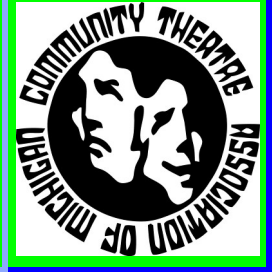


COMMUNITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

CALLBOARD

August 2016



Special invitation to the CTAM Youth Program

Annual Fall Conference is only two months away! Register now!

Join us for a fun filled weekend of education and networking at Evergreen Resort in Cadillac for our Fall Conference — September 23, 24 and 25.

Bring something, anything, red to wear for the **Wear Red, Drink Red** networking event at Curley's after the Meet & Greet on Friday! It can be an outfit, beads, hat, sunglasses, the choice is yours. We will have red specialty drinks available.

We will have show-tune karaoke after our Saturday Banquet or you can sign up for a networking dessert — or both! (Please see registration form on page 5).

Don't forget about the Youth Theatre portion of the weekend! Invite the young people from your theatre groups to get involved in our youth program for ages 11-17. Their sessions run concurrent with ours and they will have a great time learning, meeting new people and performing! (*More info page 3.*)

If your theatre rents out costumes, sets pieces, or you have a theatre service that you provide, spaces are available to rent in our vendor room, contact the conference chair, Suzan Dunham.

The registration form is on page 5. You

can print it out and send to the address at the bottom of the form. It should be up on the website very soon so you can register and pay online, also.

If you have questions, please contact Conference Chair Suzan Dunham at 989-820-5257 or email her at info@witzend.co (not com).



2015-16 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Suzan Dunham..... info@witzend.co
 Tawas Bay Players
 (+ one vacancy)

Executive Secretary

Nancy Peska peska@cmsinter.net
 Gratiot County Players
 989-463-1252



Scholarships still available

Scholarship Chair Christy Frick wants to remind you that scholarships are available for all CTAM-sponsored events. This includes the Fall Conference, as well as The Leadership Conference in November. The money is raised by donations from you, along with the raffle at Fall Conference every year. You all are supporting others to be able to participate in these events.

There is a short application that needs to be filled out and signed by someone on your local board of directors or your executive director. The deadline is two weeks prior to the event and the scholarship covers the cost of registration. We do have a stipulation that no more than two people from the same theatre group would be eligible. You can contact Christy by emailing her at cfrick9898@charter.net.

PLAN AHEAD now to bring a raffle prize to the Fall Conference. Each affiliate group is asked to donate one prize (with a value of at least \$35). Individuals also donate prizes with the same value or more. Raffle tickets at the event are \$1 each or six for \$5. Tickets are sold all weekend and the drawing for winners is held at the brunch on Sunday morning before you leave for home!



Affiliated with American Association of Community Theatre



Callboard Staff

Editor.....Mary Lou Britton
 ContributorsMembers of the Board

This is the official newsletter of the Community Theatre Association of Michigan, issued monthly to all group and individual members with e-mail addresses on record. Distribution is by e-mail with a link to the newsletter on the association website. Back issues are available on the association website at www.communitytheatre.org. Correspondence to the **Callboard** should be sent to the Editor at mellbee@earthlink.net.

- Productions and dates should be sent to the Editor.
- Short informational articles are accepted and will be used on a space-available basis.
- Show photos should be carefully selected and sent to the Editor, along with identifying caption and permission from photographer for us to publish.

Updated e-mail and postal addresses are maintained by the Executive Secretary Nancy Peska and should be sent to her at peska@cmsinter.net.

CTAM Calendar of Events

Sept. 23-25, 2016 Cadillac	<i>CTAM Fall Conference Evergreen Resort</i>
November 4-6, 2016 Traverse City	<i>CTAM Theatre Leadership Conference, hosted by Old Town Playhouse</i>
April 27-30, 2017 Champaign, Illinois	<i>Regional AACTfest</i>
June 26-July 1, 2017 Rochester, Minnesota	<i>National AACTfest</i>
Sept. 22-24, 2017 Cadillac	<i>CTAM Fall Conference Evergreen Resort</i>



***Hamlet* scheduled to attend Conference Youth Program announced**

This year at the Fall Conference, we've decided to embark on a different adventure. Last year, we talked characters, improvised, and created our own script to perform for the adult attendees. To take that one step further, we will be performing an original one act called *Hammie: Shakespeare's Hamlet in Twenty Five Hilarious Minutes* that had its world premier at the 2015 Renegade Theatre Festival in Lansing.

