



2023
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
OHIO COMMUNITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

Aara Wise
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IN LOVING MEMORY



August 26, 1939 - August 7, 2023

Each time that we look at the night sky the stars shine brightly. It is with great sorrow that we have lost one of our shining stars, Miss Eleanor Christine Smith.

Living in Marion, OH, Eleanor became interested in OCTA and ran for the board of directors in 1987. Although not elected to the board, she was not deterred and became a Northwest Regional Rep. In 1989, Eleanor again ran for and was elected to the board of directors. With her financial experience working for the Marion County Health Department, she was a perfect fit as the OCTA's treasurer.

Eleanor served as treasurer until 1993, when she was hired as OCTA's Executive Secretary. She saw the organization through several years of growth with added theater members, resources, and services. Eleanor was instrumental in writing grants to the Ohio Arts Council for funding for OCTA resulting in a title change promoting her to Executive Director. In 2006, Eleanor decided it was time to retire and hand the reins over to another. We celebrated her retirement at the annual conference and surprised her with an induction to the Hall of Fame.

After the unexpected resignation of the executive secretary, Eleanor returned from retirement for what was supposed to be only temporary. But with her dedication to the association, she continued to assist OCTA remain on track until 2012 when she retired from OCTA for the 2nd time. We could not have been more blessed as an organization to have Eleanor Smith filling all the many things she did. Thank you for your love and dedication to OCTA over the years. You will be greatly missed!

Your OCTA Family

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

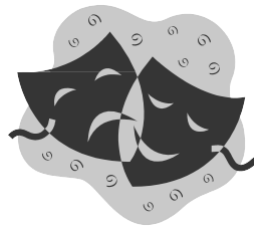
OHIO COMMUNITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

The purpose of this statewide non-profit service organization is to promote excellence and creativity in live theatre by providing members educational opportunities for growth in artistic and technical aspects of theatre, and to promote community awareness, understanding and access to live theatre — alone or with other organizations.

Code of Regulations - Revised September 2018

OCTA HISTORY

OCTA was formed in December 1953 with sixteen theatres and has provided support to community theatres through workshops, the annual regional OCTAfests - a showcase of community theatre productions, and through our three-day Annual Conference. Ongoing activities include a newsletter published 5 times a year, a Call to Conference once a year, Script Lending Library, Guide/Respondent/Speakers Bureau, and a Resource Directory used to locate props, costumes, equipment, etc. We do this with an all-volunteer Board.



The Ohio Community Theatre Association Board of Directors would like to express our thanks and appreciation to:

- Co-Conference Chairs Robert Weidle and Peggy Kenney and their steering committee members for planning and preparing everything for the 2023 conference, OCTA's Platinum Jubilee – A Million Stars
- The Regions for all their hard work in making their regionals a success.
- Our Patrons and Sponsors who have supported OCTA.
- The people who continue to give us feedback with new ideas.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU!! WE APPRECIATE EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO FOR OCTA AND HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

HAPPY 70th ANNIVERSARY, O.C.T.A. !!!!!

This year has been an extraordinary one for me. Having the honor to serve as OCTA's President has truly been enjoyable and educational.

Joe Barton had the unenviable task of leading us through the Pandemic years. I was in the same situation, being President of the Kentucky Theatre Association during their 40th Anniversary. Both states suffered financial and personnel losses, but we are now fighting our way back. This spring, the last of our OCTA members was able to reopen and start performing again. A few theatres went dark permanently, but we are gaining new, and returning, members all the time.

I must give tremendous thanks to the Executive Committee: Joe Barton, Carissa Sloan, Jane Mancini, Niccole Amersdorfer, and Jesse Bernal. They have led their divisions strongly, and with a vision. (Please read their division reports in this document.) Our volunteer Administrative Assistant, Aara Wise, has been very helpful, especially for this first-time President.

However, we could not get everything done without our entire State Board members and Regional Reps. Michelle Peterson took on a huge responsibility as Regional Rep Coordinator (without really knowing what she was getting into), and she did a wonderful job with this task.

Our summer festival season has always been a lot of work, but a lot of fun and camaraderie. For the first time, Joe Barton had to help plan for 8 Regional festivals, but he did it like a true professional. Bruce Jacklin helped organize the OCTA Junior festival this year (which unfortunately had to be cancelled). And with Peggy Kenney and Robert Weidle planning this Anniversary State Conference, how can it be anything but FUN? Thank you to all of these troupers for their hard work and dedication.

Finally, I'd like to comment on my personal project this year – visiting as many community theatres as possible. Within this season, I was able to visit over 70 theatres (members and non-members); seeing shows, talking to members and patrons about what is happening, and what OCTA can do to help them with their missions. I got to visit many theatres that I had never been to before, meeting long-time friends and new acquaintances. Some excellent exchange of ideas occurred, and I truly felt a stronger bond develop with these theatres. Thank you to everyone that shared this experience with me. I hope we can continue this bonding in the future.

As we wrap up this 70th season of OCTA, we look forward to the future of the organization. We have had many long-time leaders carrying us through. We are seeing many new, young members willing to take a lead in moving us forward. It takes all of us to keep this mission alive. Please consider becoming one of those leaders, at the local, regional, and/or state level. We would love to have the opportunity to work with you, for the continuing growth of Community Theatre in Ohio.

*Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Kirsch
OCTA President 2022-2023*



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION 2022-2023

- ✓ **Past President** - Jesse Bernal
- ✓ **Secretary** – Niccole Amersdorfer
- ✓ **Regional Rep Coordinator, HOF, & Spirit** – Michelle Peterson
- ✓ **Delegate Coordinator** – Sonja Hyer
- ✓ **Nomination Chair** -Kevin Knoll
- ✓ **Policy and Code of Conduct Chair** – Kate Charlesworth-Miller
- ✓ **Long Range Plan** – Donna Jean Evans
- ✓ **Administrative Assistant**- Aara Wise
- ✓ **HOF and Spirit Co-Chair** - Evan Copeland

This year in Admin we focused on three goals for the team and all Goals where met:

Goals 2023:

1. Administrative Assistant Job Roles
 - a. Review list of jobs and document and move jobs to correct place withing OCTA.
 - b. Create a process to fill needed jobs and make sure we have document roles.
 - c. Presented update to the board and will bring a vote to the Delegates meeting for updates to the code of regulations.
2. Increase Delegate Involvement
 - a. Held more than one Delegate meeting in 2023 to try to improve communication.
 - b. Worked with Conference Chair to coordinate the Delegates meeting.
3. Create a new Long-Range Plan template.
 - a. Created a new long-range plan for the board to use in 2024.

2023 Report:

Secretary – Niccole Amersdorfer – Did an excellent job keeping track of all minutes and attendance for the 2023 year. She also proactively communicated and ensured the board received all information as requested.

Regional Rep Coordinator, Hall of Fame, & Spirit of Community Theatre – Michelle Peterson – Was the star of the team this year she has done an amazing job with keeping the reps informed as well as running both Hall of Fame and Spirit of Community Theatre. She also ensured all Spirit awards were delivered to each regional!

Delegate Coordinator – Sonja Hyer – Was able to host an additional Delegates meeting this year to try to increase the communication to the member theaters. As a new board member, she stepped right up to help and get things done.

Nominations Chair -Kevin Knoll- Took on a new group and role this year and will run Nomination for OCTA Board

Policy and Code of Conduct Chair – Kate Charlesworth-Miller – made sure there as not any significant changes that needed to be made to the board policy. She will be presenting the Administrative Assistant changes at the delegates' meeting this year.

Long-Range Plan – Donna Jean Evans – Updated the long-range plan and reviewed a new template for OCTA to use in 2024.

Administrative Assistant - Aara Wise – As always has done more than any person should ever do on the board. She has gone above and beyond for this group and put OCTA before herself. She continues to try to drive improvements and bring reality of current state of affairs to the group and ensures all the missing pieces do not fall on deaf ears.

Respectfully submitted,
Jesse Bernal, Immediate Past President/Administrative Division Chair

REGIONAL REP COORDINATOR REPORT 2022-2023

After attending the retreat weekend in October all Reps were sent an email to fill out a questionnaire about communications and information for reps and meetings. It was decided to have them during board meetings either by Zoom or in Person, however Zoom was the preferred method. Other concerns were all addressed at that time including where other information would be received. We met during the Dec meeting where 6 of the 8 regions were represented. We reviewed competitions, benefits of OCTA, Young Gems, Spirit, Hall of Fame, and scholarships. At our Jan meeting 6 regions were represented. We reviewed festival packets and tips for putting on a regional. Encouraged reps to discuss Hall of Fame, Spirit of Community Theatre, Scholarships and the Guide/Responder Program with their delegates. Reviewed dates and locations for their regionals. During the March meeting the regional festival packet was reviewed and confirmed dates and locations reviewed. Reviewed deadlines for Hall of Fame, Spirit of Community Theatre, and Scholarship. During the May meeting Finalized plans for festivals were discussed and locations confirmed. Joe Barton spoke to the Reps in regard to the adjudicators and events that needed to happen during their festivals. Reps were reminded of the deadlines for all upcoming and remaining contests for OCTA. Several reps are already in final preparation for their regional festivals.

Due to a variety of reasons the following regions were not able to host a regional this year: Northeast, Southeast and OCTA Jr. North and Northwest Regions hosted a combined regional. Central, East, Southwest and West were able to host successful regionals. A total of 16 excerpts were invited to the State Conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Cody Peterson, Regional Rep Coordinator

OCTA HISTORY 2022-2023

We always welcome those items no longer wanted that pertain to OCTA's history such as minutes, financials, older plaques, certificates, awards, pins, logo items and t-shirts. Items can be donated to the OCTA office.

Respectfully submitted, Aara Wise, Historian

FUNDRAISING DIVISION 2022-2023

Division Members

Ray Lebowski
Machelle Miller
Thom Ogilvie

John Masterson
Millie Butts
Susan Barzda

Logo

We continue to discuss what logo items sell best so we can make better purchase decisions.

Silent Auction

Discussed a pending plan for upcoming conference regarding procedures and policies.

Patron

Agreed the need for a separate space at conference for patron donations and perk pick up.

Scholarships

A total of 11 Scholarship applications were received with 4 scholarships of \$500 each and 2 of \$250 each being awarded this year totaling \$2,500.00.

Michael Schacherbauer Scholarship \$500 - Belle Fockler- East Region

Michael Schacherbauer Scholarship \$500 - Samantha Ezell- North Region

Fred Wise Memorial Scholarship \$500 - Candence Hendershot - East Region

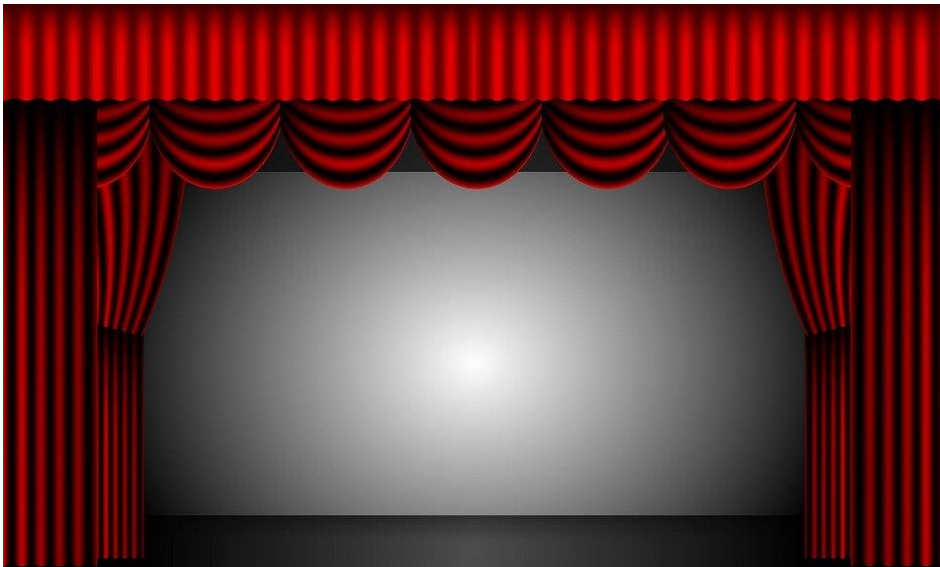
Patron Scholarship \$500 - James Covarrubias - Southwest Region

Patron Scholarship \$250 - Emma Mayes - Southeast Region

Patron Scholarship - Racheal Tingley - West Region

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Mancini, 3rd Vice President, Fundraising Division



PROGRAMMING DIVISION REPORT 2022-2023

Programming was present at all State in-person and Zoom meetings. Members of the committee included: Aara Wise, Deb Wentz, Bruce Jacklin, Robert Weidle, Judy Berrens, Linda Roll and Liz Latta.

Aara Wise was in charge of Script Library.

Deb Wentz was in charge of Guide/Respondent.

Bruce Jacklin was in charge of OCTA, Jr (which had to be cancelled) and was OCTAFest Chair in Training which he completed with both Joe Barton, Aara Wise and Wayne Kirsch.

Robert Weidle was in charge of 2023 State Conference along with Peggy Kenney.

Judy Berrens was in charge of Set Competition.

Linda Roll was in charge of Costume Competition.

Liz Latta was secretary of our committee.

Joe Barton was one of three OCTAFest Chairs. Joe was in charge of CN. Aara Wise was in charge of SW and N x NW. Wayne Kirsch was in charge of East and West. NE and SE were unable to have festivals this year.

Joe Barton also acquired all responders for all regionals and for State Conference:

Central-Pat Potter, Jane Mancini and Inge Klopping

East-Kathy Hyland, Dan Maloney and Deb Wentz

North by Northwest-Dan Maloney, Bruce Jacklin and Kathy Hyland

Southwest-Ian Ernsberger (had to drop and replaced by Joe Barton), Bruce Jacklin, and Deb Wentz

West-Jim Waldfogle, Theresa Benyo-Marzullo, Jeffrey Albright

Responders for State will be:

Dr. Belinda Smith, Betsy Willis, Jerry Zimmerman

Plans for next year include reviewing all Job Descriptions, All policies within the Programming Division and more communication. Because we are so spread out geographically, it was hard for us to meet in person. As well, our collective schedules did not allow for us to have any zoom meetings other than our State meetings. We will work harder in the future to rectify this situation.

I would like to thank my entire committee, all responders and co-OCTAFest Chairs for all their time and effort this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Barton, 1st Vice President / Programming Division Chair



2023 STATE OCTA CONFERENCE

The theme for this year's conference is *OCTA 2023 70th Jubilee, A Million Stars*. The festivities, held at the Eastgate Holiday Inn in the SW region, will include 16 excerpts from all eight OCTA regions. This is the first time that there have been that many invitees. Co-chairs, Robert Weidle and Peggy Kenney along with a wonderful committee are planning a lot of great activities. Friday will begin with the OCTA PYRAMID in which the regions will compete against each other.

Many workshops are planned to include a Master Class from Richard Oberacher, professional composer and musician. All participants will be collecting stars throughout the weekend to win great prizes. At the Sunday banquet there will be a special tribute to the "founding" theaters as we celebrate OCTA's 70th anniversary. Hopefully, this conference will be a grand salute to community theater in Ohio and long remembered.

*Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Kenney, Co-Conference Chair 2023*

RECAP 2022 STATE CONFERENCE OCTA SPECTACULAR – Our Greatest Shows

September 2-5, 2022 Newark, Ohio

We were so excited to welcome everyone back to the Annual Conference held at the newly renovated Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark, OH for the OCTA Spectacular – Our Greatest Shows!

Many enjoyed to the Midway hosted by our regions. Southwest was popular with their cotton candy. Central Region gave away fun prizes with the pop bottle ring toss. Popcorn was available for all. Southeast region had lots of fun with the balloon pop. Fish bowls and a East hosted a Ski ball and North a Fish bowl toss. IF YOU CHEESE food truck hosted by the West Region was extremely popular, especially the canolis.



The ever popular excerpts begin on Saturday morning in the River Birch Ballroom and continued through Sunday. Lisa Cravens-Brown conducted a workshop on a very hot topic of Gender and Equality in the theatre. Berkley Biggs presented his popular Trash to Treasure set and props workshop. Other presenters were Joe Bishara – The Art of Auditioning, Jason Speicher – Stage Combat, Judy MacKeigan – Period Costuming on a Budget, Kat Wexler – Set Design & Painting, Richard Farmer, Danielle & PJ Gassman – Writing a Play. Jesse Bernal presented several sessions of the future of OCTA. Asking for suggestions on how to attract more young people for the duration of the conference.

MYSTERIO ELEGANTE', the Sunday night banquet, did not disappoint. Everyone wore their fancy feathered and beaded masks. It was elegant to look around the room to see such fun faces.

So many volunteers helped make the return to conference a success. We could not have done it without you!
We look forward to seeing you all at next years conference for OCTA's 70th Anniversary celebration!

Submitted by

Gladys Haney & Aara Wise, Conference Co-Chairs

CONFERENCE 2022 AWARDS

Dick Beal Outstanding Regional Rep Award – Deb Wentz

Outstanding Delegate Award – Beth Giller

Art Rouse Travel Award – Innovatheatre with 36 participants traveling 147 miles

Most Improved Patron Giving 2021 – East Region

Overall Leader Patron Giving 2021 – Northwest Region

President's Award – John Masterson

Rising Star Award – Jill Henwood & Thom Ogilvie

Hall of Fame Inductees

Bob Welly – Northwest Region

Dave Myers – Southwest Region

René Saxton – Central Region

Set Design Awards

Outstanding in Set Design

Little Theatre Off Broadway – Bonnie & Clyde

Excellence in Set Design

Footlighters, Inc. – Something Rotten

Merit in Set Design

Oregon Community Theatre – Murder on the Orient Express

Theatre 8:15 – Charlotte's Web

Little Theatre of Tuscarawas Co. – Disney's The Little Mermaid

Costume Design Awards

Excellence in Individual Costume Design

Fremont Community Theatre – The Wizard of Oz

Cincinnati Music Theatre – Priscilla Queen of the Desert

Outstanding in Individual Costume Design

Footlighters, Inc. – Something Rotten

Little Theatre of Tuscarawas Co. – Disney's The Little Mermaid

Joyce Purk – Mamma Mia

Outstanding in Overall Costume Design

Footlighters Inc. – Something Rotten
Little Theatre of Tuscarawas Co. – Disney’s The Little Mermaid
Joyce Purk – Mamma Mia
Mid-Ohio Valley Players – The Heiress

Web Design Awards

Mary Stone & Bellkiss Abril-Romman
ACT Cincinnati
Excellence in Navigation
Excellence in Regional Representation
Outstanding in Digital Media Use
Outstanding in Graphic Design

Newsletter Awards

Erica Beimesche, Editor
The Footlighters, Inc. – The Libretto
Excellence in Special Information: “Curtain Up,” “Have a Seat,” “A Note From Our President,” & “Birthday.”
Excellence in OCTA News and Use of Graphics/Pictures
Excellence in Layout, Writing, and Overall Quality

Peggy Kenney & Sharon Shelton, Editors
The Village Players of Ft. Thomas – The Village Crier
Excellence in Use of Graphics/Pictures and Layout
Excellence in OCTA News
Excellence in Special Information: “Spotlight,” and “Vintage Stories”

EXCERPT AWARDS

ALABASTER

Excellence in Directing – Fran Martone
Excellence in Ensemble – The Cast of Alabaster
Excellence in Goat Costumes – Actors Collaborative Theatre

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

Merit in Acting as Mr. Van Daan - Kris Krotzer

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE

Merit in Acting as Olive Allison – Cindy Miller
Merit in Acting as Hattie – Sharon Rose Tyahur
Merit in Acting as Bill Livingston – Darren Lee

THE TIN WOMAN

Merit in Acting as Alice – Beth Shrake

BRIGHT STAR

Excellence in Directing – Dennis Murphy
Excellence in Sound Design – Jason Cox

Excellence in Costumes – Dennis Murphy
Excellence in Ensemble – The Cast of Bright Star
Excellence in Orchestra – Linda Abbott, Marisa Banes, Paul Brehm, & Chris Taylor

RADIUM GIRLS

Merit in Acting as Grace Fryer – Noelle Warnement

FREAKY FRIDAY

Merit in Musical Performance as Katherine Blake – Max Fox
Merit in Ensemble – The Cast of Freaky Friday
Merit in Successful Promotion in Positive Body Image – The Cast of Freaky Friday

THE OUTSIDER

Excellence in Ensemble – The Cast of The Outsider
Excellence in Directing – Douglas Berlon

THE HEIRESS

Merit in Costumes – Jena Lane Blair
Merit in Acting as Catherine Sloper – Vanessa Rake
Merit in Acting as Dr. Austin Sloper – John “Mack” McHale

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

Merit in Choreography – Brittany Kupresanin
Merit in Costumes – Joe Barton
Excellence in Acting as Aldolpho – Eric L. Hillenbrand
Excellence in Acting as Janet Van de Graff – Nicole Navarre
Merit in Acting as The Drowsy Chaperone – Lydia Schafer
Merit in Live Sound Effects – Joe Barton

THE CEMETARY CLUB

Excellence in Ensemble – The Cast of The Cemetery Club
Excellence in Directing – Lori Demres & Jennifer Wertz

BONNIE & CLYDE

Excellence in Acting as Emma Parker – Lynne Rouzer
Merit in Acting as Clyde Barrow – Cory Velazco
Merit in Musical Performance as Preacher – Lorenzo McKeever

ALL MY SONS

Excellence in Ensemble – The Cast of All My Sons
Excellence in Directing – Ian Fraser Ernsberger
Merit in Set Design – Bruce Jacklin & Ian Fraser Ernsberger

AACT ALTERNATE

The Tin Woman

AACT WINNER

Alabaster

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2022-2023

The annual delegate's meeting was held September 3, 2022, during the annual State Conference at Cherry Valley Hotel, Newark Ohio. The meeting was called to order by President Jesse Bernal at 12:51 pm, with a verbal roll call of all members present. A motion to accept annual meeting minutes previously emailed was made by Thom Ogilvie, with a second by Peggy Kenney. The minutes were accepted unanimously. Aara Wise reviewed the financial report previously emailed to the delegates, and the report was filed for review. Annual elections for board members were held. On the ballot were: Jai Furlong-Pierce, Millie Butts, Denise Schnieders, Ray Lebowski, and Jane Mancini. Jay's nomination was removed from the ballot as he was not present. Nominated from the floor were: Joe Barton, Sonja Hyer, Janis Carnahan, Bruce Jacklin, and Judy Berrens. Each candidate and one person they selected were given two minutes to present speeches to the delegates, then had time to answer questions from the floor. Upon completion of speeches, ballots were cast, with the results to be reported at the dinner being held on September 4th. The annual delegates meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

The first meeting of the 2022-2023 board was held on September 5th at the Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark, Ohio to hold elections for the executive board. The meeting was called to order at 8:19 am by President Jesse Bernal, who reviewed the voting process. The meeting was then turned over to Nominations chair Carissa Sloan for the vote. Wayne Kirsch was elected President by a vote of acclamation. Joe Barton was elected 1st VP of Programming by a vote of acclamation. The position of 2nd VP of MMPR was held by ballot, and Carissa Sloan was elected 2nd VP of MMPR. Jane Mancini was elected 3rd VP of Fundraising by a vote of acclamation. Nicole Amersdorfer was elected Board Secretary by a vote of acclamation. Admin Assistant Aara Wise reminded the board members to fill out required paperwork. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Kevin Noll with a second by Nicole Amersdorfer. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 am.

The executive board met at Troy Civic Theatre in October of 2022 to make division committee assignments and set goals for the coming year.

The full board met in person at the Holiday Inn Eastgate in Cincinnati Ohio on October 24, 2022. Full board meetings were held via Zoom December 3, 2022, January 21, 2023, and March 18, 2023. In person full board meetings were held on May 20, 2023(at Knox Memorial Hall in Mount Vernon) and July 15, 2023 (at Midland Theatre in Newark). Attendance for the meetings is recorded below:

Executive Committee: Wayne Kirsch 100%, Nicole Amersdorfer 100%, Jesse Bernal 100%, Joe Barton 100%, Jane Mancini 100%, Carissa Sloane 67%

Board Members At Large: Susan Barzda 100%, Judy Berrens 83%, Millie Butts 50%, Janis Carnahan 83%, Kate Charlesworth-Miller 67%, