

NETC News

A Quarterly
Publication of the
New England Theater
Conference, Inc.

volume 15 number 2 spring 2006

NETC Audition— Act Local, Go National

The 40th Annual NETC Auditions are well under way. As of mid-February, 1,118 applications were received and processed. 710 appointments have been filled as well as 150 stand-by slots. There is still a need for technical and staff applicants and we will be accepting tech applicants right up to the interviews on March 20.

Although sponsored by a regional organization, this event has grown to national scope. Applications have been received from 38 states and Canada with an age range of 18 to 65. 417 applicants are from New England with 710 from outside New England, 286 from New York. The largest New England representation is from Massachusetts with 255 applicants.

As of mid-February, 1,118 applications were received and processed. 710 appointments have been filled as well as 150 stand-by slots.

Current producer registrations include summer and year round theaters from the east coast and beyond; touring companies including Vee Corporation/Sesame Street Live; and theme parks including Hershey Park, Six Flags and Disney World.

The auditions will be held on three hectic days—March 18–20 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Natick, MA, where each day hundreds of anxious, high energy young actors have two minutes to convince the producers in front of them that they are the answer to all their performance needs.

This project of NETC provides a service to the professional theatre community as well as the large number of college/university, community and professional performers and theatre practitioners who live in our region and throughout the country. It is symbolic of what NETC stands for and how we work to support, improve and promote theatre in New England.

UMass Grad Honored by USITT

UMass/Amherst graduate Justin Townsend has been chosen to receive the second annual USITT Rising Star Award, sponsored by LDI2006 and *Live Design* magazine. Townsend, 31, is a scenic, lighting, and sound designer whose work has been seen from New York to California.

The Rising Star Award recognizes excellence and artistic achievement in the areas of scenic, lighting, sound, and projection design, or the convergence of two or more of those disciplines and is given at the beginning of a young designer's career. Townsend will receive his award, which includes a cash prize, at the USITT Awards Banquet which concludes the 2006 USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Louisville, Kentucky on Saturday, April 1, 2006.

Townsend received his bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and his master's degree from the California Institute of the Arts.

Townsend's lighting designs have been seen at New York at LaMAMA etc, the Ohio Theatre, and the Sam Beckett Theatre. His lighting and/or scenic designs have been seen in regional theatres such as Playmakers Repertory in Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Hartford Stage in Connecticut; and University of Rochester.

In addition to his design work, Mr. Townsend held guest lecturer positions at Northeastern University in Boston, the University of Rochester, and Siena College in Albany, NY, among others. He was a nominee for a 2005 Ovation award.

USITT President John S. Uthoff said that the Rising Star Award sponsored by LDI2006 and *Live Design* has produced exactly the result envisioned when it was created several years ago: "Justin Townsend not only exemplifies the type of professional achievements which can be attained early in a career, he is expanding the horizons on what is possible within the profession."

Jon Jory, founder of the Humana Festival of New American Plays and former Artistic Director of Actors Theatre of Louisville, will deliver the Keynote address on March 29. Mr. Jory will examine the interaction between designers and artistic directors.

inside this issue

Area News
page 2

Opportunities
page 3

2006 Conference
Proposal Form
page 6

Upcoming Events
page 9

continues on page 4

new england
NETC
theatre conference



Message from the President

by *Jim Quinn*

President, NETC Board of Directors

Dear fellow NETC members,

I can tell by reports that I have received via email, telephone, and meetings in person (yes, we still do that occasionally) that live theatre at all levels is thriving in New England. I have heard very positive news regarding the Moss Hart entries, the NETC annual summer stock auditions applications, the KCACTF (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival) participation, EMAC (Eastern Massachusetts Association of Community Theatres) festival plans, theatre listings and reviews of great productions, as well as news of quite a few stage premieres. Indeed, this is good news for all of us!