I'm pumped to be teaching the youth portion again this year, especially Shakespeare, who is far and away one of my favorite subjects to bask in, as a teacher and student. One of the most important things we can teach anyone about theatre, no matter their age, is passion. And I am delighted to have the opportunity to bring mine to the table.

As with last year, we will delve into characterization via the Uta Hagen Method with the Nine Questions, and I plan on adding a history lesson on the Bard himself, as well as a reading from the original *Hamlet*.

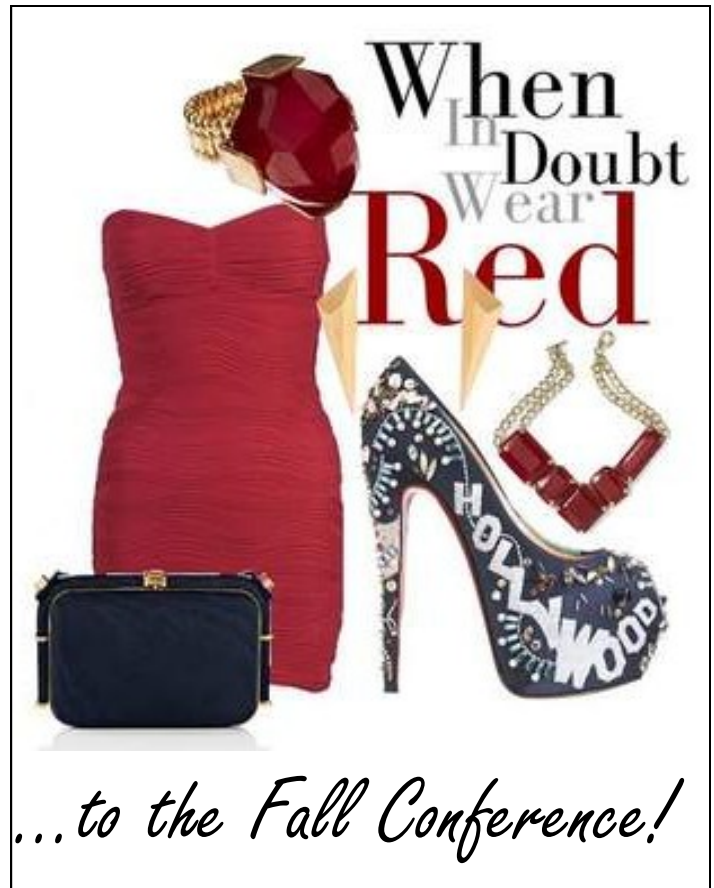


Zac Dalton, Youth Program participant last year.

This will be a weekend for the books for our youth participants, who have the opportunity to work on an original script, learn about a legend, and have super time with it! Their performance is going to be killer!

As you can see on the Registration Form on page 12, the fee for the weekend is \$75 (plus room). This includes Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday brunch, snacks and all instruction and materials. (Breakfast is provided with your room at Evergreen Resort.)

—Sarah Willis,
Youth Program director



It's the little things that make it wonderful!

In response to your comments about the Fall Conference, several changes are being made to try to reduce the cost of the weekend and encourage attendance.

Dessert after the Saturday evening banquet is now optional! You have a choice to move with other sweet-lovers to another room and continue with your networking ... or you can go directly to the show-tune karaoke party ... or both, later! Indicate your preference on your registration form!

You'll also notice on your registration form (page 10), that delegates receive an additional \$10 discount and CTAM individual members receive a \$20 discount (or both!)

We're listening to what you say and hope these small changes make the weekend more appealing to more people!

Workshops available at Cadillac Fall Conference

Ape-ing It: The Hairyiness of Directing for AACTFest

— J. J. Spaulding, Players de Noc, Escanaba

Directing is one animal. Directing for the festival is another animal altogether. Using their productions of *The Pillowman*, *Some Things You Need to Know Before the World Ends (A Final Evening with the Illuminati)*, and *The Hairy Ape* as models, Spaulding will share the process his company takes in preparing for AACTFest, including how they maximize the use of time throughout the process and tricks they employ at the festival itself.



Improvisation for Beginners

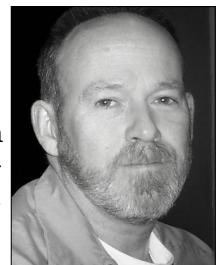
— Jeremy St. Martin-

Many actors feel that improvisation is just a game...one they must suffer through at the discretion of the director! But there is a real science to getting the actors to 'let go' and 'feel the moment.' Jeremy's background and accomplishments in Improv guarantee a fun and exciting workshop!

Sound Design with Audacity

— Ray Skiver, Tawas Bay Players

How to use digital sound effects and music for community theater productions. Learn how to create your sound effects with a laptop, using AUDACITY digital audio workstation. You will learn to create the effect, edit it in the software and fine tune it. Here's an example where new technology can make you sound even better!



The Perils of Play Reading

— Michael Wisiniewski, Bay City Players

This workshop will discuss what works best for your organization and why what works elsewhere may not be for you! We will look at different processes that groups use to choose a season, discuss how plays and musicals are chosen and what obstacles you could face. This workshop will be more of a round-table discussion so bring your best suggestions...and your challenges.

2020 Vision: What Will Our Audiences Look Like in Five Years?

-- Dexter Bingham, Midland Center for the Arts

All arts organizations are struggling mightily to engage Millennials, to figure out how to engage their attention and their dollars. But Millennials experience art and entertainment in a profoundly different way from previous generations. How do we meet the needs of our future subscribers and patrons without sacrificing the integrity of the live performance experience?



Structure vs. Rigidity: How Having a Plan Will Set You Free

— Dexter Bingham, Midland Center for the Arts

Artists hate form, structure, and rules. We are free thinkers, painting outside the lines. But when theatre groups operate with that mentality, they are doomed to last-minute scrambling, in-fighting and turf wars. The "standard machine" of putting a play together is a process that has developed over the centuries, and most theatre's use at least some parts of it.

CTAM FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – September 23, 24, 25, 2016

Name: _____ First Time attending conference Yes ___ No ___

Mailing address: _____

Phone: Cell _____ Home _____ email: _____

Theatre/Organization Affiliation: _____

Are you under 18? Yes ___ No ___; if yes Chaperone name _____

I am designated as a CTAM Delegate by my group. Yes _____ I am the group president. Yes _____

Workshop Selection (Please circle which workshops you will be attending)

Saturday Morning Session 1	Saturday Morning Session 2	Saturday Afternoon Session 3
Sound with Audacity	Sound with Audacity	Improvisation
Structure Vs Rigidity	2020 Vision	Directing for Festival
Directing for Festival	The Perils of Play Reading	Vendor's Displays
Vendors' Displays	Vendors' Displays	

(Your Registration includes Friday night meet and greet, Saturday lunch, Saturday Banquet and Sunday Buffet. Breakfast is included with room.)

Early Bird Member Registration (Due July 31 st)	\$90.00 each	# _____	\$ _____
Early Bird Non-Member Registration (Due July 31 st)	\$110.00 each	# _____	\$ _____
After July 31 st -Individual Member Registration	\$120.00 each	# _____	\$ _____
After July 31 st -Individual Non-member Registration	\$140.00 each	# _____	\$ _____
Networking Dessert following Saturday Banquet	\$7.00 each	# _____	\$ _____
Youth Individual, ages 11 to 17 (due July 31 st)	\$75.00 each	# _____	\$ _____

Discount:

If designated CTAM Delegate, subtract \$10.00 -\$10.00 each # _____ less \$ _____

Membership Dues for 2016-2017: Individual, \$35 Family, \$50 \$ _____
 Donation to CTAM (General _____, Scholarship _____, Collins' Cocoa Hour _____
 Fall Meet & Greet _____, Youth program _____, Other _____) \$ _____
 Donation to Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS \$ _____

Total registration due \$ _____

Payment: Check or Money Order to "CTAM Conference" Visa MasterCard

Name on card _____ Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date ____/____ 3-digit security code on back of card _____

Please indicate your choices from the following:

I will be attending the Saturday night banquet, yes or no, the Sunday brunch, yes or no

By signing below, CTAM would like your permission to freely photograph the conference's activities and use the images for promotional purposes, including web pages, Facebook, print media, lobby displays, brochures, etc. If you take photos, we would ask you to allow the use of the photos for the same purposes.

Signature _____ **Date:** _____

*Mail form and payment to CTAM Conference, 4619 W Van Buren Rd, Alma, MI 48801
 You are responsible to make you own hotel reservations by calling Evergreen Resort BEFORE August 29.
 Phone number is 1-800-632-7302 and ask for the CTAM rate.*



The Prez Sez...

by Betsy Willis

I love Michigan theatre people! And I love our CTAM people! The Board just enjoyed a lovely weekend in Escanaba as guests of Players de Noc for our July Board meeting.

We had a splendid New Directors Workshop, led by the inimitable Leeds Bird from Bay City. Who else better to give the attendees a solid beginning from which to get started. Ten Escanabians (?) attended the workshop and, we hope, walked away well prepared to step into the wonderful world of directing.

Many thanks to Leeds for spending the weekend with us and being so generous with his time and expertise.

And we extend great appreciation to new Board member Mark Cowman and his cohorts from Players de Noc for their hospitality. It was a great weekend!

The next big CTAM event is the Fall Conference at Evergreen Resort in Cadillac. It's going to be fun this year with Suzan Dunham at the helm! She has lots of great ideas and plans some wonderful surprises for us.

We've worked hard to lower the cost so more of you will consider attending and bring your friends with you. Plus, as you've noticed, we're giving an extra discount for delegates who attend.

I want to also call everyone's attention to the upcoming Theatre Leadership Conference (TLC) that will be held in early November. Please see the article on the next page.

This will be the third such conference, designed especially for the paid and volunteer leaderships of your group to meet and discuss the current issues you're having and, by sharing information from across the state, try to help each other be more successful.

Please be sure that your local affiliate leadership knows about the Conference and encourage them to plan to attend. It can be your Presidents or any of your Board members ... or your paid staff. Discussion topics will be se-

lected to be of interest to groups with large budgets and staffs, as well as smaller all-volunteer groups. The problems exist for all of us, regardless of the size of your organization.

Registration will be \$130 and includes workshop, materials, Friday reception, Saturday lunch, and meeting refreshments.

This conference is hosted by Old Town Playhouse in Traverse City — my home group — and I appreciate their willingness to go the extra mile for CTAM!

Hoping to see all of you at the upcoming CTAM events!

Delegates must be identified before Annual Meeting

Please remember that your Voting Delegates must be identified prior to the Fall Conference. When your dues renewal form was submitted, each affiliate group was asked for the name of their President and their Delegate.

Those are the only two people who will be permitted to vote on the group's behalf at the Annual Meeting — unless you plan ahead. If your designated Delegate or President is unable to attend and you wish to transfer those duties to someone else who is attending, CTAM must receive a written transfer prior to the Conference...or bring it with you to registration.

In addition to election of new members to the Board of Directors, this year we will most likely be voting on a Bylaw change, so we want everyone to be prepared and able to vote!

Questions or concerns? Contact Executive Secretary [Nancy Peska](#).

Classified Corner

For sale or donation. Starting a second stage? Grosse Pointe Theatre has about 40 upholstered theatre (a shade of red!) seats available. Cheap. Contact [Arlene](#) or 313/881-4004.



November 4-6 Leadership Conference in Traverse City

The 2016 Theatre Leadership Conference (TLC) is taking place at Old Town Playhouse in Traverse City November 4-6. **Ron Ziegler**, Festival Coordinator for AACT, will once again be our moderator. We invite paid management from Michigan community theatres with staff and volunteer leadership, as well as members of Executive Committees in all-volunteer CTAM affiliates, to come together for two days of focused discussion that is guaranteed to give you at least one piece of information that will help your theatre. If you don't come away with one cost-saving or income-generating idea to cover the cost of attending, we'd be very surprised.

On Friday night we meet and get acquainted over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Then people will head off to dinner together in groups to discuss selected topics. All day Saturday and into the evening we will discuss a range of topics selected by the participants in advance of the conference. This usually includes shows that were Hits or Misses, fundraisers, volunteer management, staffing, long range planning, and marketing.

There are lots of opportunities for networking at lunch and dinner on Saturday. We wind everything up on Sunday morning and everyone leaves feeling tired but energized with new ideas.

Accommodations are at the downtown, historic Park Place Hotel. Registration and hotel rates will follow soon. Watch the *Callboard* and website for more details.



Heart of the Hills Players performed last year at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts in "Oklahoma".

Like us on Facebook

Slowly but surely, the CTAM Facebook page is climbing higher and higher! We're up to 997 people 'liking' us now ... just three more and we'll reach the magic number of 1,000! Ask your friends to join us on "Community Theatre Association of Michigan-CTAM" so they, too, will know what's going on with CTAM.

What's going on around Michigan!

All-of-Us-Express Children's Theatre	<i>Peter Pan</i>	July 29-Aug 6, 2016
Grand Rapids Civic Theatre	<i>Into the Woods*</i>	July 29-Aug 7, 2016
Grand Rapids Civic Theatre	<i>Wayside School*</i>	July 29-Aug 7, 2016
Clio Cast and Crew	<i>Legally Blonde</i>	Aug 3-14, 2016
Center Stage Theatre, Midland	<i>Frankenstein*</i>	Aug 4-6, 2016
Little Traverse Civic Theatre, Petoskey	<i>Robin Hood*</i>	Aug 4-7, 2016
Manistee Civic Players	<i>Mary Poppins</i>	Aug 5-14, 2016
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Holland Civic Theatre	<i>Twelve Angry Jurors*</i>	Aug 11-20, 2016
Rogers City Community Theatre	<i>Dear Edwina*</i>	Aug 25-28, 2016
Riverwalk Theatre, Lansing	<i>Grease</i>	Sept 8-13, 2016
Clio Cast and Crew	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Sept 9-11, 2016
Owosso Community Players	<i>Rock of Ages</i>	Sept 9-18, 2016
Stagecrafters, Royal Oak	<i>Disney's The Little Mermaid</i>	Sep 9-Oct 1, 2016
Tawas Bay Players	<i>Love, Loss & What I Wore</i>	Sept 9-17, 2016
The Village Players, Birmingham	<i>Plaza Suite</i>	Sep 9-18, 2016
Tin Shop Theatre, Buchanan	<i>The Diviners</i>	Sep 9-18, 2016
Fenton Village Players	<i>Early One Evening at the Rainbow Bar Grill</i>	Sept 15-12, 2016
Muskegon Civic Theatre	<i>A Murder is Announced</i>	Sept 16-Oct 1, 2016
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Sept 16-Oct 8, 2016
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>Singing in the Rain</i>	Sept 18-Oct 1, 2016
Farmington Players	<i>The Vast Difference</i>	Sept 23-Oct 15, 2016
Kalamazoo Civic Theatre	<i>Oklahoma!</i>	Sept 23-Oct 9, 2016
Southgate Community Players	<i>Alice in Wonderland*</i>	Sept 23-24, 2016
Players de Noc, Escanaba	<i>Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean...</i>	Sept 30-Oct 8, 2016
Riverwalk Theatre, Lansing	<i>Burn This</i>	Oct 3-9, 2016
Holland Civic Theatre	<i>The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940</i>	Oct 6-22, 2016
Bay City Players	<i>Spamalot</i>	Oct 7-16, 2016
Kalamazoo Civic Theatre	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Oct 7-22, 2016
Pit and Balcony Theatre, Saginaw	<i>Legally Blonde, the Musical</i>	Oct 7-16, 2016
Little Traverse Civic Theatre, Petoskey	<i>Murder by Poe</i>	Oct 13-22, 2016
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Dinner with the Boys**</i>	Oct 14-29, 2016
Stagecrafters, Royal Oak	<i>Trevor **</i>	Oct 14-23, 2016
Tawas Bay Players	<i>I'll Be Back Before Midnight</i>	Oct 14-23, 2016
Riverwalk Theatre, Lansing	<i>Are You Being Served?</i>	Oct 20-30, 2016
Manistee Civic Players	<i>Leaving Iowa</i>	Oct 21-30, 2016

* indicates youth productions;

** indicates second stage productions, if submitted.

Please be sure to fill out your Dues Renewal Form completely, as that is the source for this information on shows! If your information is incorrect or missing, please send the correct information to [The Editor](#) to be corrected or included in the next issue. A more complete list is also available on the CTAM website.