



CUELINES

CALL TO CONFERENCE EDITION

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**SUBMIT INFORMATION FOR CUELINES TO
OCTACUELINES@GMAIL.COM**



CUELINES

JUNE EDITION



August 29-Sept 1, 2025
Knox Memorial Hall
Mt. Vernon, OH

For 2025, there will not be a designated hotel. All activities, including the awards banquet, will be held at the theater or adjacent locations. **Excerpts will begin on Friday.**

2025 State Conference Merch is now available!

The first round of orders will close on AUGUST 1st.

www.octa1953.org/tickets

2025 Regional Festivals!

CENTRAL: JUNE 1 ~ LICKING COUNTY PLAYERS

EAST: JUNE 14 ~ DOVER HIGH SCHOOL

NORTH: MAY 31 ~ WYNFORD HIGH SCHOOL

NORTHEAST: JUNE 7-8 ~ TWIN MASKS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

NORTHWEST: JUNE 8 ~ MAUMEE INDOOR THEATRE

SOUTHEAST: JUNE 28 ~ RIO GRANDE UNIVERSITY

SOUTHWEST: JUNE 19-21 ~ PRINCETON HIGH SCHOOL

WEST: JULY 5 ~ TROY CIVIC THEATRE

OCTA JR: AUGUST 2 ~ RITZ THEATRE (TIFFIN, OH)



CUELINES

OCTA Fest Jr.



OCTA Fest, Jr.

Youth Theatre State Festival

We are pleased to announce that we will be at the beautiful Ritz Theatre in Tiffin, OH, for the 16th annual festival on August 2, 2025. (If more theaters enter, we may have to extend to a 2-day event.)

We believe this festival for youth/children's theatre will help us deliver on one aspect of our organization's stated purpose: to promote excellence and creativity in live theatre by providing educational opportunities for growth in artistic and technical aspects of live theatre. We want to create an exciting opportunity for member theatres to learn from one another and to support each other's efforts toward excellence, all in the context of one of the most demanding and satisfying forms of art known to humanity: youth/children's theatre.

Theatres who wish to apply to participate in OCTA Fest, Jr. 2025, should look on the OCTA website for more information.

PLEASE RETURN THE FORMS NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2025.

The cost for participating theatres is only \$250.00. That cost includes registration for the entire cast of the excerpt, plus SIX (6) additional staff/crew members. If your theatre is planning to pay for any additional people, those names need to be provided BEFORE the day of the festival.

**WRISTBANDS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FOR \$20 PER PERSON @
REGISTRATION**

If you have a youth/children's program in your theatre, we hope you'll consider being one of our excerpt participants. If you are contemplating a youth/children's program in your theatre, we hope you will attend the festival to gain inspiration and knowledge from the excellent efforts of others.



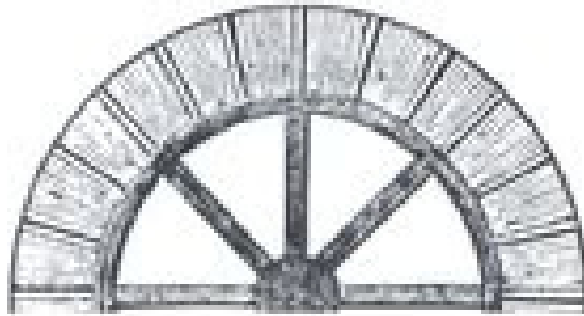
CUELINES

NEW OCTA MEMBERS!



KNOX MEMORIAL
THEATER • HISTORY • VENUES

Central Region



**WATERFORD
PLAYERS**

East Region



CUELINES

OCTA AWARDS

DEADLINES - JULY 1st!

HONOR A LOCAL HERO

OCTA pays homage to local heroes every year by inducting individuals or theatres into the OCTA Hall of Fame. Do you know a person or theatre who has made outstanding contributions to the promotion of theatre arts in Ohio? Why not nominate them for the OCTA Hall of Fame?



The nomination form can be downloaded from the OCTA website. Complete the form, including an essay of why this person or theatre should be considered for the Hall of Fame. Also, 2 letters of recommendation from others are required.

Complete the requirements and send the nomination to Jane Culp no later than July 1, 2025. Please let us know if the nomination is chosen whether you'd like the award to be a surprise or if the nominee would be aware of the presentation.

Start now and get those nominations sent in before it's too late. Let's recognize our heroes who have done so much to help theatre throughout the state.

