTFest, will be joined by the musical *Nine*, produced by the Theatre a la Carte in Florida.

"There is a long wait while various awards are being presented. During that time we were trying to figure out which will be the top shows based upon the awards that are being given," said Paul Ruff. "Since we didn't win any of the individual awards, we were not thinking we'd be named top show," Ruff said. But when SCT's win was announced, excitement erupted, he said.

According to Krista Vowell, fellow cast member and president of SCT, "This means the world... We went to MTA because we feel that it is a good networking opportunity and a chance to perform for our peers. Moving on to regional competition at SETC is an honor in and of itself, because you get to see such stunningly magnificent theatre performances. Then to be singled out as the best in the region is amazing." The win, Vowell said, is especially exciting because of the strong support SCT has from the greater community. "The support that has been shown to our theatre is second to none, and we could not do what



Cast & crew, Gabe Smith, Marchus Vowell, Krista Vowell, Paul Ruff, Lyle Tate, Kriss Lee, of *Catfish Moon*.

we do without it. We are profoundly grateful for our supporters," Vowell added.

SCT will perform June 25, 2009 in Tacoma.

From the President

From the first time I snuck into Dramafest as a student at The University of Southern Mississippi, and I saw the classic program with silver, black, and white, and I watched the excitement on the stage, the coordination behind the scenes, and competitive spirit, I knew that this was an organization that I wanted to be a part of.

Little did I know that just 4 years later that I would be President of The Center Players Community Theatre, and on my way to "truly" being a part of what the Mississippi Theatre Association has to offer. My first experience at MTA was enlightening. It was at the *Sanger* in Hattiesburg, and the shows that year (including the *Harry and Sam Dialogues*) were fascinating. The workshop on costumes shed a whole new light on second hand stores and what you could do with even a shoe. The socials... Wow. Karaoke and show tunes galore... Now that is fun that I will not soon forget... But... the support of the arts, the educational foundation that this organization lays, and the opportunities that it gives to elementary students through senior citizens, is what it is all about.

That is why I am "so" excited to have the opportunity to lead this organization over the next year. We have a "lot" going on in Mississippi and we have a "lot" to be very proud of. Over the next year we will be working to host an exciting festival, but we are also planning exciting events throughout the year.

MTA 2009 was a lot of fun, and it was a great success in Historic Natchez. And as the testimonies in this newsletter will share, SETC was a great success as well. Mississippi was well represented and it will continue to be represented as Starkville Community Theatre advances to AACTfest in Tacoma, Washington in June. Break-a-leg guys!

We are very proud of you.



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One-Act Competition Winners Announced

by Stephen Cunetto

The winners of the 2009 Mississippi Theatre Association One-Act Playwriting Competition were announced during the Mississippi Theatre Association's 2009 Festival held in Natchez, MS. After judges around the state reviewed the scripts, the top scripts were reviewed by author and playwright Mark Dunn. Dunn selected the winning scripts for both the adult and youth competitions.

Beth Kander of Jackson, MS was selected as the first place winner of the adult division with her one-act play *See Jane Quit*. Kander received a \$500 check for winning first place and a reading of the script during the 2009 Festival. According to Dunn, "Kander's script was very well developed with strong characters and an interesting and intriguing plot. He added that he looks forward to reading more



Kris Lee (left photo) and Tonya Hays (right photo) present awards to Beth Kander and Kristen Bankston during the festival.

of her scripts in the future. Mary Dayle McCormick of Greenville, MS won second place for her play *At The Floating Palace* and third place went to Megan Morrison of Jackson for her play *In the Garden*.

Kristen Bankston from Biloxi High School was the winner of the youth playwriting competition. This was the first year for MTA to host the youth competition. Bankston received \$250 for

her award winning play *Blame the Fool*. The play also received a staged reading during the 2009 Festival in which high school students directed and performed the one-act play. In addition to a packed audience, Bankston and the final adjudicator were on hand to answer questions. Bankston said of the staged reading, "the actors did a wonderful job of bringing her script to life. It was the first time I had seen it actually

read aloud and it was a great experience for me." Final adjudicator Dunn noted that she has exceptional talent for writing and should continue writing plays. He encouraged her to continue looking for inspiration by people-watching daily. Second place went to Patti Brummett of Oxford, MS and third place went to Brittany Womack of Mendenhall, MS.