I want to share some information with you on two specific NETC related events—one in the recent past, and one upcoming. Last month, the board members of NETC decided to forgo our normal meeting format in an effort to stop and take stock of where the organization is, and where it's going. Our goal was a full day retreat at which we would address the mission of NETC, and its efforts to aid all levels of theater in New England. We gathered together at Bridgewater State College, who generously provided classrooms and other resources for our meeting. A large group of committed and hardworking board members were in attendance, and we put our heads together to reflect on a long list of issues and events that take place under the NETC umbrella, such as:

- The Annual Convention
- The Annual Auditions
- Divisional Programming
- Affiliation with other Theater Organizations
- Publications

Many good ideas were brought to the table, and we plan to follow through by bringing the outcome from the retreat to our next board meeting at the Crown Plaza in Natick. This meeting takes place during our Annual Auditions. Some of the ideas generated at the retreat included:

- Designing a Strong Membership Drive
- Improving Divisional Specific Offerings at the Convention
- Redesigning Our Website
- Developing an Advisory Board
- Increased Fundraising and Grant Making
- Awards and Award Ceremonies

We will discuss these ideas in divisional meetings, and then put them into an action plan. The NETC board had not taken stock of itself in the form of a retreat for about 5 years, and it proved to be a valuable and constructive full day event. My sincere thanks to those board members in attendance:

Joe Doniger, Maureen Doucette, Chuck Emmons, Tim Fitzgerald, David Fox, Dave Frieze, Carol Korty, Bevie Lord, Pam McDaniel, Linda Murphy-Sutherland, Donna O'Bryant, Suzanne Ramczyk, Luke Sutherland, Jeffrey Watts, and our Manager of Operations, Joe Juliano.

The second item that I wanted to share is that as president of NETC, I have been invited to speak and provide input to a position paper at a summit meeting of theater support organizations from across the nation. Some of the organizations in attendance will include ATHE (Association for Theatre in Higher Education), TCG (Theatre Communications Group), AATE (American Alliance for Theatre and Education), and ASTR (American Society for Theatre Research). The summit meeting will take place this August in Chicago. The invitation has been extended to me as representative of all NETC members from all divisions of theater in New England. Therefore, I request that you, the members in good standing of NETC, share your thoughts and feelings with me so that I may speak to the Plenary of other theater leaders with a well-informed and collective voice. This is an opportunity for you to have input to this national summit and position paper, so please take the time to email me your feelings, thoughts, and concerns in relation to theatre in New England, and I will prepare my presentation based on your input. The specific request that I received is reprinted in part below.

Plenary Format

Responding to the following:

1. Where has theatre come in the past 20 years? How would you describe the trajectory?
2. We ask you to choose one of these personally compelling Hot Button Topics related to the current state of theatre below and make a strong (perhaps controversial) statement about religion and theatre, politics and theatre, gender and theatre, race/ethnicity and theatre, academia and theatre, or economics and theatre.

Disney Auditions in Boston

Walt Disney World Resort will conduct auditions at Boston Ballet, 19 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA, on March 21, 2006. Dancers will be seen at 3 p.m.; at 5:30 p.m. AEA musical theatre performer, actors, and singers are scheduled. At 6 p.m. there will be an open call for singers, actors, and all musical theatre performers.

Performers from all cultural backgrounds are encouraged to attend this audition.

All entertainers employed by the Walt Disney World Resort are covered under the terms and conditions of a collective bargaining agreement with Actors' Equity Association.

Applicants must be at least 18. Bring a non-returnable photo & resume. Auditions begin promptly at the time listed. Because of anticipated heavy attendance, arrive early and be prepared to wait.

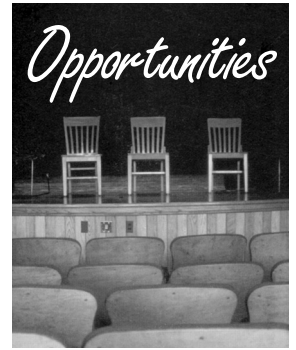
Dancers should wear comfortable dance attire and shoes. Character heels are preferred for females for the jazz combination. Dancer callbacks are held during the audition.

Musical Theatre Performers and Singers should prepare two 16-bar vocal selections of contrasting styles and provide clear, marked sheet music in the correct key for the audition pianist. Most applicants may only sing one selection. Since an accompanist shall be provided, do not provide a capella or prerecorded accompaniments.

Comedic Actors should prepare a comedic monologue no longer than one minute in length.

Applicants may be called back at a later date and then asked to do a costume/wig fitting or learn additional music, scripts, and/or a movement combination.

Further information may be found at www.disneyauditions.com, 407-397-3299.



