



CTAM
Community Theatre Association of Michigan

CALLBOARD

August 2025

Mark your calendar: **Fall Conference set for**

CTAM's annual Fall Conference is just over a month away. Please join us on Saturday, September 27, at the Midland Central Auditorium for a litany of great classes. We are offering the following workshops this year:

- ☆ **Behaving Truthfully:** This workshop will help actors to find strategies to connect with the words on the page.
- ☆ **The Circus of Planning a Season:** How to build your season strategically for growth and diversity.
- ☆ **TikTok, AI and Snapchat, Oh My:** How to use technology and social media to advance your brand, engage your volunteers and sell your season.
- ☆ **The Volunteer Factor:** How to keep your volunteers coming back again and again.
- ☆ **Set Design 101:** Designing impactful, budget-friendly sets, using creative strategies and practical tools.
- ☆ **Producing New Works:** A masterclass in developing and producing new works that engage your audiences and enhance your theatre.
- ☆ **Technical Resource Management:** The importance of inventorying your physical assets, insuring those assets and planning for the worst.



We will also have Ludus on site to answer all your questions so you can optimize your ticketing systems. We will be holding several roundtables, to be announced shortly, and have staged readings of three winning plays from the 10-minute playwriting contest.

Follow our social media channels and website to see full details on each class and presenter. Registration is \$25 per person for the whole day and will allow you to attend up to four classes with lunch provided on site. [Register online today!](#)

HELPING COMMUNITY THEATRE *THRIVE* IN MICHIGAN SINCE 1951!



Community Theatre
Association of Michigan

2024-25 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Circle Theatre/AACT/CTAM
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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.*

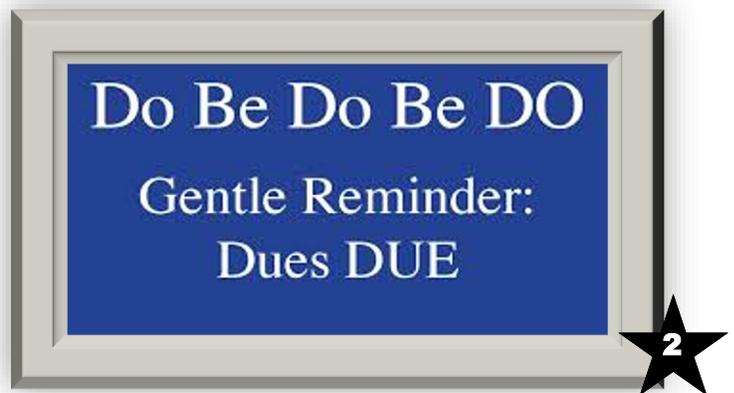
Include a CTAM *On the Road to You* workshop next season

CTAM has provided workshops across the state of Michigan to the following theatres: Players de Noc, LaPeer Community, Circle Theatre, WE Players, Tawas Bay Players. It's not too late to schedule one for your theatre! Have CTAM bring in a quality workshop leader for whatever topic you need to work on. CTAM will pay the full stipend of \$200 and mileage for any workshop scheduled between now and September 30, 2025. Take advantage of this great opportunity. Bring to your theatre a workshop on intimacy, acting, sound or lights, directing, marketing/sponsors, bard development and more

Through the CTAM On The Road to You workshop program, member groups have a wonderful opportunity to provide their members with educational, in-person workshops for next season.

CTAM will help bring in a quality workshop leader for whatever topic you and your members feel the need to work on. CTAM will pay the full stipend of \$200 and mileage for any workshop scheduled between now and September 30, 2025. Take advantage of this great opportunity. Bring to your theatre a workshop on intimacy, acting, sound or lights, directing, marketing/sponsors, board development and more.

For more information, please contact CTAM administrator Mary Jo Denolf at CTAMthrives@gmail.com.



It's time to renew your membership for 2025-26!