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AACT Honors Mark and Anderson

Tupelo Community Theatre is proud to announce that the American Association of Community Theatres (AACT) presented a Spotlight Award in honor of Jess Mark at the 7:30 p.m. performance of *And Then There Were None* on March 28, 2009. AACT, the leading national community theater organization, gives this award nationally to recognize special local achievement in community theater. This recognition is a fitting way to honor Jess for his more than 25 years of service and leadership to TCT and the community. In 1984 Jess was instrumental in the TCT board's decision to purchase the Lyric Theatre. In 2006 the Lyric stage was named in Jess' honor. Very, very few productions at TCT between 1982 and 2008 didn't have Jess' special



AACT representative Lisa Bell presents the Spotlight Award to Jo Mark (widow of Jess Mark) as two of their children, Jancie Mark Collins and Ladd Mark, look on.

"stamp" on them.
Starkville Community Theatre's

Robert "Bob" Anderson will receive a Spotlight Award during the 2009 AACTFest in Tacoma, WA. Anderson is a Starkville Community Theatre founder who continues to be active in the community theatre. Anderson has served multiple terms as treasurer among other offices over the years. He, along with his wife Mary Eleanor Anderson, has been a steady force within the organization and has acted and directed many productions over the years. Anderson directed SCT's first production, *6 Rms Riv Vu*, in 1978 and plans to direct a "season extra" in 2010.

Congratulations to these extraordinary gentlemen for their years of service and dedication to community theatre in Mississippi.

Oxford Shakespeare Festival Announces 2009 Season

Oxford Shakespeare Festival announces 'A Season Of Enchantment.' The 2009 Season will present three professional productions: Experimental Shakespeare, *Cymbeline* by William Shakespeare (in the Ford Center Studio Theater); Traditional Shakespeare, *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare (in Meek Hall Auditorium); and our Family Production, Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe* (in the Ford Center Main

Hall). For synopses and production information, visit our web site. The Festival opens June 12th and ends July 2nd.

OSF continues to build on the support from our new and continuing sponsors – the Division of Outreach and Continuing Education, the Ford Center for the Performing Arts, the Department of Theatre Arts, the Department of Music, the Mississippi Arts Commission,

and the Gertrude Castellow Ford Foundation. For tickets Call the UM Box Office at: (662) 915-7411 or visit our tickets link on our OSF web site to order tickets online.

Visit our Calendar of Performances, also on our website, for all June and early July repertory performances at: <http://shakespeare.olemiss.edu/index.html>

Winners Continued from page 2

MTA maintains a listing of most of the plays submitted to the competition as a means of promoting the authors and their works with other theatres. The website lists the play, a brief description and contact information for the author. "Understanding Mississippi's rich history of producing talented playwrights, MTA created the competition as a means of fostering and encouraging emerging playwrights by providing them with a venue to have

their work reviewed as well as performed in a workshop setting." Kris Lee, Adult Playwriting Competition chair, said. "We look forward to seeing the work that our state's writers will submit in 2009."

Guidelines for the competition are provided on the MTA Web site at <http://ww.mta-online.org>. Scripts will be accepted until September 1, 2009.

From the President con't.

From the workshops to the auditions to the playwriting events to the individual events and the shows, there is something at MTA for everyone. The division chairmen and vice chairmen are already brainstorming new events for MTA members to enjoy. In looking to the future, the board of directors went through a long range planning session in May, and this will help us to get on the same page, and to create a cohesive vision for MTA.

MTA also plans to remain "on the road" and continue with the Town Hall Meetings. If a meeting comes to your area, please come by and let us know your thoughts. If you have ideas on how we can help you, this is a great time to share these ideas. If you are interested in hosting a Town Hall meeting, please e-mail us and we can get you on our calendar. By hosting this around a production it can also bring additional audience members to your theatre.

We are also busy with creating alliances with the Mississippi Arts Commission and their projects such as Poetry Out Loud, Arts at the Capitol as well as with the Mississippi Alliance for Arts in Education.

Another project includes launching a new website that will have many new facets of communication that we are excited to share with you. We have a great past history of theatre in Mississippi, and from the looks of it, we have an incredible future. I am here to help and to serve you, so if at anytime you have an idea, feel free to let me know. Thanks for your support, and I hope to see you at the theatre... soon.

