



# OCTA Newsletter



## "Our State On Stage" Second Quarter

### SUMMER IN THE PARK WITH OCTA Theatre Experts to Share Talents

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### PAST PRODUCTIONS

#### Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park



(above) *As You Like It* - Orlando- Adam Houghton, Celia- Shae Orrick, Rosalind-Amiee Crowther

(below) *Misalliance* - as Bentley Summerhays (Lane Flores), as Joey Percival (Andi Dema), as Hypatia Tarleton (Shayna Vercillo)



Theatre director, administrator and adjudicator, Jim Carver, nationally known in the not-for-profit theatre world, is the keynote presenter for The Oklahoma Community Theatre Association's "Summer in the Park with OCTA." He will be leading a workshop on an acting technique that produces amazing results and another workshop on stage blocking. This event is sponsored by the Oklahoma Arts Council, Heller Theatre, the Tulsa Area Community Theatre Alliance, and the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association

The event, scheduled for July 25, at Heller Theatre @ Henthorne Park, [4825 S. Quaker in Tulsa, Ok](#) begins at 9:00 am. Registration is only \$25 per person and is open to anyone interested in, or participating in, community theatre.



Workshops in audio production and editing will be presented by Frank Gallagher, former tech director at the University of Texas at Dallas, and at Oral Roberts University. Courtney DiBello, Stage Management expert with a degree from Yale School of Drama, will explore the vital nature of this backstage position. Sara Phoenix, director of OCTA's recent national winner from Poteet Theatre, "John and Jen," will teach Choreography for the Non-Dancer. Julie Tattershall, Artistic and Managing Director of Heller and Clark Theatre in Tulsa, will present the psychology of emotions. Tony Batchelder, President of T.A.C.T.A. and House Manager at TPAC, will present Theatre Stage Combat with a chance to perform a small fight scene. A roundtable for directors and producers will complete the day long event.

OCTA's statewide awards will be presented during a luncheon.

You may register the day of the conference and you do not need to be a member of OCTA to participate.



To register, or for further information, contact OCTA at (405) 236-0788 or click [here](#) for information and forms



[Map to Heller](#)

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## "CONGRATULATIONS POTEET THEATRE !!"



(above) *12th Night* - Malvolio- Hal Kohlman, Toby Belch- Jon Haque, Maria- Gwendolyn Evans

(below) *Complet Works* – top Hal Kohlman, below Chris Curtis



**Grove Playmakers**



The Playmakers introduced the classic play, *The Miser*, by Moliere to Grove audiences last spring. Pictured are two of the five young people from their after-school program who were cast: Raven Feather as Marianne and Justus Fletcher as Cleante. They rehearse the "ring" scene with Jonathan Elmore as Harpagon, the miser.

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**TACTA THEATRE BLAST  
JUNE 27th**



Oklahoma is SO proud of you for all of your **awards at AACTFest**: Outstanding Lighting Design, Outstanding Achievement Award for Musical Direction, and Outstanding Production - Third Place !!



**Award for Outstanding Lighting Design**



**Outstanding Achievement Award for Musical Direction**



**Outstanding Production Third Place**

Photos by Stephen Bird

From Sara Phoenix's facebook page she says "Tacoma was awesome! We won 3rd place and an invitation to the international festival in Germany!"

Thanks for representing OK and reminding the nation of what great theatre Oklahoma produces !!

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**"TULSA AREA THEATRE EXCELLENCE AWARDS"**

**Theatre Tulsa** was named the winner of the first "**Tulsa Awards for Theatre Excellence**". They were awarded top honors and \$10,000 funded by the George Kaiser Family Foundation.





A Community-wide YOUTH EVENT at the Tulsa PAC

**TACTA—the Tulsa Area Community Theatre Alliance**—held its first-of-its-kind opportunity for Tulsa area youth, the first annual TACTA THEATRE BLAST. On June 27, students spent the day working with some of the most talented theatre artists in town, learning acting, stage combat, mime, improv, acting, audition techniques, dance, musical theatre, and other performance skills. Then, that evening, they had a chance to perform what they've learned downtown in the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.

TACTA—in association with Clark Youth Theatre,—gave interested students the opportunity to learn from working theatre artists the skills they'll need to succeed onstage. The TACTA THEATRE BLAST was truly a community-wide event.

Participation in the event was free. Tickets were also free.

This program was part of TACTA's continuing mission to make live theatre accessible to everyone, regardless of income, in the Green Country Area.

