



CTAM
Community Theatre Association of Michigan

CALLBOARD

June 2022

September 23 and 24 Save the Date! Fall Convention is coming so you can Level Up!

CTAM is bringing back the annual meeting and Fall Conference this year on September 23rd and 24th. We are restructuring and rebranding the concept to adapt to the times and basically taking our On The Road model and applying it to the Fall time frame. We are referring to it as the Fall Convention and calling this year's version Level Up.

We have lots of exciting changes planned. Firstly, we are partnering with three community theatres in the Metro Detroit area to host the classes, so you can get more hands-on type classes. Our three host theatres this year are

- ✓ **Birmingham Village Players** (celebrating their 100th season!),
- ✓ **Stagecrafters** (starting their 67th season in Royal Oak at the Baldwin Theatre), and
- ✓ **St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook** (kicking off their 91st season).

They are all very close to each other so it will be very easy to get to the various classes. If you are coming from out of town we are in the process of securing some rooms at a couple hotels and should have that information in one of the next two callboards.

Friday night will be our welcome night and hopefully our keynote speaker - we are working on bringing in a name from Broadway and are just waiting on confirmation to share the exciting news. Classes

will be hosted on Saturday at the area theatres - three 90-minute blocks of time with four classes each and then an additional session dedicated to roundtables. We will be offering some great classes on Fundraising and Financial Planning taught by Stagecrafters' own Alan Semonian; we will have at least one class on lighting, as well as at least one on sound design. These will be especially useful if your theatre uses an ETC Element 2 light board and we'll most likely be training on a Behringer X32 sound board, as well as possibly one or two others.

LEVEL UP!!

Lastly, we are working with host theatres and some just outside the immediate radius to offer some discounts to attend shows at the host theatres, as well as other community theatres in the area. This is just a taste of what we are planning for you!

If you have specific classes you are looking for, please let us know as we are still confirming all of those details and have some flexibility left.

Contact [Chuck Goddeeris](#) with your thoughts and suggestions.

HELPING COMMUNITY THEATRE *THRIVE* IN MICHIGAN SINCE 1951!



**Community Theatre
Association of Michigan**

2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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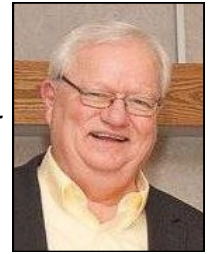
Callboard

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 maryloubritton@gmail.com. Updated e-mail and postal addresses are maintained by the Administrator and should be sent to CTAMthrives@gmail.com.

Have you included adjudications in your plans for next season?

Everyone is busy planning their 2022-23 season. Remember that CTAM has trained adjudicators ready and eager to visit your group and adjudicate one of your shows. As a benefit of your CTAM annual affiliate dues, each member group gets one free adjudication per membership year. After that, your group pays a modest fee for additional adjudications.

Adjudicators are an independent second pair of eyes, looking at your production and seeing things you may not have noticed. Adjudications are not 're-directing' or a pass/fail situation, but rather a starting point for improvement in future shows.



Larry Nielsen

Contact [Adjudication Chair Larry Nielsen](mailto:Larry Nielsen) to make arrangements.



CTAM Calendar of Events

July 1, 2022	Deadline for Board of Director nominations and CTAM awards
September 23, 2022 Metro Detroit area	2022 Fall Conference at several area theatres
March 17, 2023 Owosso, MI	Michigan AACTfest
April 14-17, 2023 Hartford, WI	Region III AACTfest
June 12-17, 2023 Louisville, KY	National AACTfest



Thoughts from Mary Jo

By Mary Jo Denolf,
CTAM Administrator



How do you honor your volunteers?

I've been doing my workshop again for CTAM On The Road and I'm surprised at the number of theatres who do not do any formal recognition of their volunteers. There are so many ways to say thank you: From simply bringing in cookies on a Set Building night, to just asking how their day went and really listening, to sending thank you notes after a show closes.

You can help honor special volunteers in your group by nominating them for either of the ongoing CTAM awards.

THE DOROTHY ARNETT VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

This award offers an opportunity for your group to have CTAM recognize one of your volunteers for long-term service within your group.

The Dorothy Arnett Volunteer Service Award is presented by CTAM to those individuals you recommend who have given valuable, long-term service to your theatre organization. Each year, any CTAM affiliate is encouraged to recommend an individual or couple who has given valuable and significant service to their local group for at least ten years. CTAM will consider all valid nominations and is allowed to grant up to six such awards per year.