Lights! Camera! Action! HJT Offers On-Camera Acting Class

Harwich Junior Theatre, winner of the NETC Regional Award in Educational Theatre, is accepting registration for a four week session of an On-Camera Acting Class (ages 13–adult) to be taught by Jim Pettibone. Mr. Pettibone is a graduate of Emerson College and has taught for John Robert Powers School and Boston University. The class will include both comedic and dramatic scenes, commercials and audition techniques in order to help students feel comfort-

able in front of the camera. The workshop will take place at the Cape Media Center, 307 Whites Path in South Yarmouth, MA, for four Saturday mornings beginning March 18, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The fee is \$150. Please call 508-432-2002 ext. 11 or 12 for enrollment information or visit the theatre's website at www.hjtcapecod.org. Harwich Junior Theatre is located at 105 Division St. in West Harwich, MA.

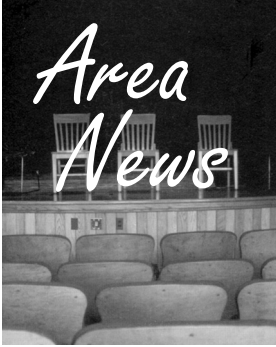
Message from the President, continued

3. Where should theatre go in the next 5 years? What are the big issues we must face?

Please keep these guidelines in mind as you send me your input, being as concise as possible as you address those issues that affect you and your work here in New England. I, along with other presenters, will be given a limited amount of time in which to speak.

Thanks so much,
Jim Quinn
President, NETC

P.S. I would like to once again invite—no, this time I will implore—all NETC members in Connecticut to contact me, in order to lend assistance with the convention in New Haven. Remember, NETC is our organization and the quality of these events is in our hands. The conventions are a wonderful opportunity to meet and share ideas and display our work. Please join in and show your solidarity. After all, is that not what brought us to work in the theater in the first place. I look forward to hearing from you all soon.
jquinn@bridgew.edu, 508-531-2141.



Fitchburg State College Hosts KCACTF XXXVIII Region I Festival

College students throughout New England joined the over 18,000 students nationally in celebrating excellence in college theatre January 31 to February 5 in Fitchburg, MA. Hosted by Fitchburg State College, the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region I was hosted for the sixth and last time by Myron L. Schmidt and James Beauregard of Dean College in Franklin, MA.

Schmidt and Beauregard, in turning over the chairmanship to Kelly Morgan of Fitchburg State College, stated "It is always truly a joy to see all of our students come together to learn and grow and at the same time improve and refine their skills in mastering their theatrical craft. We all do this for our students who in return make us all proud to be involved in our profession and the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival."

Winners of \$150 cash prizes from NETC were Jack Croy of Fitchburg State College as Best Acting Partner, and Allan Mayo, of Salem State College, for Comedy Acting. Mayo was also chosen as Regional Winner in the Irene Ryan Acting Award, sharing the honor with Laura Harris of Middlebury College. Alternates in this event were Kyle Maddock and Chris Rosenquest, both of Rhode Island College.

The NPAT Classical Acting Award was presented to Joe Short, University of Rhode Island.

Middlebury College's production of *Bewitched* by Peter Barnes (Richard Romagnoli, director) was held for consideration to perform at the National Festival in Washington, D.C., in April.

Other honored students and productions included:

- Robyn Zalewski, of St. Michael's College, Stage Manager for Short Play Festival;
- Playwrights Leah Maxwell and Patricia Noonan (alternate), both of Boston College, for *Pissing Contest* and *Merman People*, respectively;
- Sarah Seminski, of Boston University, Association for Theatre in Higher Education finalist for *Mother's Mary*;
- Anthony Nunziata, of Boston College, AADC/KCACTF Student Directing Award;
- Paul Doyle, of Middlebury College, was awarded the O'Neill National Critics Institute Scholarship Regional as well as KCACTF/LMDA/ATHE Student Dramaturgy Award.

Three Middlebury College students were recognized by the region for excellence in design: Courtney Swanda (winner, Costume); Toral Patel (honorable mention, Costume); and Aaron Gensler (winner, Set Design).

Other awards were presented to student designers. The Barbizon Set Design Finalist was Christina Alvarez of Middlebury College (Tijana Bjelajac, Boston University, alternate). Barbizon Costume Design Finalist was Angela Markman of Emerson College (Lauren Martin, Castleton State College, alternate; Michelle Merola, St. Michael's College, honorable mention). Barbizon Lighting Design Finalist was Laura Eckelman of Middlebury College (Haylee Freeman, Middlebury, alternate; Kristin Hayes, Emerson College, honorable mention). Kate Goetschius of University of Southern Maine was selected as Alcone National Festival Fellow-Mehron/MUD Make-up Design Nominee. Mike Skinner of Southern Connecticut State University received the KCACTF Sound Design Award. The USITT Tech/Crafts Award went to Katie Polebaum, Middlebury.

