

CALLBOARD

Fall Conference: October 11-13 at Treetops Resort

September 10 deadline for Treetops price break; new workshops announced

Conference Chair Patrick Hubbard reminds everyone that September 10 is the deadline for reserving a room at Treetops in the block reserved for our Fall Conference October 11-13. Rooms after that date may or may not be available -- that's one of the top fall color weekends!



Treetops has been very generous in extending their rates starting at \$89 per night per room in the Inn. (Note: There is also a \$15 per night "Resort Fee" added!) Additional, higher-priced rooms are also available in The Lodge -- a separate building -- if you are interested, but the conference price applies only to rooms at the Inn!

Please call the group reservation line directly at [855-261-8764](tel:855-261-8764), by September 10 to make your room reservation. You will need to mention the "CTAM Fall Conference" to get our group rate.

The registration fee for the Conference this year is \$109 for Individual CTAM members and \$119 for non-Individual Members. That is a 32% reduction from last year for members.

Your conference registration includes:

- ✓ Friday Night Pirate Party @ The Inn (This is a BYOB night, snacks provided)
- ✓ Saturday Lunch and Dinner
- ✓ Saturday Night Party with cash bar
- ✓ All workshops and materials
- ✓ Keynote Speaker
- ✓ And the opportunity to hobnob with the greatest theatre folks in the land!

Online CTAM registration is available or use the form printed on Page 10 of this issue!

Conference Chair Patrick Hubbard has assembled an outstanding corps of presenters for the workshops this year. Check out pages 4 and 5.

NOTE: We are still looking for several generous sponsors to underwrite the cost of the workshops. \$200 will hook your name with the workshop for the full weekend -- with great prestige. To inquire about workshop sponsorship opportunities, please contact Patrick for all the information and forms.

CTAM Annual Meeting, Election and Raffle

Sunday morning, October 13, at 10:00 a.m.
This is a meeting, not brunch, as in the past.
Breakfast is on your own!

2018-19 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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 Administrator and should be sent to ctamthrives@gmail.com

Your 2019-20 dues are due!

Your annual dues to CTAM are now due and payable. That is both for individuals and for affiliate groups. In both cases, you can pay on line, if that's more convenient for you. (You can also include your individual dues payment with your registration for the annual Fall Conference,!)



EDITOR'S NOTE:



We received a request from a reader looking for a Michigan-based 'community theatre' focused on veterans. Plays written for or by -- and/or performed for or by veterans. I wasn't familiar with any, but figured someone out there in our vast reading audience

might know of one this person could contact. (He's doing research on the matter, not looking for a group for his own involvement!)

Any thoughts?

CTAM Calendar of Events

October 11, 12,13, 2019 Treetops Resort, Gaylord	CTAM Annual Fall Conference
October 13, 2019 Treetops Resort, Gaylord	Board of Directors Organizational Meeting

Proud Member of





The prez Sez...

by Betsy Willis

One of the most important parts of fulfilling our mission of “helping community theatres thrive in Michigan” is to communicate with all of you. We do this through the Callboard, email blasts, Facebook posts, traditional mail, phone calls, theatre visits, conferences, and more.

We try our best, but we know sometimes we fail. And sometimes that failure happens because we don't reach the people we need to. When Group Affiliates receive their renewal notices we always ask for updated information on who is president, how we should reach the reach group by email, phone, and mailing address. If that information is not filled out we have few other ways to update our files. Your help will make sure we can reach you by taking a few minutes to keep the information current.

In the next few weeks CTAM's new Administrator, Sara Hartley, will be contacting current and past Group Affiliates to help update information and talk to groups about how we can better serve them. This is an effort to better serve you and also to get our information up to date in preparation for an AACT inventory of community theatres in the US. We want to make sure the nation knows just how strong community theatre is in our beautiful and creative state.

We ask individual members to make sure we have correct information for you as well. Emails often get out of date as more of us change to new accounts. If you think your email might be out of date please send an email to ctam-thrives@gmail.com and update it. In fact, for each person or group who reads this and sends an email with information AND who attends fall conference I will present you with a useful gift during the conference – something everyone in theatre can use.

CTAM looks forward to hearing from you, and I will be looking for you at Treetops in October.

Pirate Party Planned for Friday Nite



Yardarms and binnacles will abound and planks will be available for walking! The theme for the Friday night gathering at the Fall Conference will be **Pirates** in all forms and iterations. Costumes are more than welcome -- there might be a prize for the best ones!

Games, stories and legends, snacks and BYOB... what

more can you ask?