MTA Elects New Officers

During the 2009 MTA Festival, new officers for the association were elected. Stacy Howell will be serving a two-year term as president and will lead the association through 2010. Howell has served as MTA vice president and community theatre chair division as well as president of Center Players. Suzanne Allmon who has served a secondary division and theatre for youth division chair was elected to serve as vice president. Tom Hardy, Just Over the Rainbow Theatre in Hattiesburg, was elected to

serve as Treasurer and Mississippi University for Women's William "Peppy" Biddy will serve as secretary.

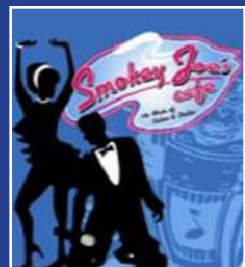
These individuals, along with Executive Director Stephen Cunetto, will serve your statewide theatre organization for the coming year. Please do not hesitate to contact any of these individuals should you have questions or suggestions.

For contact information or a full listing of Board Members, visit our website at <http://www.mta-online.org>.

New Stage Theatre Presents

Smokey Joe's Café: The Music of Leiber & Stoller
Directed by Peppy Biddy

May 26-30 and June 3-6 at 7:30 p.m.
May 31 and June 7 at 2 p.m.
Tickets: \$22; \$18 seniors and students



Tickets are available by calling 601-948-3531 or online at www.newstagetheatre.com

Mississippi Benefits from SETC's KEAP Kids

by Tonya Hays

For the last couple of years SETC has provided scholarships to talented, scholarly, high school theatre students who are economically disadvantaged to attend the Southeastern Theatre Conference. These students are given the Keynote Emerging Artist of Promise (KEAP) Award in appreciation of the work of Samm-Art Williams.

Five students in the WINGS Performing Arts Program of The Lynn Meadows Discovery Center have been awarded this honor. Haley Moon, the first KEAP award winner, is currently on a full scholarship at Barnard College in New York City. Ravin Floyd, WINGS' second KEAP recipient, is on scholarship at the University of Southern Mississippi. Ricky Johnson and Liz Kerlin, both KEAP kids last year as juniors, will attend college on scholarship and this year Kentrell Brazeal was selected as a KEAP kid.

This has been an incredible gift to these students. It has truly opened up new worlds for them as they attended workshops, performances, met with keynote speakers and auditioned and or interviewed with colleges.

I have been extremely proud of my KEAP kids. They have relished the SETC experience and been excellent representatives of our state. They are truly treated as VIPS with reserved seating at the Keynote Speaker sessions, permitted to watch professional auditions, recognized at the SETC Award Banquet and presented with a beautiful plaque to remember their remarkable experience.

Attending SETC is always inspiring. I come back revitalized to continue my theatrical work. Imagine what it can do for these young people. I have seen lives change through the KEAP experience. Every one of my students has left SETC with new confidence and enthusiasm.

Kentrell Brazeal was our KEAP kid this year. He "glowed" the whole time at SETC. I have never seen him so happy. I gave a copy of the award letter to his principal at Gulfport High School and Kentrell was awarded student of the month. When I visited the school earlier there was a huge poster picture of him listing Keynote Emerging Artist of Promise under his name. After SETC I saw him perform in the Gulfport High School Production of *Bone Chillers* and saw a new confidence in his performance.

"Getting to be a KEAP kid was a great experience for me. I had lots of fun and recommend that anyone who is nominated to take it," said Kentrell Brazeal. "The experience you will have will be something you do NOT want to miss out on," he added.

For more information and to apply visit the SETC website <http://www.setc.org>.

MTA is Going Green

Help us "go green" by opting to receive future newsletters via email.



Send an email to scunetto@gmail.com with the subject "go green".

Don't Miss Your Chance to "Strut Your Stuff!"

by Alison Stafford

The Mississippi Southeastern Theatre Conference State Screening Auditions will be held on Sat. Dec. 5th (for Mississippi auditionees) & Sun. Dec. 6th (for out-of-region auditionees) in Brooks Theatre At Hinds Community College in Raymond, Ms. The Mississippi Screening Auditions are the last ones that are to be held this year, so don't miss your chance to "strut your stuff!"