Special competitions are available for the following technical theater areas:

- ~ **Newsletter**
- ~ **Costume Design** (includes Hair/Wigs and Makeup)
- ~ **Set Design**

Forms available on the website include:

- 2025 BOARD MEMBER ELECTION PACKET
- 2025 COMPETITION FORMS (**UPDATED FORMS AVAILABLE!**)
- NEW THEATRE APPLICATIONS
- AACT FEST HANDBOOK
- AND MORE!

VISIT WWW.OCTA1953.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

SPOTLIGHT

BECOME A PATRON NOW!

ENCORE (\$750-UP) Individual Patrons who donate at the Encore level will receive the Standing ovation level benefits plus get 1 additional state conference registration.

STANDING OVATION (\$500-\$749) Individual Patrons who donate at the Standing Ovation level will receive Bravo! level benefits plus have a single registration to the state conference.

BRAVO! (\$250 -\$499) Individual Patrons who donate at the Bravo! level will receive all Rising Star Patron benefits. Plus have a table reserved in their name at the State Conference Sunday banquet and may invite up to 7 guests to sit with them.

RISING STAR (\$100-\$249) Individual Patrons who donate At the Rising Star level will receive a reserved seat at the state conference, plus access to the Patron Lounge at the state conference.

APPLAUSE (\$50-\$99) Individual Patrons who donate at the Applause will receive a reserved seat at the State Conference for the year they donate; you will also have a patron ribbon at the conference.

SUPPORTERS (\$10-\$49) - Not a part of the Patron Program

Individual donors who donate at the Supporters level will receive automatic sign up for OCTA electronic communications.

2025 Patron Program: Payments are recorded on the calendar year, January 1 to December 31.

	Automatic subscription to OCTA digital news	Reserved seat at State Conference (1 seat for every \$50 donated)	Patron Lounge at State Conference	Patron Concierge	Reserved table at State Conference +7 guests to sit with them	Free Conference Pass
ENCORE (\$750-UP)	X	X	X	X	X	2 Passes
STANDING OVATION (\$500-\$749)	X	X	X	X	X	1 Pass
BRAVO! (\$250 -\$499)	X	X	X	X	X	
RISING STAR (\$100-\$249)	X	X	X			
APPLAUSE (\$50-\$99)	X	X				



Please Scan this QR Code or visit www.octa1953.org/tickets

You will be able to select your seat for State OCTA Conference when you make your donation!

SUGGESTIONS AND SUBMISSIONS FOR CUELINES CAN BE SENT TO OCTACUELINES@GMAIL.COM



CUELINES

BECOME AN OCTA BOARD MEMBER

Now is the time to become a member of the OCTA board.

There are changes in the air and OCTA needs you to be involved.

Consider running for the OCTA board. Go to the OCTA website **www.octa1953.org** and click on Documents & Forms. Scroll down to Nomination Forms and find the 2025 board member election packet.

This contains all the information you will need as well as the paperwork you need to fill out.

IF after all of this, you are still interested, THANK YOU.

VISIT WWW.OCTA1953.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION



CUELINES

NEWS & EVENTS

FUTURE OCTA BOARD MEETINGS

JULY 19 ~ Veteran's Memorial, 7 Town Square, Lima, 45801 - Time: TBA

2025 STATE CONFERENCE ~ AUG. 29-SEPT. 1

December 6, 2025 (Virtual)

January 17, 2026 (Virtual)

March 21, 2026 (Virtual)

May 16, 2026 (In-person - TBD)

July 18, 2026 (In-person - TBD)

OCTA BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE EMAIL YOUR REGIONAL REP FOR AN INVITATION

OCTA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED!

Congratulations to the following students!

Jayden Cochran

Fred Wise Scholarship

Aubrey Herrera-Hess

Michael Schaucherbauer Memorial Scholarship

Hayden Weck & Amelia Wiggershaus

Eleanor Smith Scholarship



OCTA YARD SALE!

Genoa Civic Theatre has a set of band uniforms and many vintage hats that we no longer use. If you need these items, please email: dh_430@yahoo.com.