And brush up on the songs for *Pirates of Penzance*, *HMS Pinafore*, and *Peter and the Starcatcher*, to name a few. We might end up at the piano!



And no one guessed that these roustabouts are the two founding pirates who started International Talk Like A Pirate Day, celebrated on September 19. (That date was selected because it was the birthday of an ex-wife and they didn't want to conflict with any other national holiday.)



A#1 workshops planned for your enjoyment!

Writing Your Play and Getting It Produced

This is a workshop on not only how to write a play, but how to get it produced. In the first half of the workshop, we will cover ideas, one-act plays, full-length plays, formatting, scriptwriting programs, and the various resources that will give you leads on where to send your plays for production and/or publication. In the second half of the workshop, we will workshop/discuss story ideas provided by the participants.



David MacGregor

David MacGregor is a playwright and screenwriter, currently in residence at Jeff Daniels' Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, where six of his plays have been produced. His play, *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Elusive Ear*, recently enjoyed a sold-out run, and its sequel, *Sherlock*

Holmes and the Adventure of the Fallen Soufflé, will open the Purple Rose's 2019-2020 season. He has written many films and TV shows and also teaches writing at Wayne State University in Detroit. Mr. MacGregor will also be our keynote speaker Saturday evening!

Butts-in-Seats: Growing Your Audience Through Dynamic Programming and Marketing

Is your home theatre ready to shake things up? Do you want to draw a new and vibrant audience? Not sure where to start? Join self-proclaimed "big idea person" Emily Anderson as she breaks down her approach to programming and marketing for community theatres of all sizes.



Emily Anderson

Emily Anderson has been involved in community theatre for 20 years, having acted in more than 40 productions as well as working backstage, and serving in a governance capacity. She currently serves on the programming committee for Midland Center for the Arts as well as on the

national board of the American Association of Community Theatre. She had the pleasure of working at Center Stage Theatre for six years, where she honed her skills in non-profit communication strategy, programming, marketing, and volunteer relations. She now works as an Admissions Recruiter at Delta College where she also hosts *Beyond Broadway*, a local radio broadcast about the arts scene in her area. She is a mom to two wonderfully theatrical boys, Liam and Kellan.

Special FX Makeup: The Horror, The Trauma, ZOMBIES!

Get the deranged and undead looks that are so in this year! In this special FX makeup course, you will be guided through every step of the special FX makeup application process. You will learn a variety of cutting-edge techniques and 3D effects, from the basics of applying blood to creating raised skin & scars.

Special FX Makeup: The Beauty of Growing OLD!

Old age is the number one special effect makeup you will do and it's a great process. In this course, you will be guided step by step through everything you need to know about creating old age makeup, from the subtle to the extreme. Learn techniques of Old Age stippling (subtle

(Continued, page 5)

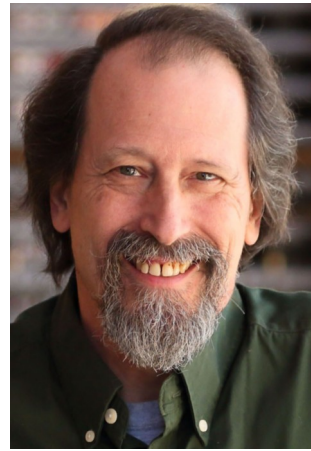
aging) to body breakdown (extreme aging). .
 NOTE: To get the most out of the makeup classes, please bring a Ben Nye Old Age Makeup Kit (Approximately \$20), a Ben Nye Zombie Wheel @\$28; and or a Ben Nye 3D Effects kit (approximately \$26.)



Carrie Butler

Carrie Butler is a trained makeup artist from Bay City whose passion blossomed while participating in an independent zombie film in 2005.

After attending Saginaw Valley State University, Carrie worked in live entertainment within the Amusement Park industry and then spent the next ten-plus years as the resident makeup artist at Bay City Players and enjoys teaching makeup techniques/styles to their Stages of Discovery students.



Steven M. Schwall

Steven M. Schwall, Fight Choreographer/ Violence Designer/Fight Director, has been staging fights professionally since 2006. He is a Certified Teacher of Stage Combat with the Society of American Fight Directors. In addition, he is a Level 2 professor of the Margolis Method of Dynamic Movement. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Fine Arts and did his graduate work in Theater/Performance Studies at Eastern Michigan University.

Two additional workshop leaders are scheduled to present on Saturday, October 12, but their photos and bios were not received by press time!

Basics of Unarmed Stage Combat

We'll look at basic techniques in unarmed stage combat, stressing safety and good partnering. Included techniques are the back fall, push/pull, slap, punch, kick, hair/ear pull, and front and rear choke. The format is demonstration/drill, with a short choreographic example at the end. Open to beginners, as well as a brush-up for more experienced performers.