Here's something you may not know: just about anyone can apply to audition!!! You don't have to be a college student majoring in theatre or performance to participate! Anyone & everyone who is interested is strongly encouraged to apply! Interested auditionees can go to the SETC website (<http://www.setc.org/auditions/screening.php>) to download, save, & print the "applicant guidelines & online instructions." At the bottom of the page applicants will see a map with the 10 SETC states highlighted. Click on the "MS" state on the map to see more

detailed information about the Mississippi Screening Auditions. From there, applicants will be able to access the online application by clicking on the "apply online" button.

The deadline for submitting all online application information is Wednesday, November 18th, 2009. The online application will first be available to applicants in mid September & applicants will have from then until the deadline to submit all required information and payment. Application fees are only \$25 for out-of-region applicants and \$35 for Mississippi applicants.

Please contact Alison Stafford, State Auditions Coordinator & Director of Theatre at Hinds Community College (aestafford@hindsec.edu or 601-857-3267) for further information. You can also visit the Mississippi Theatre Association's website (<http://www.mta-online.org>) and click on the college/university division link on the upper left side of the screen for more contact information.

Tupelo to Host 2010 Festival

Under the leadership of past president Tom Booth, MTA will head to Tupelo for the 2010 Festival. The festival will be held January 14-17, 2010. Be sure to mark these dates and plan to attend. Planning is already underway for the festival.

Watch the MTA listserv and the website for more information.

IN THE NEWS...

Petal mayor Carl Scott, right, and others break ground for the city's cultural arts center Wednesday morning. Enterprise Products Partners, L.P. has given the city \$200,000 to complete the project, which will serve as the home for Just Over the Rainbow Theater.



WINGS Receives Governor's Award for Excellence

by Tom Booth

Some people say that you are known by your peers! Well, if this is true for the Gulfport youth theatre group WINGS, their peers are quiet impressive. They include the University of Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, internationally known artist Andrew Bucci, Grammy winning singer Cassandra Wilson, the visual artists of Wolfe Studios in Jackson, and bestselling author John Grisham. These six were the winners of the 2009 Governor's Awards for Excellence in Arts in Mississippi at a ceremony held on February 26 at Galloway United Methodist Church in downtown Jackson.

The Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts are presented annually to outstanding writers, artists, performers, craftsmen and educators who have made significant and lasting contributions through their work as well as to corporations or organizations on the basis of their dedication to arts advancement. Previous winners include B.B. King, James "Super Chikan" Johnson, Mississippi Arts Commission Executive Director Malcolm White, the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education, USA International Ballet Competition, and Bo Diddley.

The WINGS Performing Arts Program at the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center in Gulfport is a nationally recognized program for elementary through high school students residing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. In its ninth year, WINGS expands a child's world through high quality programming in the arts and humanities. Approximately 500 children across the Gulf Coast,



Cast of *Once Upon a Mattress*

ages 5 to high school, participate in annual student productions. In 2007, WINGS was a recipient of the Mississippi Humanities Council's Educator of the Year Award and the recipient of the national Coming Up Taller Award presented by First Lady Laura Bush in Washington, D.C.

Congratulations WINGS for the award. You make each of us involved in MTA proud of your work in your community and what you do for theatre in Mississippi.

Arts Day at the Capitol

by Stacy Howell

Robert Frost once wrote, "If you are looking for something to be brave about consider fine arts."

"If that is the case, many a brave souls arrived at the Capitol in March to share their courage and their talent," said Kenneth McDade, MTA Community Theatre Division Chairman "The Mississippi rotunda was alive with music, dance and joyous spirits. Talented artists from all over Mississippi showed up and gave the legislators a hint of the wealth of talent in our state."

Each year, the Mississippi Arts Commission visits the capitol to thank the Legislature for its support, and to keep everyone in office abreast of arts events, activities and programs around the state. This year the Mississippi Theatre Association joined the Mississippi Arts Commission, the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education, and other art organizations in bringing the arts to the capitol for the 2009 Arts Day at the Capitol. The day was filled with meeting legislators, meeting other art representatives, enjoying entertainment by artists such as Bill Ellison and Temperance Babcock, and mingling over breakfast and congressional sessions. Tom Hardy of Just Over the Rainbow Theatre and MTA Treasurer says, "Arts Day at the Capitol was a great chance to make our needs known with the people who determine arts funding."