The Community Theatre Association of Michigan (CTAM) is your statewide connection to the vibrant world of community theatre. Are you ready to renew or join? We'd love to have you and your theatre as part of CTAM! The current membership year runs from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

- ☆ As a member of an affiliate theatre group, please be sure that someone is handling your CTAM membership. Affiliate group membership is \$120 and you can join online: <https://ctam.ludus.com/200457654> (Please note: credit card fees may apply.) You can also use the coupon below and the information sheet on the next page of this newsletter!
- ☆ **NEW MEMBERSHIP:** if you have not been an affiliate group member in the past or it has been several years since your membership has expired, please join us by using this discount code to join at a reduced rate of \$70. Discount Code: THANK YOU
- ☆ Another option available to you is to join as an *individual* member for \$40 per year. You will receive all the other benefits of membership, plus notifications and correspondence will come directly to you, rather than waiting for it to come to you through your affiliate association. These benefits including receiving this newsletter monthly and discounted rates to attend CTAM activities! Plus, you don't have to belong to an affiliate group to participate in CTAM. You will be supporting CTAM on your own!
- ☆ Join by mail or have questions? Contact us directly:
 - ctamthrives@gmail.com
 - 616-822-0006

Let's help community theatres thrive in Michigan — together.

CTAM 2025/2026 Membership

(membership runs July 1 - June 30) \$120

- ✓ Make checks payable to: *Community Theatre Association of Michigan*
- ✓ Please mail payment to: CTAM - Membership, 811 Crahen Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525
- ✓ Credit Card payments can be made online: <https://ctam.ludus.com/200486461>
 - One year, group affiliate membership (\$120)
 - First year or lapsed affiliate membership (\$70)
 - One year, individual membership (\$40)

If mailing your membership check, please attach this coupon/form to your information sheet which appears on page 4 of this newsletter. Thank you for joining CTAM and supporting our work.



2025/2026 GROUP AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill out completely

Theatre Name: _____ Year founded: _____

Address: _____

Organization Website _____ Email _____

Phone _____

Contact Names/Theatre Leadership

(Individuals who represent your group and would be the best contacts to relay information to all members regarding upcoming CTAM events and activities)

Leadership #1 _____ Title _____

email _____ Phone _____

Leadership #2 _____ Title _____

email _____ Phone _____

Leadership #3 _____ Title _____

email _____ Phone _____

Show Information

(CTAM will help promote your productions through our webpage and social media posts. Please complete the following information with your upcoming season - or send us a season brochure.)

Production #1 _____ Dates _____

Production #2 _____ Dates _____

Production #3 _____ Dates _____

Production #4 _____ Dates _____

Production #5 _____ Dates _____

Production #6 _____ Dates _____

When do you approximately announce your season _____

*** Please list additional Leadership and Productions on the back of this form*



Are you going to have any of your shows adjudicated this season?

Everyone is busy, deep in the depths of getting ready for their upcoming season. Remember that CTAM has trained adjudicators, ready and eager to visit your group and adjudicate one of your productions. 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.



AACT adjudication is two-fold: to accurately reflect to the performing company what has been successfully achieved, and to outline reasonable steps that might be taken to enhance interpretation of the story. As a director you will learn how to interpret your productions differently and as an audience member you will watch the productions with a different understanding.

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.

If you want to make arrangements for an adjudication this season, contact Adjudication Chair Betsy Willis at ryonwillis915@gmail.com.



Playwright's Corner

Playwriting Contest results to be announced at the Fall Conference

Many anxious playwrights will be waiting to hear if their play has been judged to be the best in the land! With a submission deadline on Memorial Day weekend, the plays were sent on to anonymous judges to be read and evaluated.

New this year, we also added a category for the 10-minute play -- a new happening across theatrical circles. All the essential parts of a longer play are condensed into 10 minutes on the playing stage. Minimal costumes, make-up, props and technical needs are required; the shorter plays are generally performed on a black-box type of stage. This is also a good vehicle for readers' theatre!

Three of the winning plays will be performed at the Fall Conference (Saturday, September 27, in Midland). The theme for the 10-minute plays this year focused on a wrapped package of money -- about \$3,000 -- so each play contains the same prop, although they vary a little! The creative results of the playwrights will astound you.