The Stratford Festival Studies Hamlet

Nitasha Rajoo, Stratford Festival Interim Education Director, is coming to CTAM to present a workshop on the finer points of the character of Hamlet. We especially appreciate her joining us because Conference weekend is Thanksgiving for our Canadian friends!

Presenting: Seeking Outside Revenue

Dexter Brigham, a friend of many, will talk about outside revenue (presenters and underwriters) to level out your annual budget.



WORKSHOP SCHEDULE -- OCTOBER 12

Session 1 - 9 to 10:30	Session 2 - 10:45 to 12:15	Session 3 - 1:30 to 3
Unarmed Combat	--	Unarmed Combat
Playwriting (all morning)	Playwriting (continuation)	Presenting
Stratford's Hamlet	Stratford's Hamlet (repeat)	Butts in the Seat (repeat)
Butts in the Seat	Make-up: Aging	Make-up: Zombies, SFX



What shows are being done this season?

The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>The 39 Steps**</i>	Sep 5-8, 2019
Twin City Players, Benton Harbor/St. Joe	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Sep 6-29, 2019
Owosso Community Players	<i>Matilda</i>	Sept 6-15, 2019
Avon Players, Rochester	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Sept 6-21, 2019
Richmond Community Theatre	<i>Young Frankenstein</i>	Sept 6-22, 2019
Clio Cast and Crew	<i>Rabbit Hole</i>	Sept 9-Oct 6, 2019
Master Arts Theate	<i>Anne of Green Gables</i>	Sept 12-Oct 5, 2019
Clarkston Village Players	<i>The Odd Couple (Female version)</i>	Sep 13-28, 2019
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Sept 13-28, 2019
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Sept 20-29, 2019
Pit and Balcony Theatre, Saginaw	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Sept 21-29, 2019
Manistee Civic Players	<i>Miss Holmes (Michigan premiere)</i>	Oct 1-10, 2019
Players deNoc, Escanaba	<i>Jake's Women</i>	Oct 4-12, 2019
Farmington Players	<i>Ripcord</i>	Oct 4-19, 2019
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Lord of the Flies</i>	Oct 10-20, 2019
Pinckney Players	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Oct 12-20, 2019
Alpena Civic Theatre	<i>Deer Camp, The Musical</i>	Oct 17-27, 2019
Hartland Players	<i>Addams Family Musical</i>	Oct 12-20, 2019
Owosso Community Players	<i>Marvin's Room</i>	Oct 20-Nov 3, 2019
Riverwalk Theatre, Lansing	<i>A Piece of My Heart</i>	Oct 24-Nov 3, 2019
Twin City Players, Benton Harbor/St. Joe	<i>Marjorie Prime</i>	Oct 25-Nov10, 2019
Richmond Community Theatre	<i>You Can't Take It with You</i>	Nov 1-10, 2019
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>The Outsiders*</i>	Nov 1-3, 2019
Clarkston Village Players	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Nov 8-23, 2019
Owosso Community Players	<i>South Pacific in concert</i>	Nov 9-10, 2019
Community Theatre of Howell	<i>Annie</i>	Nov 15-24, 2019
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>Rumours</i>	Nov 15-24, 2019
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Elf, The Musical</i>	Nov 15-Dec 14, 2019
Master Arts Theate	<i>Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley</i>	Nov 21-Dec 14, 2019
Richmond Community Theatre	<i>Elf, Jr., The Musical*</i>	Nov 29-30, 2019
Avon Players, Rochester	<i>Forever Christmas</i>	Nov 29-Dec 14, 2019
Players deNoc, Escanaba	<i>Fruitcakes</i>	Nov 29-Dec 7, 2019
Pit and Balcony Theatre, Saginaw	<i>The Giver</i>	Nov 29-Dec 8, 2019
Riverwalk Theatre, Lansing	<i>You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Nov 29-Dec 8, 2019
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Dec 5-15, 2019
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Dec 5-15, 2019
Alpena Civic Theatre	<i>The Best/Worst Christmas Pageant Ever*</i>	Dec 5-15, 2019
Manistee Civic Players	<i>Elf, The Musical</i>	Dec 5-7, 2019
Twin City Players, Benton Harbor/St. Joe	<i>Kris Kringle, the Musical</i>	Dec 6-15, 2019

* 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.

The Scoop on Scripts

By Tara Western



Happy Autumn! Hope to see you all at Treetops in October for the fall conference. Would you consider bringing me a script from your archives that your group has done? I try to pick shows that aren't too well-known; those hidden gems? Anyway, I would sure appreciate it!