CALLBOARD

CENTRAL

June: *William Shakespeare's Two Gentlemen of Verona* ~ Mount Vernon Players
July 5-13: *9 to 5 The Musical* ~ MTV Arts INC
July 12: *Legally Blonde (18 & Under)* ~ Millersport Community Theatre
July 18-20: *Legally Blonde* ~ Millersport Community Theatre
July 24-27: *Beetlejuice Jr.* ~ Victoria Players Children's Theater
July 25-Aug. 3: *Disaster!* ~ Licking County Players

EAST

May 30-June 8: *Footloose* ~ Carnation City Players
June 13-22: *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* ~ Wayne County Performing Arts Council
June 20-29: *Ride the Cyclone The Musical* ~ Zanesville Community Theatre
June 27-July 13: *Young Frankenstein* ~ Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County
July 18-27: *Beetlejuice Jr.* ~ Zane Trace Players

NORTH

June 6-15: *School House Rock! Live* ~ Bucyrus Little Theatre
June 6-15: *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.* ~ Mansfield Playhouse
July 11-19: *Bring it On The Musical* ~ Bellevue Society For The Arts
July 11-20: *Anastasia: The Musical* ~ The Ritz Theatre
July 12-14: *The Music Man (Teen)* ~ Fremont Community Theatre

CALLBOARD

NORTHEAST

- May 30-June 15: *Clue* ~ Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
June 19-28: *Grease* ~ Olde Town Hall Theatre Inc
July 10-19: *Elf The Musical Jr.* ~ Olde Town Hall Theatre Inc
July 18-26: *Tarzan The Stage Musical* ~ Dynamics Community Theatre
July 18-27: *High School Musical* ~ Medina County Show Biz Company
July 18-27: *Squad Goals* ~ Medina County Show Biz Company
July 24-27: *Beetlejuice Jr.* ~ Victoria Players Children's Theater
July 21: *The Birds: A Radio Play* ~ Gates Mills Players
July 25-Aug. 16: *Freaky Friday* ~ Chagrin Valley Little Theatre
July 28: *You Better Sit Down: Tales From My Parents' Divorce* ~ Twin Masks
Performing Arts Center

NORTHWEST

- June 5-8: *Blood of the Lamb* ~ Actors Collaborative Toledo
June 6-8: *Children of Eden* ~ Horizon Youth Theatre
June 6-22: *Memphis The Musical* ~ Toledo Repertoire Theatre
June 12-15: *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* ~ Van Wert Civic Theatre
June 13-22: *Little Shop of Horrors* ~ The Village Players
June 20-21: *Sorry, Wrong Number* ~ Horizon Youth Theatre
June 20-29: *Murdering Medea* ~ Black Swamp Players
June 26-29: *Love, Loss, & What I Wore* ~ Fort Defiance Players
June 27-29: *Finding Nemo Jr.* ~ Waterville Playshop
July 10-13: *Seussical Jr.* ~ Oregon Community Theatre
July 17-20: *Charlotte's Web* ~ Van Wert Civic Theatre
July 18-20: *Marble* ~ The Village Players
July 24-27: *Disney's Descendants The Musical* ~ Maumee Valley Civic Theater
July 24-27: *The Blue Bird* ~ Toledo Repertoire Theatre
July 25-27: *The Sound Inside* ~ Actors Collaborative Toledo
July 31-Aug. 3: *Looking Back* ~ Van Wert Civic Theatre
July 31-Aug. 17: *Something Rotten* ~ Fort Findlay Playhouse

CALLBOARD

SOUTHEAST

- June 20-29: *Escape to Margaritaville* ~ Mid Ohio Valley Players
July 10-13: *Matilda* ~ Chillicothe Civic Theatre
July 17-27: *Footloose* ~ Chillicothe Civic Theatre
July 25-Aug. 10: *The Drowsy Chaperone* ~ Actors Guild of Parkersburg

SOUTHWEST

- June 27: *Annie Jr.* ~ Rivertown Players
June 27-29: *Beans!* ~ Village Players of Fort Thomas
July 10-13: *The Spongebob Musical Youth Edition* ~ Loveland Stage Company
July 10-27: *The Sign in Sidey Bruestein's Window* ~ Mariemont Players, Inc
July 18-26: *The Pirates of Penzance* ~ Mason Community Players, Inc
July 25-27: *Big Fish* ~ Rivertown Players
July 25-Aug. 10: *Calendar Girls* ~ The Drama Workshop

WEST

- May 23-June 8: *Between Riverside and Crazy* ~ Dayton Theatre Guild
June 6-29: *The Understudy* ~ Beavercreek Community Theatre
June 20-22: *Camelot* ~ Windmill Productions
July 11-12: *Finding Nemo Jr.* ~ Windmill Productions

A TRIBUTE TO JIM TOTH

(1947 - 2025)



James A. Toth, 78, of Findlay, Ohio, gave his final bow at 10:23 p.m. on Friday, May 23, 2025, after succumbing to COPD. Though the curtain has closed on his earthly stage, the legacy he leaves behind will continue to play in the hearts and lives of all who knew him.