The event was a success and members of MTA were well represented through a dvd showing, organizational membership information, and newsletters being provided by several community theatres and secondary theatres from across the state. We hope to make this an annual event of the Mississippi Theatre Association, and through this we will be continuing our goal of arts advocacy for the theatre community.

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<http://www.flickr.com/groups/mta/>



2009 MTA Festival Another Success!

The 2009 Festival held in Natchez in January was another successful event for the Mississippi Theatre Association (MTA). With a record attendance of 694 the MTA festival continues to grow in number of attendees and the number of offerings to theatre attendees. The MTA Board is very proud of the fact that the festival and the association continues to provide a valuable resource and opportunity to theatre enthusiasts from all over the state.



Tom Booth (left) presents Layne Taylor (right) with Spotlight Award.

We are very thankful to Layne Taylor, Artistic and Executive Director of Natchez Little Theatre, for reaching out to MTA and inviting us to Natchez. MTA has not been to Natchez since the 1970's and it was time we returned. Special appreciate to the Board of Directors and the many volunteers and crew from Natchez Little Theatre! You certainly made us feel welcome and rolled out the red carpet for our attendees.

Yes, this year will certainly go down as one of the coldest

festivals in recent years. Cold or not – these theatre goers persevered and had a wonderful time. If you missed the festival, you missed a weekend filled with fantastic and energetic productions from high schools, community theatres, youth programs, and one community college. High school productions ranged from *Much Ado About Nothing* to *All in the Timing* to *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. While community theatres competed with *Tuna Christmas*, *Proof*, *Catfish Moon*, to name a few. 10-Minute Plays were written and produced by high school students – all within 24 hours. High school students and adults competed for individual awards as a part of the Individual Events Festival. Kristen Bankston's one-act play marked the first staged reading of a winning script from the first Youth Playwriting Competition. Jackson's Beth Kander's production won the adult playwriting competition as well as a staged reading. Oh, we certainly can't forget the Theatre for Youth



Community Theatre All Star Cast Members.



The fans, cast and crew of Starkville Community Theatre's *Catfish Moon* celebrate the theatre's Best Production Award.

Productions held at Natchez Little Theatre where we bussed in over 400 students from area schools to see these wonderful productions.

We were very fortunate to have several special guests this year. Author and playwright Mark Dunn, who adjudicated our playwriting competitions, served as one of our guest speakers. Dunn's novel *Ella Minnow Pea* has been adapted into a musical that is headed, hopefully, to Broadway. Dunn was joined by Scott Burkell and Paul Loesel who are adapting the novel into a musical. The trio talked about their experience of adapting the novel. With Loesel on the keyboard, Burkell sang one of the songs from the musical while one of our own, Aubrey Hays, sang two selections. Burkell, who resides in New

York City, is an actor, singer and lyricist and has appeared in numerous regional productions as well as appearing in the *Titanic* on Broadway. Loesel who also resides in New York City is a keyboardist and music associate for the Broadway company of *Wicked*.

After all of the productions, workshops and socials, there were awards! Yes, we gave out some hardware! The Dominic J. Cunetto Best Production Award went to Laurel Christian School's production of *All In the Timing*. The Warren McDaniel Best Production Award went to Starkville Community Theatre's production of *Catfish Moon* and Actor's Playhouse's production of *Rent, School Edition*. For a complete listing of awards visit the MTA website at <http://www.mta-online.org>.

College/University News:

The college/university division of MTA is in the planning stage for the upcoming MS/KC/ACTF for fall. The Festival will be held on the campus of the University of Mississippi in Oxford, with performances taking place in the newly renovated Meek Hall Theatre. Dates are currently set for Thursday and Friday, November 5 and 6, 2009. The festival may expand to include Wednesday night, depending on the number of participating entries. Please note the festival no longer incorporates Saturday November 7th as a football game was added to the schedule after the weekend was selected. It is expected that the number of participating entries can be determined after the state schools receive their operating budgets in July.