According to Contest Chair Mary Lou Britton, "based on entries this year, we plan to continue with a themed 10-minute contest next year. The new theme will be announced around the first of the year and the deadline for entry will continue to be on Memorial Day weekend.

If you have questions, contact Mary Lou at playwriting@CTAM.online



Michigan Theatre -- Fall 2025

Stagecrafters, Royal Oak	<i>Beetlejuice Jr. (youth)</i>	July 25 - August 3, 2025
Bay City Players	<i>25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	July 31 - August 3, 2025
Ionia Community Theatre	<i>Andrew Lloyd Webber Musical Review</i>	August 2, 2025
Community Theatre of Howell	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	August 2 - 4, 2025
Holland Community Theatre	<i>Big Fish</i>	August 7 - 16, 2025
Circle Theatre, Grand Rapids	<i>Girls Weekend</i>	August 7 - 23, 2025
Buckham Alley Theatre, Flint	<i>Trifles and Truths</i>	August 8 - 10, 2025
Enter Stage Right, Port Huron	<i>The Tragedie of King Lear</i>	August 8 - 24, 2025
Ionia Community Theatre	<i>A Midsummer's Night Dream</i>	August 8 -17, 2025
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	August 14 - 24, 2025
Twin City Players, St. Joseph	<i>Something Rotten</i>	August 29 - September 21, 2025
Circle Theatre, Grand Rapids	<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	September 4 - 20, 2025
Bay City Players	<i>Dial "M" for Murder</i>	September 5-7, 12-14, 2025
Clarkston Village Players	<i>Sandy Toes / Salty Kisses</i>	September 5 - 20, 2025
Enter Stage Right, Port Huron	<i>The Laramie Project</i>	September 5 - 21, 2025
Muskegon Civic Theatre	<i>Frozen Jr.</i>	September 6 & 7, 2025
The Sauk, Jonesville	<i>Girls Weekend</i>	September 11 - 14, 2025
Glen Arbor Players	<i>Plaza Suite</i>	September 12 - 20, 2025
Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City	<i>Sister Act</i>	September 12 - 27, 2025
Players Guild of Dearborn	<i>The Cottage</i>	September 12- 28, 2025
Village Players of Birmingham	<i>Man of La Mancha</i>	September 12 - 28, 2025
Stagecrafters, Royal Oak	<i>Tuck Everlasting</i>	September 12 - 28, 2025
Northern Lites Readers Theatre,	<i>Winners - winning the age game</i>	September 13 & 14, 2025
Grosse Pointe Theatre	<i>The Lifespan of a Fact **</i>	September 19 - 21, 2025
Kalamazoo Civic Theatre	<i>Camelot</i>	September 19 - 28, 2025
Players de Noc, Escanaba	<i>Don't Mention My Name</i>	September 25 - October 4, 2025
Buckham Alley Theatre, Flint	<i>Doubt</i>	October 3 - 5, 2025
Holland Community Theatre	<i>The Mousetrap</i>	October 3 - 18, 2025
Enter Stage Right, Port Huron	<i>Dracula</i>	October 3 - 19, 2025
Bay City Players	<i>Art</i>	October 10 - 12, 2025
Kalamazoo Civic Theatre	<i>You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	October 10 - 19, 2025
Stagecrafters, Royal Oak	<i>Amy and the Orphans</i>	October 10 - 19, 2025
Muskegon Civic Theatre	<i>Dracula A Comedy of Terrors</i>	October 10 - 25, 2025
Ann Arbor Civic Theatre	<i>Junie B. Jones</i>	October 16 - 19, 2025
The Sauk	<i>The Outsiders</i>	October 16 - 26, 2025
Clio Cast and Crew	<i>Rehearsal for Murder</i>	October 17 - 26, 2025
Twin City Players	<i>Ken Ludwig's Baskerville</i>	October 17 - November 2, 2025

* Indicates youth production. ** Second stage production

✓ If your information is incorrect or missing and you are an affiliate group of CTAM, please send the correct information to CTAMthrives@gmail.com to be included in the next issue.