Born January 22, 1947, in Findlay, to the late Paul and Elmina (Vaughn) Toth, Jim was a true hometown hero, a man who transformed ordinary community stages into places of extraordinary magic.

He married the love of his life, Linda Woodward, on December 13, 1969. She survives him, along with a family who adored him: his son Devlin (Linda) Toth of Terryville, Connecticut; daughter Stacy Trimble of Findlay; five grandchildren, Nick (Demiya) Trimble and Josh Trimble of Findlay, and Tyrus Toth, Jacob (Sheyla) Toth, and Megan Toth from Terryville, Connecticut; and two eagerly awaited great-grandchildren.

He graduated from Findlay High School, class of 1965, which is celebrating its 60th reunion this year. He also earned a degree in theater from Bowling Green State University.

Professionally, Jim dedicated his career to Cooper Tire and Rubber Company, retiring in 2012 as Shipping and Receiving Manager. But the stage was his life's work, passion, and true masterpiece.

A pillar of the Fort Findlay Playhouse, Jim was a published playwright and also a multiple award-winning director and actor with unmatched comedic timing and heart. With over 200 shows to his name, his fingerprints are on nearly every corner of Findlay's theatrical history.

His contributions extended to the Arts Partnership Youth Theatre, Black Swamp Players, Encore's Amil Tellers, Ohio Community Theater Association, and dozens of Murder Mystery Dinner Theater productions published and penned by his hand, one of which was performed as far as Germany.

As part of Fort Findlay Playhouse's 60th anniversary season, they showcased Jim's original comedy, "Pair-a-Dice Canteen," as its world premiere. Also in recent years, they honored Jim by accepting one of his original works as a second-stage show, "Blood Moon Memories," based on his childhood. In recognition of his lifelong dedication, Jim was awarded Fort Findlay Playhouse's highest honor, Member Emeritus, celebrating a lifetime of service to the good of the playhouse.

He and Tom Kroske also partnered in Kroske's Comedy Kapers, a traveling comedic Abbott and Costello-style vaudeville show that brought joy and laughter to regional audiences. From building fans of his acting and directing to building confidence in budding actors and building a legacy of original published plays, Jim didn't just support the arts—he was the arts.

Jim also had a love for storytelling beyond the stage. He was a professional movie reviewer, ran fantasy baseball leagues enthusiastically, and cherished all things Michigan — especially his beloved Detroit Tigers. As a young dad, Jim was a fixture in the world of competitive putt-putt, running the local course and earning a name for himself by winning numerous local and state tournaments with precision and playful charm. He also deeply loved taking his children to the University of Findlay Oiler basketball games, proudly supporting the team every season as a true hometown fan.

One of his most memorable roles includes the portrayal of Albert Soady, the father of two boys on a deer-hunting trip in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, in the comedic cult classic *Escanaba in da Moonlight*. With his signature twinkle and perfect Yooper accent, Jim brought roaring laughter and heartfelt charm to the role, especially when delivering the iconic line, "If you're looking for heaven, it's just up over da bridge."

His wit was sharp, his storytelling compelling, and his friendship deep. A mentor to many and a friend to all, Jim's legacy stretches across four generations, touching the lives of students, families, fellow performers, and countless audience members.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made in Jim's name to the Fort Findlay Playhouse, 300 West Sandusky Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840, so that the curtain may rise again for future dreamers and storytellers.

Condolences and memories may be shared online at www.kirkpatrickbehnke.com.

A TRIBUTE TO GINNY MORRISON

(1943 - 2025)



Ginny (Virginia) L. Morrison, age 82, passed away on May 2, 2025. She was born on February 19, 1943, to the late Earl and Lucille (Craig) Young. She is survived by her beloved husband of almost 59 years, James R. Morrison; dear children Traci (Thom) Winkler, Kelli Coulombe, Jami (Brian) Turk; cherished grandchildren Lyndsay (Jason) Sturm, Abby (Liam) Wise, Logan (Hannah) Winkler, Nicholas Coulombe, David Coulombe, Scott (Regan) Campbell, Eli (Jazmin) Turk, Izzi (Mitch Doraty) Turk, Sam Turk; great-grandchildren Owen, Dylan, Zander, Avery, Gannon, Willow, Landon, Harper, and soon-to-be baby boy Campbell; and a lifetime of collected friends and colleagues.

Ginny was a top-level tennis player in Ohio. She was very active and instrumental in the development of theater in the Medina community and served as president of the Ohio Community Theater Association. Ginny had a passion for bringing the theater into local communities all around Ohio. Most importantly, Ginny was one heck of a great wife. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Services will be private. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.waitefuneralhome.com.