Nicole Ratkoski of Rhode Island College received the Tech Olympics award.

Plans are already underway for next year's festival, again to be sited in Fitchburg. Further information about KCACTF Region I and opportunities for college students can be found at www.kcactf1.org.

UMass Grad Honored by USITT

continued from page 1

In addition to his work in Louisville, Mr. Jory is well-known as the founding artistic director of the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, CT. In addition to Jory and Townsend, other distinguished achievers who will receive awards in 2006 include Rosemary Ingham, costume design; Ming Cho Lee, education; James Moody, lighting design; Don and Carolyn Davis, sound design and technology; Marjorie Bradley Kellogg, scene design; and Frazier Marsh, management.

More about USITT's Annual Conference & Stage Expo, which runs March 29 to April 1 in 2006 and includes more than 200 sessions, seminars, and roundtables plus Stage Expo can also be found at www.usitt.org/Louisville.

Summer Acting and Staff Opportunities

The **Winnepesaukee Playhouse**, Laconia NH, announces non-equity auditions for its 2006 professional summer season.

The season consists of *Sylvia* by A.R. Gurney, *Dial "M" for Murder* by Frederick Knott, *Polish Joke* by David Ives, and *The Woman in Black* by Stephen Mallatratt.

All performers receive a \$150/week stipend plus housing and possibility of free gym membership. A car is strongly recommended, as housing is off-site.

Auditions will be held March 21 and 22 in NYC by appointment and on-going in NH by appointment. Please mail a hardcopy of headshot and resume to:

Winni Playhouse
Attn: Bryan Halperin
PO Box 5201
Laconia NH, 03247

We are also looking for several acting interns to perform in our original children's musicals and work behind-the-scenes on our mainstage productions. Please indicate if you have an interest in these positions as well.

Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy Street, Arlington, MA is looking for a strong dancer and able

singer to play Juano (member of the Sharks) in a production of *West Side Story* opening April 6, and running through April 22.

Rehearsals are typically Monday, Thursday, Friday and Sundays but schedules can be flexible for the right person. Carpooling from area T stops is ongoing so transportation issues can be worked around.

For further information please contact the director, Nancy Curran Willis by email at imadirector@rcn.com or by calling 781-270-0869.

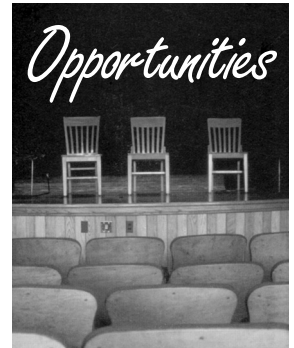
FASKARSNOPRA PRODUCTIONS seeks actor for the role of Yvan in Yasmina Reza's *ART*.

Performances at Garrison Playhouse in Rollinsford, NH (just outside downtown Dover) in May and June 2006. Rehearsals TBD, but we would typically like to rehearse one day per week until tech week/performances.

This is a paying gig.

Interested actors should be able to convincingly play age 40-up, capable of coming to first rehearsal in early March "off book," and have excellent comedic timing.

Call Chuck at 603-436-0566 or Perfproj@comcast.net.





Visit NETC on the web at
www.NETCOnline.org to...

- **get the latest information about NETC events**
- **read about upcoming awards and competitions**
- **read the most recent NETC News online!**

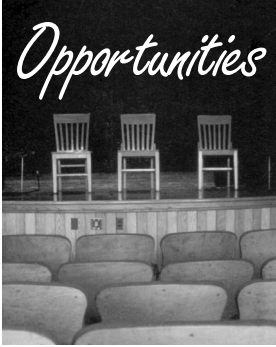
Wakefield Repertory Theatre Seeks Staff for *Ellis Island*

Wakefield Repertory Theatre is now accepting applications for staff positions for its upcoming WRYT production *Ellis Island—The American Dream*. Show dates are in mid-August and the camp begins in early July.

Positions open are Artistic Director, Musical Director, Choreographer, Stage Manager and Administrative Intern (4). All are paying positions. WRYT is known for its quality shows as well as its educational, fun-filled,

comprehensive summer program. High school and college students are encouraged to apply.

Please e-mail WRT wakefieldrep@hotmail.com or Denise DiTonno at DiTonno@rcn.com. You may write to WRT, Attn.: Denise DiTonno, 254 Vernon Street, Wakefield MA 01880 with any questions. Deadline to apply is March 10, 2006.