The Book of Everything, published by Plays for Young Audiences was performed by the WE Players, Inc. at the 2017 AACTfest in Bay City.

Adapted by Richard Tulloch from the novel by Guus Kuijer, ©2010, this play is indescribable in terms of genre and NOT just for young audiences. When Thomas Klopper, the almost ten-year-old, is asked what he wants to be when he grows up, he says, "happy." His strict, hyper-religious father hits his wife, and older sister, Margo, challenges her father's strict rules. Although there are serious themes, levity is provided by a flippant Jesus, and the "witch" next door--Mrs.



VanAmersfoort, who invites Thomas to read books other than the Bible, and shows him how to embrace happiness. The cast is one man, one boy, two teenage girls, three women, and Jesus. The cast often stays on stage, observing, narrating some scenes, providing crowds. The story is set in the summer of 1951 in Amsterdam. Director Suzan Dunham-Nemeth used an empty stage, creating the Klopper's austere apartment, Mrs. Van Amersfoort's voluptuous space, and street scenes, etc., with a few props and set pieces. Sound effects are many but nothing difficult; props same. Special effects are the plagues of Egypt (a fish tank's water changes to red *and back* and millions of frogs), a 1951 bike for Auntie Pie, and a gramophone. This is a lovely thought-provoking piece but joyous. And where else can you hear Jesus say, "And Jesus swept"?

Samuel French's ***Bingo! The Winning Musical*** ©2012 by Michael Heitzman, David Holcenberg and Ilene Reid is a fun-filled romp about fanatical bingo players and their backstories. Music: two key boards and percussion. Your theatre can be turned into a colorful VFW multi-purpose room, as the audience plays three games of bingo. Extensive lists and directions for this are included in the script along with costume and prop lists. Technical Note: photos are taken and printed of the lucky Bingo winners. Large bingo pattern boards are necessary, which the playwright suggests using a light screen. Sound effects: thunder, wind, rain, generator. Lots of light cues, but nothing tricky: house lights are used when the audience player bingos and there is a power outage. In one scene, a single lightbulb drops for a very funny "interrogation."

Six women: four in their 40s, one in her 60s and one in her 20s, with one man (40ish) make up the cast. Best friends, Vernadette, Honey, and Patsy attend the annual celebration of the birth of bingo founder Edwin S. Low. A huge storm reminds them of a storm 15 years ago when Vernadette and best friend Bernice had a terrible argument. Attempting to reunite Vernadette and Bernice, Bernice's daughter, Alison, arrives incognito to tell the women that Bernice is dying. The author uses flashbacks and songs to tell each character's story. Some truly funny bits: an emergency bingo supply kit hanging on the wall like a first-aid kit; the women doing warm up exercises and their rituals to bring luck, and Alison's tribute to *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* in "Ratchet's Lament." Some may call it fluff, but I say (and you can quote me): If you're going to do fluff, do GOOD fluff!



NOTE: In the July column, I forgot to post the email address of T.E. Klunzinger, the author of *A Sale in Boston*. If you would like to contact him, his email is teklunzinger@yahoo.com.



2019 CTAM Fall Conference Registration Form

October 11-13, 2018 – Treetops Resort in Gaylord, MI

(Please use a separate form for each attendee)



First Name _____ Last Name _____

Name you prefer on name tag _____

Street Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Best phone contact _____ Email address _____

Theatre or organization affiliation _____

Is this your first time attending CTAM conference? Yes No

Are you a designated representative (delegate) of your affiliate group? Yes No

Each affiliate group is allowed two representatives. If you have been designated a Representative for your group, they will give you a Coupon Code to use for a \$10 discount.

Are you the CTAM Affiliate President? Yes No

Registration Fees

The registration fee covers all of the workshops and Saturday lunch and dinner. Breakfast Saturday and Sunday are on your own and not included in the hotel fees.

✓ Conference Registration Fee \$ _____ \$109 Individual members, \$119 non-members

✓ 2019-20 Membership \$ _____ (Individual-\$35, Family-\$50)

✓ Additional donation \$ _____

Less discount code(s) _____ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

Payment Options

✓ Check, payable to CTAM

✓ Credit Card: MC Visa # _____ Exp. _____

Name on Card _____

Security code on reverse side _____

Mail completed form to CTAM Administrator Sara Hartley, P. O. Box 693, Traverse City, MI 49685.

For hotel reservations, please call Treetops Resort directly at 855-261-8764. Deadline for accessing conference rate and availability is Tuesday, September 10.