This production was made possible in part by The Tulsa Performing Arts Center Trust, The Urban Tulsa Weekly, The Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa, the George Kaiser Family Foundation, the Tulsa Parks and Recreation Department, Clark Theatre, American Theatre Company, Tulsa Creative Network, Theatre Tulsa, Actors Company of Tulsa, The Spontaniacs, and all the proud members of TACTA

Workshops took place all day at Clark Theatre, the kids were treated to lunch, and the final performance took place in the Norman Theatre, in the Tulsa PAC, at 8 pm.

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## WEBSITE STATISTICS

### Fun Fact

[www.oktheatre.org](http://www.oktheatre.org) had **83,442** hits last month alone. The most popular day of the week was Sunday with **15,590** hits and the busiest time of day was from midnight to 1am with **4,709** hits

Busiest pages were:

- Library= **63,888**
- Calendar= **12,876**
- Newsletter= **3,988**
- Links= **1,106**

Best Referring Websites were [www.ardmorelittletheater.com](http://www.ardmorelittletheater.com),



This years winner, "Up the Down Staircase," which Theatre Tulsa did in partnership with **Clark Theatre**, was co-directed by Julie Tattershall and Frank Gallagher, produced by Anthony Batchelder, with a **cast** consisting of mostly Clark kids with a few adults thrown in for good measure.

Ken Busby, CEO of the **Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa**, and former television anchor Glenda Silvey served as masters of ceremony for an event that brought Tulsa artists together at the Summit Club. Oklahoma author Billie Letts announced the winners.

Kristin Chenoweth was presented with the first TATE Distinguished Artist Award earlier in the week. She made her acceptance speech in a pre-recorded video that was played before the other winners were announced.

**Midwestern Theater Troupe's** original play "One Man's As Good As Another" took second place (\$5,000). Sara Cruncleton, director of "One Man's As Good As Another" and co-owner of the Nightingale Theater — home to Midwestern Theatre Troupe — said their prize would be spent on theater maintenance.

**American Theatre Company's** "A Picasso" placed third (\$2,500).

Other theater groups entered were Theatre Club, Theatre Pops and **Grace Ann Productions**.



**Clark Theatre's "The Sound of Music"**, directed by Erin Scarberry, won the Outstanding Youth Production award. (The actual, physical award is pretty impressive; it's going to look great being proudly displayed at Clark!) And of course it comes with a very nice, \$2,500 check attached, which will go to the Clark Recreation Council.

Congratulations to all for recognition of some excellent shows!

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## AACT SPOTLIGHT AWARD



(Reprinted by permission from Susan Austin, AACT)

The AACT Spotlight Award partners AACT with theatres to recognize individuals and

[www.shawneelittletheatre.com](http://www.shawneelittletheatre.com), [www.tacta.net](http://www.tacta.net),  
[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), Yahoo Search,  
[www.thepollard.org](http://www.thepollard.org), Google, and MSN.

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**Take a minute to visit  
our Web Page at  
[www.oktheatre.org](http://www.oktheatre.org)**

There you'll find lots of interesting stuff such as information on membership, programs, and, of course, OCTFest 2009.

All programs and services of the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association are funded in part through the generosity of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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organizations for long or special service that has had a significant impact on the quality of their local theatres. Any AACT member theatre may apply to present the Spotlight Award.

Anthony Batchelder was recognized for his special service to Tulsa area theatres as AACT and Heller Theatre (Tulsa,OK) presented the Spotlight Award to him on April 19, 2009. The presentation occurred during the Awards Brunch at the Region VI festival. Eugene Irby, Region VI Representative, presented the award. Due to Anthony's dedication to keeping Tulsa area theatres in communication, the local theatres have grown in audience and participation. He is the current president of the Tulsa Area Community Theatre Alliance (TACTA.)

TACTA was created ten years ago to share resources and create a shared marketing strategy for the Tulsa area and currently has fifteen member companies.

Anthony releases TACTA weekly updates to local press and the public. He created a web forum for discussion of ideas and has created eight web pages for theatre companies who had never had a web presence. Because of his time and effort to promote all the local theatre companies in the Tulsa area, they now have more of a voice and are gaining a greater awareness of local talent.

### **“Oklahoma Spotlight Award”**

OCTA announces the “Oklahoma Spotlight Award” for volunteers in community theatre. Do you have a volunteer who does it all at your theatre? How about the volunteer who is always there to make coffee and clean up? Or the volunteer who has been a stalwart actor in plays for the last 20 years? Send in their name to the OCTA office and we will award them the Oklahoma Spotlight Award. Awards for this year will be presented after lunch at the Annual OCTA Conference in Tulsa on July 25. Only one award per theatre per year please.

Deadline July 20.

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