

CALLBOARD

Fall conference this month!

Date: Weekend of October 12-14, 2018



Location: Holiday Inn - Gateway Center in the Flint/Grand Blanc area. Easily accessed from I-75 or M-23 because it's located where they intersect mid-state.

Online registration is available at ctam.online. Simply

click on the black bar at the top of the home page. The form is also attached here on page 11 if you find it easier to register by mail.

Hotel Information:

The hotel is located 5353 Gateway Center, Flint 48507. The rooms are \$100 per night, plus taxes, and include breakfast. When registering, use the room code of "CTA" to access the special rate for our conference. Call them directly at 810/232-5300. Or use the link on our CTAM conference registration form for easy and quick hotel reservations.

LATE-BREAKING NEWS:

Stratford workshop added

Interpreting Shakespeare the Right Way

In this dynamic, high-energy workshop, Stratford Festival of Canada company members use some of the most famous and familiar bits of Shakespeare to offer actors and directors practical ways of exploring Shakespeare's text in active, imaginative and personally meaningful ways. How do we know we are interpreting Shakespeare the right way? Is there, indeed, a 'right' way? These and other questions will be explored in this lively and informative workshop. Artists joining us for this workshop are Carla Bennett, Mike Shara, Devon Glover and Anthony Malarky.

This special workshop will be presented once only at 11:00 a.m.!

See Page 4 for descriptions of other sessions.

Notice of the 2018 CTAM Annual Meeting

3:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 13, at the Gateway Holiday Inn

Each CTAM affiliate group is entitled to send two voting representatives to the Annual Meeting to elect new Board members and attend to other matters of the organization. They must be identified prior to the Conference.

2017-18 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - **Christy Frick**
 Gratiot County Players
cfrick9898@charter.net

Vice President - **Suzan Dunham**
 Tawas Bay Players, WE Players
info@witzend.co

Secretary - **Shyrl Cone**
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Treasurer - **Jamie Peterson**
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Callboard

Editor..... Mary Lou Britton

This is the official newsletter of the Community Theatre Association of Michigan, issued monthly to all group affiliates 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. 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.

It's time for the Scholarship Raffle on Sunday morning!

Just a reminder that scholarships are available for registration only for Fall Conference, including the Youth program and the Theatre Leadership Conference. The scholarships are available to cover registration only for any CTAM-sponsored educational event (except the New York Trips).

The application is online, so go to ctam.online and fill out the application. Once approved, you will receive a code to enter when you register for the Conference or Workshop.

Where do these funds come from, you ask? They come from the money raised from our raffle during the Fall Conference. So when you come to Fall Conference, please bring a raffle item for adults and one for the youth. Minimum value should be about

\$35. Drop it off at the registration desk and it will be set up for viewing during the weekend. The raffle will take place Sunday morning after brunch.

The most important thing to remember is to buy, buy, buy! Raffle tickets will be on sale during the weekend and are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. Winning is a wonderful way to end the Conference!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Christy Frick.



CTAM Calendar of Events

October 12-14, 2018 Flint/Grand Blanc area	2018 Fall Conference Holiday Inn-Gateway Ctr.
March 15-17, 2019 Owosso, Michigan	2019 Michigan AACTfest
April 11-14, 2019 Kokomo, IN	AACTfest Region III Festival
June 16-22, 2019 Gettysburg, PA	AACTfest nationals at the Majestic Theater

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The prez Sez...

by **Christy Frick**

I hope to see a lot of you at the Fall Conference in October. The dates are October 12th thru the 14th At the Holiday Inn Gateway Center in Flint/Grand Blanc. We have our regular conference and at the same time, a Youth Theatre Conference and the Theatre Leadership Conference. Registration forms are online, so go to ctam.online to register! Some of the workshops on Painting Better Sets, Play Structure: Fundamental Script Analysis for Directors, Making your Stage Dialects Believable, You're a Real Character!



2019 brings AACTFest! State AACTFest is in Owosso March 15th – 17th so plan on bringing a cutting of a show to competition. You can also attend AACTFest and it is a great

way to see portions of shows and what might work in your theatre, or what you may want to direct!

Depending on how many entries we have for State AACTFest, there will be one or two winners going on to the Region 3 competition. In 2019 Region 3 will be held in Kokomo, IN April 11th – 14th. The winner from there will go on to Nationals June 16th – 22nd in Gettysburg, PA.

So plan on attending one, two or all three festivals; you won't regret it! It is a great time!

See you at Fall Conference in October!