William (Peppy) Bidy, College/University Division Chair

Laurel Christian School's Journey to SETC

by Chris Wooten

Laurel Christian School's production of *All in the Timing* by David Ives was chosen to represent Mississippi in the Southeastern Theater Conference held March 4-7 in Birmingham, Alabama. The show received the Best Play Award at the Mississippi Theater Festival. The production faced a challenge bringing a production to the festival. Teacher, Anita Boyd, began a speech and debate program at the school last year. Many of the students participated in the Individual Events Festival at MTA that year but after watching most of the high school and community theater productions, the students asked if they could participate. Anita and I went through a mountain of scripts to find something that would appeal to the students and would provide a good learning experience. Since there is no theater at the school, we used my office and my den as rehearsal space. Prior to the performance at the South District Festival held at the University of Southern Mississippi, Scott Waldrop was kind enough to offer his space at Hattiesburg High School for us to rehearse. For most of the cast and crew, it was their first time on stage.

After advancing to the State Festival, we again utilized Hattiesburg High School's rehearsal space. Once we were chosen at MTA to represent at SETC, we encountered more challenges. We raised money for the event. We had lots of community support and without the generosity of many individuals and institutions we would not have been prepared for what faced us in Birmingham.

We performed in the Birmingham Children's Theater, a 900 seat professional space. The theater was beautiful, but intimidating for the inexperienced cast and crew.

Everyone entered this process with the best attitude. After each competition, we took the criticisms given to us by the adjudicators and made adjustments accordingly. Each member of the team knew his or her responsibility. Our goal was to present the best show possible.

The entire company watched each show and became quite in tune with the adjudicators. They soon learned what the adjudicators would be critical of or let slide. In many instances, the students were more critical of a performance than the adjudicator's oral notes. This showed that the students were not just participating in a festival with a production, but they were learning. That is why these festivals are so important in the education process. The cast and crew will take many memories of this even with them.



Cast of "All in the Timing".

During the awards ceremony, five of the ten states represented at the festival received an All Superior Rating. Mississippi was one of those five. I reviewed the states receiving this award in the past and found that Mississippi consistently received All Superior. That shows the strength of our State Festival. Two of the cast members, Laurel Bartley and Corbin McDavitt, received the All-Star Cast Award. Finally and possibly the sweetest victory, the Company was awarded the Most Disciplined Load In and Strike. The students had worked so hard to make good impressions and show professionalism. These awards, one by the adjudicators (All Superior Rating) and the other by the back stage crew (Most Disciplined Load In and Strike) proved that we had accomplished our goal of presenting the best production possible and representing Mississippi with pride and respect for those around us.

"Through SETC, I have made friendships and connections that will stay with me for the rest of my life. SETC was an amazing experience that will benefit me for many years to come," said Hunter Chancellor of the experience.

It was a pleasure to work with Anita and these students. The support of the school administration and the community echoed in everything we accomplished. I know the students, the parents, Anita, and I had a wonderful experience that we will always cherish. The underclassmen are already making plans for next year.

Camphor and Howell Receive MAAE Award


Each year the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education (MAAE) honors educators for their exemplary work in the area of arts education. This year, as in years past, teachers from the MTA family received the award. Sandra Camphor, theatre teacher at Ocean Springs High School, and John Howell, arts facilitator at Casey Elementary School, received the 2009 Thad Cochran Distinguished Arts Educator Award.

This year's awards recipients were recognized for outstanding service in promoting the arts in education both within the schools and in their communities. The awards were presented during a gala luncheon hosted by the MAAE in April at the MSU Riley Center. Past recipients of this award are MJ Etua and Juniper Wallace.

Congratulations to these outstanding teachers!



Mississippi Theatre Association
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Notes & News

CALL FOR SCRIPTS

That's right: if you've got a one-act script, then we're looking for you. The 2010 Mississippi Theatre Association Playwriting Competition needs your play!

May 1 - September 1, 2009, the MTA Playwriting Competition will be accepting one-act scripts.

Complete details can be found on our website: www.mta-online.org.

The winning adult playwright receives \$500 and the youth playwright receives \$250. Both winners will see their script performed as a staged reading during the the 2010 Mississippi Theatre Association Festival.

So, don't delay.

Register and Submit Your Script Online Today
One of you is the winner, after all. And we can't wait to meet you...