

SUMMER 2010

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LETTER FROM THE OCTAFEST CHAIR



OCTA Festival 2010 **“Where Legends Are Made”** was a huge success! There were so many good productions, insightful adjudications, informational yet fun workshops and just a plain ol’ good time. There was a special moment before the last production when we all had the privilege of honoring several of our Oklahoma legends who were previous winners on the State, Regional and National level. We even had a comfy stay at the Sooner Legends Hotel. They provided a wonderful workshop space, well designed rooms, a networking space to

hang out in, yummy restaurant, bar and a nice hospitality suite where I could entertain the adjudicators. One of our adjudicators, joan e. kole, ph. d., came all the way from Illinois and had never judged in Oklahoma. She commented to me that this was the most organized festival, and she was treated the best here than anywhere else she had adjudicated. Hey, we know how to do it up right in Oklahoma. Another great thing about this festival was the opportunity for all of our theatre’s to perform in a state of the art theatre facility like the Nancy O’Brian Center for the Performing Arts. This theatre equals most anything that the theatre’s moving on will experience on the national level. I want to thank all the theatre’s who participated, who put on those wonderful productions, volunteered in the lobby and helped with clean up. I want to thank Morrie Enders, Stephen Slaughter, and , joan e. kole, ph.d. for their helpful and entertaining adjudications and great workshops. And lastly I want to thank Courtney DiBello and Scott Hofmann for their popular and much needed workshops. It’s over now and everyone’s back home and in some cases raising money to go on to Regional’s. OCTA was busy this week moving yet again. The Oklahoma City Arts Council gave all the non-profits one week to get everything out of the Stage Center building. So we finished moving the office into a warehouse space that our temporary landlord was so kind to lend us. We are looking forward to Regional’s and our next project. After the successful summer workshop conference we had last year we are excited to plan another even better one. So stay tuned.

Festival Chair,
Doobie Potter

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OCTAFEST 2010 AWARDS CEREMONY

OCTA'S OKLAHOMA SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Introduced by the Board in 2009 for the intent of thanking phenomenal community theatre volunteers. Member theatres can recognize any volunteer who has gone 'above and beyond' in their volunteerism. Awards may be presented any year, usually during conference or festival. There is no set number to be inducted each year. **2010 Spotlight Awards** were presented to Linda DuBois, of Grove Playmakers; George Romero, of Heller Theatre; Thome Cook, of Chickasha Community Theatre; and Kathy Buxton, of Duncan Little Theatre.

Pictured (TopRight): Martha Cherbini (OCTA President) with Jennifer Martin of Duncan Little Theatre and (Top Far Right) Linda DuBois of the Grove Playmakers.



THEATRE OF THE YEAR

Is given to an **OCTA MEMBER THEATRE**, operating within a Board of Directors structure, which has accomplished at least 10 continuous seasons with at least two productions each. This is the most prestigious award a theatre can receive in Oklahoma. **Shawnee Little Theatre** was chosen as **OCTA's 2010 Theatre of the Year**.

SLT was cited for setting goals and achieving them, as well as staying power and reinventing itself after 40 plus years. Rebecca Fry prepared an elaborate application and pictorial history of SLT's planning, fund raising and eventual remodeling of the theatre lobby and rest rooms.

Pictured Middle Left: Shonda Currell (OCTA Board Member) with Rebecca Fry, Shawnee Little Theatre.



OCTAVISION

Is given to an OCTA member theatre which has established and successfully accomplished a substantial long-range goal. Past recipients have retired a note on a building, purchased property, etc. **Heller Theatre**, of Tulsa, has moved from their 50 seat theatre to their new Henthron Theatre Arts facility. They graciously hosted OCTA's Conference in the Park last summer and are enjoying a new larger theatre, offices, and classrooms. Check them out at www.hellerttheatre.com.

Picture Above Left: Shonda Currell (OCTA Board Member) with Sara Phoenix with Heller Theatre.



OCTA HALL OF HONOR AWARD

The **OCTA HALL OF HONOR AWARD** is OCTA's highest recognition for lifetime achievement in service to Oklahoma nonprofit theatre and to OCTA.

This award is to be given to an OCTA member who had accomplished significant things for OCTA. There were no written guidelines on determining a recipient.

There were no set number to be inducted each year for the reason that there would be years that none will be given.

OCTA HALL OF HONOR Was PRESENTED To Shonda Currell, of Elk City, IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY THEATRE IN OKLAHOMA.

Picture Bottom Left: Martha Cherbini (OCTA President) with OCTA Hall of Honor recipient Shonda Currell

2010 OCTAFEST WINNERS

Thank you to all those who participated!

Duncan Little Theatre
ALMOST MAINE by John Cariani

Lawton Community Theatre
LOVE LETTERS by A. R. Gurney

Regional Actors'
Community Theatre (ReACT),
Tonkawa
WANDA'S VISIT
by Christopher Durang

Blue Moon Productions, Lawton
LADIES OF THE MOP
by Aurand Harris



Ponca Playhouse, Ponca City
Proof (Act I) by David Auburn

Broken Arrow
Community Theatre
THE GIN GAME (Act II)
by D. L. Coburn

Sand Springs Community
Theatre
THE LADY OF
LARKSPUR LOTION
by Tennessee Williams

Terrace Level Players, Bartlesville (Showcase)
SMOKE DAMAGE by Daniel Gordon

ALL STAR CAST

Loisdawn Jones—**Almost, Maine**, Duncan Little Theatre

Cynthia Kent—**Love Letters**, Lawton Community Theatre

Stephanie Williams—**Wanda's Visit**, ReACT

Melissa Horn—**Ladies of the Mop**, Blue Moon Productions

Ashley Hodges—**Proof**, Ponca Playhouse

Tom Berenson—**Gin Game**, Broken Arrow Community Playhouse

Karyn Lee Maio—**Gin Game**, Broken Arrow Community Playhouse



Pictured Left with Eugene Irby (AACT Rep.)

Best Ensemble: Ladies of the Mop,
Blue Moon Productions, Lawton

Standing Ovation (Audience's Vote): Gin Game,
Broken Arrow Community Playhouse

Best Design: Lady of Larkspur Lotion,
Sand Springs Community Playhouse

Picture Below Left to Right with Eugene Irby (AACT Rep.)

Best Lighting:
Almost, Maine,
Duncan Little
Theatre

1st Place — **The Gin Game,**
Broken Arrow Community Playhouse
2nd Place — **Proof,** Ponca Playhouse
3rd Place — **Ladies of the Mop,**
Blue Moon Productions, Lawton





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Where Legends are Made!



All programs and services of the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association are funded in part through the generosity of the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts.

FEATURED THEATRE
RED CARPET COMMUNITY THEATRE

Red Carpet Community Theatre's (Elk City) production of
"Bye, Bye Birdie" August 2-8, 2010



Check out Red Carpet Community Theatre

www.rcct.org or find us on FACEBOOK

Want your theatre to be featured? Send us some pictures!

OCTA MOVES AGAIN

Thanks to the help of several people and a few weekends, the OCTA office moved in December. We were at Stage Center, the same building where Carpenter Square Theatre and OK Shakespeare in the Park are located. Due to flooding in downtown OKC and building condemned we HAVE MOVED AGAIN!!! Well, we

actually just moved our desk. We are currently located at 1015 N Broadway Suite #210, but are looking for a more permanent location that will meet our needs. If you know of anything in the OKC area that is available at a reasonable cost, please let us know! Thank you to all those who helped buy scripts at the festival and helping pack

up what was left. Our library is still there, just a little lighter. Feel free to contact the office if we can be of help to you in any way....we are here to help keep Community Theatre alive and we could not do it without our supportive members. Thanks to all!!

OCTA THANKS OCTAFEST 2010 UNDERWRITERS

OCTA would like to thank our underwriters who made OCTAFest possible by providing a statewide venue for eight community theatres in Oklahoma to come together and share their performances, enhancing their

future growth and development by receiving professional adjudication and workshops. They are:

- ◆ Weistheimer Foundation
- ◆ Kirkpatrick Family Fund
- ◆ Kirkpatrick Foundation
- ◆ Oklahoma Arts Council
- ◆ National Endowment of the Arts.