Christy Frick



Rosedale Community Players hosted a successful weekend fundraiser with a Ten-Minute Play Festival the first weekend in September. These folks on an airplane shared everyone's frustrations with flying today!

Our CTAM website is just getting better and better!

We hope you've noticed the great enhancements happening to the CTAM website! Current individual members and group affiliate will be receiving their welcome letter on how to access the members-only site (aka Behind the Curtain), hopefully by the time you get this newsletter. If you don't receive your letter within a week or two, please email ChuckGoddeeris@gmail.com to confirm he has the right email contact information and he will make sure you can log into the site and access all of our great features, like the forums, whitepapers and other resource lists.



Furthermore, we will have AACTfest registration forms for both groups and individual attendees available on the website shortly following the conclusion of the Fall Conference, so keep your eyes peeled to the website.

If you have any questions, concerns or other items and features you'd like to see on the website (either for members only or the general public) just let Chuck know and he'll see what he can do to make it happen.

Workshops at the Fall Conference

Painting Better Sets Easier

If you've ever wrestled with how to get more visual impact onto your stage this workshop may be just for you. Tips on adding depth and layers to your surfaces will enhance the design and kick things up a notch. We'll show you several easy, quick, and simple-to-teach techniques that anyone can do and share with others on your paint crew. In addition to Toning we'll also explore two popular faux finishes that find their way into many a scenic design: Wood-graining and Marbleizing. With a new arsenal of Dos and Don'ts in your possession, you'll have greater confidence in executing your designer's vision and your production values will rise to the next level. (**PLEASE NOTE:** This will be an all-day workshop (9:00 am to 2:00 pm) and will be held off-site at the Fenton Village Players. Lunches will be delivered to participants! Dress appropriately!)



Workshop leader: *In Traverse City, Matt McCormick designs and paints at the Old Town Playhouse and also for Parallel 45 Theatre, when his schedule allows.*

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Making Your Stage Dialects Believable

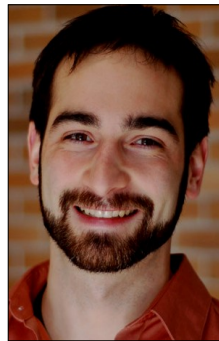
Get a better grasp on some accents for the stage! This workshop will introduce you to -- and help familiarize you with -- some of the key sounds that differentiate certain dialects from Standard American speech.



Workshop leader: *Katie Cheely Wasserman, has performed, directed and taught in Illinois, Rhode Island, Virginia, Tennessee, Ohio, and Michigan.*

Play Structure: Fundamental Script Analysis for Directors.

There exists a map in every play. A structure that holds the story together. As a director it is our responsibility to know how to see and read that map in order to effectively guide our cast and crew to bring the play to life. This workshop will explore the fundamentals of play structure and script analysis as well as offer tools on how to use that knowledge to improve your rehearsal process.



Workshop leader: *James Kuhl is Producing Artistic Director at Tipping Point Theatre in Northville, teaches at Wayne State and on the Board for Detroit Public Theatre. and sits on the Advisory Board for the Detroit Public Theatre.*

You're a Real Character!

So, you've been cast in a great part. How do you go about creating a multi-faceted character that the audience will find interesting? Whether you're playing the lead or a part in the chorus, you'll find this fast paced, fun-filled workshop informative and helpful. We'll discuss acting technique in general with a focus on script analysis and the importance of sub-text. Every character has a back story. What's yours?

Workshop leader: *Ben Zylman works in many capacities -- both as a volunteer and staff -- with Kalamazoo Civic Theatre. Ben also serves on the CTAM Board of Directors.*





Owosso Community Players offered their audiences *Mamma Mia!* recently and made many friends in their community.

Owosso AACTfest coming up next March

Calling all teams with a dream! Registration for AACTFest 2019 is opening soon. Be sure to mark your calendar for the weekend of March 15-17, 2019 for this fun-filled weekend of dramatic competition at the Lebowsky Center in historic Owosso, Michigan. Group registration is \$100 and includes admission for 8 team members (cast and crew). Individual registration is \$65 until

Feb 1, 2019, \$75 after that. Watch the next edition of the Callboard for more information on how and where to register!



Peeking at the Plays

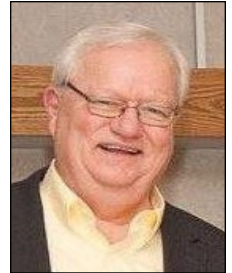
During our workshop breaks at Fall Conference, you can sneak a peek at six of our playwriting contest entries – *Bird of Passage*, *The Christmas Shopper*, *The Legend of Death Valley Scotty*, *Max's S.C.H.N.O.Z.*, *Town Car for Sale* and *Winona's Web*. They run the gamut from farce to history, and all promise to be entertaining. The winners will be announced at the banquet Saturday evening.



Schedule your Adjudicator for this season

Thank you to all the groups that asked to have adjudication during the last season. We have a talented group of adjudicators located around the state and are able to provide an adjudicator to most every request.

What is an Adjudicator: An Adjudicator is a person with a wide range of theatrical training and experience, who views productions (single productions or Festival entries) and who shares his or her reactions with the participants and audience. All of CTAM's approved adjudicators have been through a training process. The training makes sure adjudicators are not present to re-direct the production but to provide a verbal response of the impact your production had on them.



Adjudication Chair
Larry Nielsen

What is an Adjudication: Adjudication is an educational process, in which the adjudicators provide a verbal report of their reactions to each production (normally, immediately after the production) for the benefit of the producing company and the audience. This report typically covers the world you presented and its impact on the adjudicator. An adjudicator of an individual performance's physical world can include the impact of the set, costumes, hair, makeup, lighting, sound and special effects. The adjudicator will likely also provide a response covering the acting skills presented by the cast and, again, the impact the acting had on them. Finally, the adjudicator may consider the directing choices made. In this format the adjudication is frequently a dialogue between the adjudicator, cast and crew.

Our group of adjudicators are ready to adjudicate your productions. To arrange an adjudication for your production, please contact me directly at 269-569-5345 (text or phone call) or [email me](#) to arrange an adjudication for one or all of your productions.

Busy summer for Twin City Players

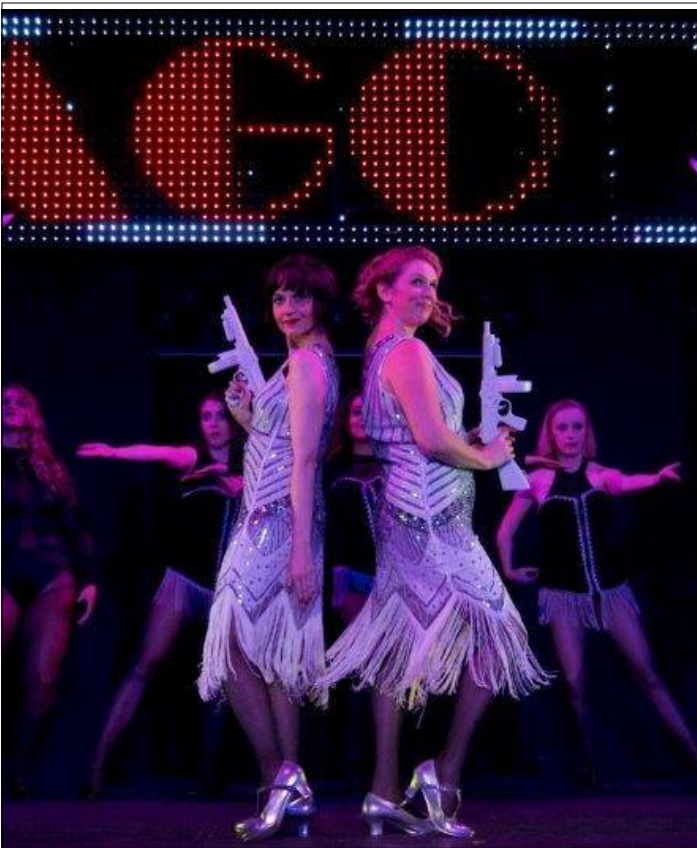


In addition to rehearsals for their opening production of the new season, *Chicago*, Twin City Players in Benton Harbor/St. Joseph, hosted a four-weekend Summer Theatre Festival: Women in Theatre. All productions featured women playwrights, women actors or women themes.

They did a different show each weekend in converted warehouse space the Benton Harbor Arts District. This new pop-up theatre space is capable of seating 80 patrons. This space served for the first three weekends and the last weekend was staged at a local dance studio.

The plays were directed by Kathryn Kirkdorfer, Sarah Simmons, and Festival Director Larry Nielsen.

The festival was a huge success, achieving critical acclaim and being financially profitable for Twin City Players. TCP looks forward to its third every-other-year Summer Theatre Festival in 2020.



Twin City Players had a great run of Chicago as the opening show of their 2018-2019 Season. Very close to SRO for all six performances!

Who's doing what this Fall?

Master Arts Theatre, Grand Rapids	<i>Man of LaMancha</i>	Sep 13-Oct 6, 2018
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Sep 14-Oct 13, 2018
Bay City Players	<i>Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum</i>	Sep 27-Oct 7, 2018
Clio Cast and Crew	<i>Who's In Bed with the Butler?</i>	Sep 28-Oct 7, 2018
Farmington Players	<i>Brighton Beach Memoirs</i>	Sep 28-Oct 13, 2018
Gladwin Area Friends of Theatre	<i>Diary of Anne Frank</i>	Oct 3-7, 2018
Holland Civic Theatre	<i>25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	Oct 5-19, 2018
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Anatomy of a Murder</i>	Oct 11-21, 2018
Players de Noc, Escanaba	<i>Love, Loss and What I Wore</i>	Oct 12-20, 2018
Players de Noc, Escanaba	<i>I Don't Mind That You're Ugly</i>	Oct 12-20, 2019
Alpena Civic Theatre	<i>The Sensuous Senator</i>	Oct 18-28, 2018
Ionia Community Theatre	<i>The Rocky Horror Show</i>	Oct 19-26, 2018
Tawas Bay Players	<i>Bye Bye Birdie</i>	Oct 19-28, 2018
Northland Players, Cheboygan	<i>The Addams Family</i>	Oct 25-28, 2018
Clarkston Village Players	<i>Frankenstein</i>	Oct 26-Nov 10, 2018
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Actor's Nightmare/Sr. Mary Ignatius Explains...</i>	Oct 26-Nov 10, 2018
Rogers City Community Theatre	<i>Don't Dress for Dinner</i>	Oct 26-Nov 4, 2018
Rosedale Community Players	<i>Flemming</i>	Oct 26-Nov 10, 2018
Twin City Players, St. Joseph	<i>An Act of the Imagination</i>	Oct 26-Nov 11, 2018
Village Players, Birmingham	<i>Big Fish</i>	Oct 26-Nov 11, 2018
Port Austin Community Players	<i>Once Upon a Mattress</i>	Nov 2-11, 2018
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>The Little Mermaid*</i>	Nov 8-11, 2018
Players Guild of Dearborn	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Nov 9-Dec 2, 2018
Southgate Community Players	<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	Nov 9-17, 2018
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Nov 23-Dec 8, 2018
Master Arts Theatre, Grand Rapids	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>	Nov 15-Dec 8, 2018
STAGE-M Big Rapids	<i>Nutcracker, The Play</i>	Nov 15-18, 2018
Gladwin Area Friends of Theatre	<i>Once Upon a Pandora's Box*</i>	Nov 16-18, 2018
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>The Lion King, Jr.*</i>	Nov 17-18, 2018
Avon Players, Rochester	<i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	Nov 23-Dec 8, 2018
Clarkston Village Players	<i>Sherlock Holmes Talk **</i>	Nov 23-24, 2018
Hartland Players	<i>Escanaba in da Moonlight</i>	Nov 24-Dec 2, 2018
Holland Civic Theatre	<i>A Christmas Story</i>	Nov 24-Dec 7, 2018
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>Arsenic & Old Lace</i>	Nov 25-Dec 9, 2018
Hartland Players	<i>Drac's Back*</i>	Nov 26-28, 2018
Bay City Players	<i>A Carol of the Birds</i>	Nov 29-Dec 9, 2018
Farmington Players	<i>Let Nothing You Dismay</i>	Nov 30-Dec 15, 2018
Lapeer Community Theatre	<i>A Little Piece of Heaven</i>	Nov 30-Dec 1, 2018
Players de Noc, Escanaba	<i>Don't Talk to the Actors</i>	Nov 30-Dec 8, 2018

* 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.





2018 Fall Conference Registration Form
October 12-14, 2018 – Holiday Inn Gateway Center, Flint, MI
 (Please use a separate form for each attendee)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Best phone contact _____ Email address _____

Theatre or organization affiliation _____

- ✓ Is this your first time attending a CTAM Fall Conference? Yes No
- ✓ Are you a designated representative (delegate) of your affiliate group? Yes No
- ✓ Are you, personally, an individual paid member of CTAM? Yes No
- ✓ Have you taken a Master Class or other CTAM educational opportunity? Yes No
- ✓ Are you the President of your CTAM affiliate group? Yes No
- ✓ Are you under 18? Yes No If so, name of chaperone: _____

Registration Fees

The full registration fee covers all of the workshops, meals (Saturday lunch and dinner, plus Sunday morning brunch. Breakfast is included with your hotel room cost) and the Friday keynote. If you sign up for the Leadership or Youth component, you will not be able to attend the individual workshops as you will be involved with those programs all day on Saturday.

- Conference Registration Fee \$160
- Youth Program participant \$75
- Theatre Leadership Conference \$260
- Saturday only with lunch and workshops \$90
- Individual events (a la carte)* \$ _____
- 2018-19 Membership dues (optional) \$ _____ (Individual-\$35, Family-\$50)
- Additional donation \$ _____
- Less discount codes _____ \$ _____
- TOTAL AMOUNT DUE** \$ _____

**NOTE: If you cannot be with us for the entire weekend and wish to attend only specific events or activities, please contact the office for individual prices. 989-763-0598.*

Workshop selections

- Building Character, Ben Zylman
- Stage dialects, Katie Wasserman
- Stratford on Shakespeare
- Set Painting, Matt McCormick
- Script Analysis for Directors, James Kuhl

Payment Options

- Check enclosed, payable to CTAM
- Credit Card: MC Visa # _____ Exp. _____
 Name on Card _____ Security code on back _____

Mail completed form to CTAM Executive Secretary Nancy Peska at 4619 W. Van Buren Road, Alma, MI 48801

The Scoop on Scripts

By Tara Western



Nothing like a Michigan autumn! Back to school, college football, and working on your fall production. Good to be back. Hope to see you all in Flint at the Fall Conference in October! Bring me an unknown gem of a script that you'd like me to review!

Rounding Third by Richard Dresser ©2009 is a two-man two-act comedy with lots of laughs, adult language and adult situations. Published by Dramatic Publishing, tough Little League coach, Don, never "Donald", and his new assistant, Michael, never "Mike", butt heads through scenes at several ballfields, a bar, a van and a school gym. Each character represents the dichotomy of thought on kids in sports: Donald—win at all costs versus Michael's "shouldn't they just have fun"? Tough love vs. Helicopter parents raising snowflakes. Anyway, a fun read and lots of laughs. Basic set pieces with lighting will set the scenes.

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery, was written by David McGillivry and Walter Zerlin Jr in 1981, and published by Samuel French LTD. It is called a comedy but it is more a farce within a mystery and a comedy of MANY errors. The Farndale Dramatic Society is putting on a very bad mystery. The cast play five members of the Dramatic Society: Gordon, Felicity, Audrey, Mrs. Reece and Thelma. Gordon plays the Inspector, while the four women portray a distinct personality as a "townswoman" while playing up to four parts in the murder mystery. Many, many challenges: for the actors, not only playing a Brit but several parts with different accents e.g. posh and lower class, a bad French accent, and a Charlie Chan and Sam Spade impression for the Inspector. Actors need versatility and superb comedic timing.

Many tech challenges: Phones ring when they shouldn't, don't ring when they should, scenery disintegrates, furniture collapses, snow falls inside the window. Cues are missed, actors skip pages, hands from backstage appear providing missing props. The script has detailed furniture, property lists and lighting and effects plot in the back. Theatre purists may find it a hot mess, but it is a laugh a minute.

Amahl and the Night Visitors — an opera in one act was written by Gian Carlo Menotti, debuting on NBC on December 24 1951. Witz End produced the show last December at a local church. The sanctuary, wide steps, aisles, and several entrances provided a perfect setting. A few set pieces representing a window, door, sleeping ledge, bench, and a fire pit are needed. Simple lighting, and no sound were required at our venue. Costumes are typical Nativity garb. We used one talented young man on a keyboard for accompaniment and props are easy. Cast requirements are a 9 to 13-year-old boy (our Amahl was a girl), his mother, three kings, a page and a chorus of villagers and shepherds. Crippled Amahl and his mother are very poor. The three Kings -- on their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn Christ -- stop at Amahl's humble hut for shelter. His mother, desperate to provide for her son, steals some gold and is caught. When she explains why she needs it, she is forgiven and the Kings tell her and Amahl about the newborn Savior. Amahl offers his crutch, his most precious possession, as a gift to the Child. Miraculously, he is cured of his lameness and invited to join the Kings on their journey. Opera intimidates people; like me! When my friend and colleague, Carol Kushion told me the story and sang some of the songs I was on board. It is light opera, in English, easily understood. It is a beautiful and powerful show. See you in October at the Fall Conference!