A member of your local group may be nominated by your organization's president, Board of Directors or by ten current members of your organization. A



CTAM Board member will come to your theatre and present this award to your volunteer. It can be at a Board meeting, special event or before a performance. All you need to do is go to our website <http://ctam.online/awards/> and fill out the information.

ROBERT A. MCKENNA AWARD

CTAM's most prestigious award was established in 1987 to honor the late Robert A. McKenna – a longtime CTAM friend, supporter and actor in Michigan – who epitomized the spirit of community theatre. The McKenna is given annually at our fall convention to a living person who exhibits, through action, commitment and dedication, his or her support of community theatre on the state and local level. A nomination may be submitted for the Board's consideration by any current CTAM affiliate or CTAM associate member.

In order to give your nomination the full consideration it deserves, the CTAM Board of Directors needs more than just a list of the nominee's activities on the local and state level. In submitting your nomination, it is very important that you include all of the following.

- ✓ List of the nominee's work and contributions on the state and local levels
- ✓ A narrative in which you present your most compelling arguments in support of your nominee. Do not merely repeat his or her contributions. Rather, address how the nominee, like Robert A McKenna, epitomizes the spirit of community theatre in Michigan.
- ✓ Photos are worth a thousand words, so several meaningful photos will go a long way in convincing the Board that your nominee is worthy of the honor.

The deadline for nomination for both of these awards is July 1. If you have questions, please let us know by emailing ctamthrives@gmail.com

don't forget to pay
your
ANNUAL DUES

Membership push coming this year

The CTAM Board has been working hard this year, planning new membership benefits for individuals and groups. The one thing that we believe is the most beneficial service for everyone is Educational Opportunities.

The new notice that your dues are due will be coming out soon! When you receive this information in the mail, please take a look at the new benefits and opportunities for you and your group to become involved. CTAM operates for our membership, so please help us out by continuing to give us suggestions and comments on how we can better serve you and your theatre.

One of the benefits that sometimes is "missed" is giving us information on your shows. Please include that information with your group membership so we can post in the *Callboard*. In addition, this next year, CTAM is going to post "This Month's productions" (or some similar catchy phrase) on our webpage and promote your shows, IF we have the information!

Also - send us updates, pictures of productions and what is happening in your area. We will post on social media and the *Callboard* to support to your theatre.

This is just some of the ideas we are trying to work harder on for you. Please sign up for your 2022-2023 CTAM Membership online or by mail after July 1, 2022.



Welcome new CTAM members

Welcome to these Michigan theatres who have joined CTAM since January. We are pleased to have you with us and are anxious to hear about your upcoming productions!

Gaylord Community Productions

They were started for the sole purpose of bringing together the many talented members of the Gaylord community to display their talents while entertaining their families and friends. They have a strong Board of Directors and it is their dream to provide scholarships for people who plan to study the Performing Arts.

Kidz Theatre Kompany, Fenton

Located in Fenton, KTK concentrates on musical productions to allow children to showcase a variety of skills, including acting, singing and dancing.

Rogers City Community Theatre

Located in a beautiful old theater in downtown Rogers City on the sunrise side of the state, Rogers City Community Theatre presents theatre programming for the greater Presque Isle County community.

Lapeer Community Theatre

A well-established theatre group in southeastern Michigan and serving the Lapeer area. They also have an outdoor summer home for presenting Shakespeare.

Theatrica Gladiatoria, Ypsilanti

They are a combat and stunt work organization that provides training, choreography, action design consultation, and performance services for stage and film throughout SE Michigan. Their home base is the Riverside Arts Center in Ypsilanti. (See photo left at the conclusion of a recent class/workshop!)



What's going on this Summer?

Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Chicago</i>	May 5-June 4, 2022
Avon Players, Rochester	<i>Evita</i>	May 27-June 11, 2022
Twin City Players, St. Joseph	<i>Disney's The Little Mermaid</i>	June 3-26, 2022
Master Arts Theatre, Grand Rapids	<i>Over the River and Through the Woods</i>	June 9-25, 2022
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>The Secret Garden</i>	June 9-19, 2022
Fowlerville Community Theatre	<i>Beauty and the Beast</i>	June 16-18, 2022
Lebowski Center, Owosso	<i>Something Rotten</i>	June 17-26, 2022
Northern Lites Readers Theatre, Cadillac	<i>Dads & Dogs</i>	June 19, 2022
Clio Cast and Crew	<i>Dirty Rotten Scoundrels</i>	June 10-19, 2022
Center Stage Theatre, Midland	<i>High School Musical* (outdoor)</i>	June 23-25, 2022
	<i>A Funny Thing ...at the Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i>	June 23-25, 2022
Pit & Balcony, Saginaw	<i>The Sound of Music</i>	June 24-July 2, 2022
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>Plays-in-Development</i>	July 1-2, 2022
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Disney's Beauty and the Beast</i>	July 8-17, 2022
Center Stage Theatre, Kalamazoo	<i>How to Eat Fried Worms*</i>	July 15-24, 2022
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	July 21-23, 2022
Lapeer Community Theatre	<i>I Love Lacy</i>	July 22-31, 2022
Tawas Bay Players	<i>The Who's Tommy</i>	July 28-31, 2022
Bay City Players	<i>The Magician's Nephew*</i>	July 28-30, 2022
Master Arts Theatre, Grand Rapids	World premiere of <i>Trial by Media</i>	July 28-31, 2022
Rogers City Community Theatre	<i>R&H Cinderella</i>	Aug 11-21, 2022
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>The Wizard of Oz (Youth Production)</i>	Aug 18-21, 2022
Rogers City Community Theatre	<i>Arsenic & Old Lace</i>	Sept 9-25, 2022
Village Players, Birmingham	<i>Cabaret</i>	Sept 16-Oct 2, 2022
Ridgedale Players, Troy	<i>Steel Magnolias</i>	Oct 13-23, 2022
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Moon over Buffalo</i>	Oct 28-Nov 6, 2022
Rogers City Community Theatre	<i>The Addams Family</i>	Oct 28-Nov 13, 2022
Village Players, Birmingham	<i>The Odd Couple</i>	Nov 4-20, 2022
Ridgedale Players, Troy	<i>The Nutcracker</i>	Dec 1-11, 2022
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Harold & Maude</i>	Jan 13-29, 2023
Village Players, Birmingham	<i>Baby</i>	Jan 20-Feb 5, 2023
Ridgedale Players, Troy	<i>Lend Me A Tenor</i>	Mar 10-26, 2023
Village Players, Birmingham	<i>Enchanted April</i>	Apr 14-30, 2023
Ridgedale Players, Troy	<i>Into the Woods</i>	May 12-28, 2023
Village Players, Birmingham		

* indicates youth productions; ** indicates second stage productions, if submitted.

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



This production would be great fun for kids from 6 and up. Costuming and props can be either extreme or simple. No set is needed, in fact, it would be impossible. Perhaps, a generic fairy tale forest for a background. Don't bother. Creating the magic will take up enough time.

Oh, the lovely, lusty month of June! I hope you are enjoying our beautiful state's many attractions: trees, small lakes, Great Lakes, and superb community theatre.....but, I bet you knew that!

Playscripts' *Never Eat a Talking Lobster: Tales of Moral Instruction for Incurable Children* by Steph DeFerie is a funny tongue-in-cheek collection of Grimm's fairy tales that will amuse children and adults. The show starts with a disgruntled Narrator (they didn't get the part!) whose retellings that veer towards unhappy, or downright violent endings. So, Salty Joe, the titular lobster, distracts the Narrator by sending them off with promises of costume, make-up, and pizza in the dressing room. The articulate lobster, Salty Joe, continues with the correct version with the expected "Happily Ever After".

The tales include "The Bremen Town Musicians" (donkey, cat, dog, hen, robbers); "The Frog Prince" (frog/prince, princess, king, servant) and "The Prince Who Wouldn't Laugh" aka "The Golden Goose" (four sisters, their mother, a funny little man, a king, his jester, a prince and an "attack" bush). I am assuming you are familiar with these titles, but have you heard of "The White Snake"? It features a servant named Nick who eats a white snake which gives him the ability to understand animals. When Nick is accused of stealing the King's ring, he is banished from the kingdom. On his journey, Nick befriends mice, ravens, ants and fish, which end up helping him win the princess' hand.

Another charming bit is the girl with the golden goose who crosses the stage several times with more and more people stuck to the goose. "No Lines Actor" has their own schtick. (Perhaps you've played that role?" "No Lines" appears often, trying and failing to get a speaking role. "Audience member" and the Director (voice only) create amusing diversions.