Directors Wanted For Actorsingers Fall 2006 Musical

The Actorsingers, winner of the Best Musical 2005 New Hampshire Theatre Awards, seek a director for their Fall 2006 main stage show, which will be performed in November, 2006.

The Actorsingers customarily use a 10-week rehearsal schedule, rehearsing twice a week, on Sundays and Wednesdays. Additional days may also be scheduled, depending upon the needs of the directors.

Possible choices for the fall show are *Evita*, *Sweet Charity* or *City of Angels*.

Applicants are urged to send an e-mail to secretary@actorsingers.org specifying which of these shows you are interested in.

Please attach a resume along with your letter of interest. Team submissions (director, music director and choreographer submitting one application from 3

individuals who want to work together on the show) are encouraged, but are not required.

You may also send your application by US mail if you prefer, to:

Actorsingers
PO Box 91
291 Lake Street
Nashua, NH 03061-0091
attention: Pam Bruckman

Applications will be accepted until April 1, 2006. Interviews will be scheduled in April.

Questions can be directed to Pam Bruckman at 603-889-9691 or at secretary@actorsingers.org.

Further information about Actorsingers is available at www.actorsingers.org.

Bundy Center for the Arts Plans for Spring

The Bundy Center for the Arts in Waitsville, VT, announces performances and class schedules for the spring.

The Mad River Kids' Chorale (VT) will start rehearsals for a spring concert on Monday March 13, from 4:00 to 5:30. The Mad River Kids' Chorale is an ensemble for students in grades 3-8 that provides a nurturing and safe environment to explore their artistic side. The main focus of activity is on vocal technique, musicianship, and acting performing fundamentals. The Kids' Chorale is directed by Andrea Bonamico and will perform Memorial Day weekend with The Mad River Chorale and the Barre Choraleers.

The Mad River Chorale and the Barre Choraleers are non-auditioned community choruses that perform a wide variety of repertoire throughout the year. The singers are of all ages and all walks of life and enjoy

both the artistic and social rewards provided by this dynamic experience. This season representatives from the singers in the groups have been invited to give their input as to the program of the concert, and will meet with the director, Piero Bonamico, to discuss the song selection.

This spring will see the continuation of a new group directed by Ms. Bonamico, Sirens, a female cabaret ensemble for students in grades 7-12. The group focuses on vocal technique, song interpretation, and honing acting and performing skills. Small group lessons will be scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays between 5:30 and 7:30 starting March 14, and the entire ensemble will rehearse Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 starting March 15. A performance is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend.

Students are asked to sign up in advance by calling 802-496-4781 ext. 26 or e-mailing info@bundycfa.org.



Please visit NETC on the web at
www.NETCOnline.org
to find out how you can get more involved
in your community!

New England Theatre Conference
2006 Annual Convention
November 16, 17, 18, 19 — Thursday through Sunday
The Omni Hotel at Yale
New Haven, CT

Preliminary Proposal Form

Please type or print clearly. This form will be photocopied.

Return by April 15, 2006 to:
 The New England Theatre Conference, Inc.
 215 Knob Hill Drive
 Hamden, CT 06518

Your name _____

Organization or affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____ ZIP _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Proposal Title _____

Description of Proposal (Minimum thirty to maximum fifty words)

- What is the topic and scope of the presentation?
- State the outcomes or objectives—what will the participant learn from this presentation?
- Please help us by making your description concise, clear and appealing, appropriate for use in the conference catalogue.

Personnel: Please provide each presenter's/speaker's name and affiliation:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Type of activity _____

Please indicate type of activity based on the descriptions below:

- **Performance**
- **Paper:** reading(s) of a scholarly work
- **Play reading:** book-in-hand presentation of original dramatic work.
- **Workshop:** provides participants with hands-on experience to learn and apply new skills or techniques and receive feedback on their progress. *Please note if participants are expected to dress to move, to prepare a selection, etc.*
- **Seminar:** a wide range of viewpoints, usually presented in a lecture format, concentrating on a specific topic or a focused aspect of an interest area, facilitated by one or more experts.
- **Roundtable discussion:** Participants exchange points of view concerning a topic or problem under the leadership of a facilitator.
- **Poster session:** visual presentation of graphic or technical materials with discussion among participants.

Please turn the page over to complete this form

New England Theatre Conference 2006 Annual Convention

Preliminary Proposal Form

Continued from previous page

Level

Select from among the following categories:

- **Introductory:** assumes little or no information within the areas covered. The focus is on general orientation and increased awareness of the participant.
- **Intermediate:** assumes a general familiarity with the literature and professional practice within the areas covered. The focus is on increased understanding and application by the participant.
- **Advanced:** assumes thorough familiarity with current literature and professional practice. The focus is on recent advances, future directions, and applications of research.
- **Various:** Some activities comprise two or more levels of instruction. If more than half of the activity falls within the Introductory, Intermediate or Advanced level of instruction, the activity should be classified in that level.

Target Group(s): This presentation will be of most value to members interested in:

Community Professional Children's & Youth Secondary College/University

This presentation is appropriate for secondary school students. YES NO

Kind of space/equipment needed:

Chairs around perimeter Chairs in circle Chairs in rows facing one view

Table Needed In center In front

Piano or audio/visual equipment needed:

Piano Screen VCR Slide projector Computer projector Flipchart easel

Please make every effort to provide your own equipment to help us keep our overhead low.

Note: NETC does not provide reimbursement or stipends for presenters.

Return by April 15, 2006 to:

The New England Theatre Conference, Inc.
215 Knob Hill Drive
Hamden, CT 06518

Thank you!

Your Theatre Stages *Cemetery Club*

Your Theatre of New Bedford, MA, announces the cast for its upcoming production of Ivan Menchell's comedy, *The Cemetery Club*.

Roger H. Allen and Trudi Miller, both of New Bedford; Mimi Allen of Dartmouth, Cynthia J. Messier of Fairhaven, and Linda Monchik of Fall River comprise the ensemble.

Directed by Lawrence R. Houbre Jr. of New Bedford with Jennifer Dubois of Swansea as stage manager, the play runs Wednesdays through Saturdays March 15–18 and March 22–25, 2006 with a matinee Sunday, March 19.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. for all shows except the 2:30 p.m. Sunday matinee.

The play focuses on three Jewish widows who meet monthly for tea before visiting their husbands' graves until one's involvement with a widower casts a shadow over the "club." Mrs. Monchik plays a homebody, unsure how to open a new chapter in her life until she meets the widower butcher played by Mr. Allen.

Another "club" member, played by Ms Miller, relishes cashing her husband's bonds. The third "club" member, played by Ms. Messier, fussily tends her husband's grave. Ms. Allen plays a neighborhood lady who fancies the widower.

A *Boston Globe* drama critic calls the play "funny, sweet tempered, and moving." A *Washington Journal* critic says it is "very touching and humorous."

Director Houbre says the play is "funny in a light way" with "a lot of touching moments and revelations about life, such as letting some relationships go and starting others."

For non-subscribers, ticket prices are \$12.00 for Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday performances, \$14.00 for Friday shows, and \$15.00 for Saturday performances.

A single \$2.00 discount for each show is available to any person who presents proof of membership in the American Automobile Association, Massachusetts Teachers Association, New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce, or Southcoast Health System's Employee Advantage Program. Other discounts are available for senior citizens, students, and military personnel.

More information is available by calling the theatre at 508-993-0772.

Now in its 59th season, Your Theatre, Inc. was rated the favorite 2005 community theatre organization in Southeastern Massachusetts in a poll conducted by *The New Bedford Standard-Times*.

The poll, which asked the newspaper's readers to choose their preferred businesses and service providers in a variety of categories, drew more than 4,000 responses.

Founded in 1946, YTI is incorporated as a non-profit community theatre which seeks to enhance the cultural life of New Bedford, Southeastern Massachusetts, and nearby communities through the study and regular presentation of dramatic productions and other programs of high quality and professional standards.

The company also develops and encourages artistic talent through the establishment and operation of workshops, theatre productions and other dramatic training opportunities.



Aerial Dance Showcase at UNH

The Aerial Dance Showcases will be performed on May 3 at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the University of New Hampshire Newman Dance Studio at New Hampshire Hall. Come see these amazing student performances, choreographed and set to music, in aerial arts, trapeze, lyra, and fabric! Tickets for the Aerial Dance Showcase must be purchased in advance; no tickets will be sold at the door.

The Dance Showcase will be performed on May 8 at 7 p.m. in the UNH Johnson Theatre at the Paul Creative Arts Center. This eclectic evening of dance performance will include a wide range of dance forms

and styles; from jazz and tap, to hip-hop and ballet. Audiences of all ages will enjoy this artistic evening, filled with fun.

Tickets are \$3.50 each and proceeds will benefit Theatre and Dance scholarships. Advanced ticket purchase is recommended. Contact the MUB ticket office, Monday through Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at 603-862-2290. You may also purchase tickets at www.unhmub.com. The Theatre Lobby Box Office opens one hour prior to curtain. For more information, call the Theatre and Dance office at 603-862-0093.



So Much To See And Do At Leddy Center!

Leddy Center for the Performing Arts, Epping, NH is virtually humming with activity . . . and oftentimes the humming is in harmony because there's so much going on!

After starting off the winter with A. R. Gurney's *Love Letters* and Meredith Wilson's *The Music Man*, the Center will host *Oh, Joy! Oh, Rapture—A Gilbert and Sullivan Review!* from March 10 through March 19. *Oh, Joy! Oh, Rapture!* features ten incredible performers singing a wide array of tunes from eight of the dynamic duo's comedy operettas! Tickets are on sale now and may be reserved by calling 603-679-2781 or purchased online at www.leddycenter.org.

Ongoing private lessons are available in voice, piano, guitar, percussion and brass instruments. Openings for voice lessons are currently available on Tuesdays with Albert Craig; openings for piano lessons are currently available on Tuesdays with Marian Gaydos; openings for guitar/bass lessons are available on Thursdays with Eric Turner; openings for percussion lessons are available on Fridays with Chris Thurston; openings for brass lessons are available on Tuesdays with Bruce

Gatchell. For more information and to register, call 603-679-2781 or go to www.leddycenter.org/school.

It's summer camp registration time! We are now accepting registrations for all summer camps. There is Sing Out! with Mary Gatchell for ages 7 to 11 and 12 to 16—two separate camps; two separate weeks in June. Then there's our 12th annual Musical Theater Summer Camp for ages 9 to 16 running for two weeks in July. Finally, there's our Half-Pint Musical Theater Camp for ages 5 to 6 and 7 to 8—two separate camps the week of July 31.

For more information and to register, call 603-679-2781 or go to www.leddycenter.org/school.

To receive a brochure or get information about all of Leddy Center's upcoming performances and programs, call 603-679-2781 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or go to www.leddycenter.org anytime.

Leddy Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit NH Arts & Education organization.

NETC NEWS: CALL FOR ARTICLES!

Share with the membership of NETC your concerns, achievements, gripes and questions.

We accept articles of up to 1000 words from all members— season's programs, awards, and other news.

Photos are always welcome!

Send all materials to ashea@worchester.edu (WORD format, pictures in jpeg, preferably high resolution 300 dpi)

Want to voice a strong opinion on theatre-related issues?
Send "FORUM" pieces to sramczyk@bridgew.edu

Deadline for upcoming issue: May 15, 2006

Keeping in mind that there may be as much as a six-week turnaround between deadline and actual publication, please prepare time-sensitive material accordingly.



North Shore Music Theatre Teams up with Red Sox

In association with The Boston Red Sox, North Shore Music Theatre of Beverly, MA, will put a new spin on the classic musical *Damn Yankees* in an all new production running April 25 to May 14. In this production it is a die-hard Red Sox fan who makes a deal with the devil to help the Sox take the pennant from the dreaded Yankees. Tickets range from \$75 to \$40. Performances are scheduled Tuesdays through Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., matinees Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Related free events include *Meet the Theatre*, post show audience discussion with the artists on May 2; *Spotlight on History*, May 7, a free pre-show discussion focusing on historical issues related to the performance; and *Meet the Theatre* after the 2 p.m. perform-

ance, post-show audience discussion with the artists. On May 11, NSMT presents *Out at the North Shore*, an evening for the Gay and Lesbian Community with a post show reception.

Child audiences are offered *Seussical Junior* on March 18, 2006 at 10 a.m. This charming 1 hour musical, presented by NSMT's Youth Performance Academy, weaves together many of Dr. Seuss' most famous characters and stories. On April 8 at 10 a.m., the Youth Performance Academy will present *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, an adaptation from the popular children's books. Tickets for the children's events are \$15 and \$10.

All tickets are available at www.nsmt.org, 978-232-7200, or in person at 62 Dunham Rd. Beverly, MA 01915.



Prop Swap... and More!

What's life in the theatre without a little creative recycling? Just sharing some odd notes about needs and availabilities in the region.

- *Little Shop of Horrors* props—puppets, dentist chair, and miscellaneous props are needed by QNEK Productions, Newport, VT. Will buy or rent. Contact Lynn Leimer at 802-334-6498 or qnekproductions@yahoo.com.
- Same company is also looking for the loan or rental of a blank firing gun for the upcoming production of *Murder Among Friends* (April/May).
- Same company seeks a vintage cash register for the August production of *Hello, Dolly*.
- **Free Theatre Seats**—approximately 175 rocking chair seats, free to anyone willing to pick them up before March 31. Currently stored in Concord NH. The seats came from a National Amusements (Redstone) movie theatre in Lawrence, MA. For the most part, they are in good used condition. They are dusty from being in storage for several years. The standards (arm rests) have flat bases (they existed on a tiered floor). The upholstery is green. They were removed in sections of 3's and 4's. Dozens of extra padded wooden arm rests are included. The chairs have a market value of: used \$75.00 each; new \$300.00 each. Red River Theatres is not expecting any compensation for them. Interested parties should contact Barry Steelman, Red River Theatres, Inc., 603-225-5650.

Gassner Award Deadline is April 15!

The deadline for submitting full-length plays to the New England Theater Conference's John Gassner Memorial Playwriting Award is April 15th.

The award carries a \$1000 cash prize and the opportunity to be noticed by the leaders in the theater.

Finalist judges have included Israel Horovitz, Jean-Claude van Itallie, Eric Bentley and Connie Congdon.

For guidelines, see: www.netconline.org

Who's Who at NETC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Quinn, President and Clerk of the Corporation,
Bridgewater State College
Jeffrey Watts, Executive Vice President,
Lawrence High School
Charles Emmons, Vice President for Administration and
Finance, *New Hampshire Community Theatre Association*
David Frieze, Vice President for Communication
and Development, *freelance writer, director, critic*
Ann Marie Shea, Executive Secretary,
Worcester State College, Emerita
Joseph Juliano Jr., Manager of Operations,
Hamden Public Schools, retired
Tom Mikotowicz, Immediate Past President,
University of Maine, Orono

DIVISION DIRECTORS

College/University Theatre Division

Pamela McDaniel, *Western Connecticut State University*
David Fox, *Wheaton College*
Luke Sutherland, *Community College of Rhode Island*

Secondary School Theatre Division

Maureen Doucette, *Hopkinton Middle High School, NH*
Linda Potter, *Acton-Boxborough Regional Jr. &
Sr. High Schools*
Debra Susi, *Warsaw Middle School*

Youth Theatre Division

Jeanie Furlan, *Acton-Boxborough Regional Jr.
& Sr. High Schools*
Ron Jones, *freelance actor/director*
Pamela DiPasquale, *Children's Theatre of Maine*

Professional Theatre Division Directors

Burgess Clark, *North Shore Music Theatre*
Alexis Dascoulias, *Seacoast Reperatory Theatre*
Kevin Russell, *Arts Boston, Boston Theatre Works*

Community Theatre Division Directors

Tim Fitzgerald
Jennifer Howard, Chair, *Burlington Players, MA*
Donna O'Bryant, *Actorsingers of Nashua, NH*

Directors-At-Large

Joe Doniger, *Hull High School*
Suzanne Ramczyk, *Bridgewater State College*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Annual Theatre Auditions

Joseph Juliano, Jr., *Hamden Public Schools, retired*

NETC/New England Theatre Journal

Stuart Hecht, *Boston College*

Long Range Strategic Plan

Kevin Russell, *Arts, Boston, Boston Theatre Works*

College of Fellows, Dean

Sigurd Jensen, *Southern CT State University, retired*

Annual Excellence in Theatre Awards

Tim Fitzgerald

Moss Hart Awards

Maureen Doucette, *Hopkinton Middle High
School, NH*

John Gassner Memorial Playwriting Award

Steven Capra

Aurand Harris Memorial Playwriting Award

Jay DiPrima

Marie Phillips Service to NETC Award

Bevie Lord, *Orpheum Theatre*

Leonidas A. Nickole Theatre Educator of the Year Award

Luke Sutherland, *Community College of
Rhode Island*

Constitution and By-Laws

Sigurd Jensen, *Southern CT State University,
retired*

NETC Newsletter

Ann Marie Shea, *Worcester State College, Emerita*

AACT Liaison

Patricia White

KCACTF Region 1 Liaison

Wil Kilroy, *University of Southern Maine*

Return service requested

NETC
215 Knob Hill Drive,
Hamden, CT 06518-2431

new england
NETC
theatre conference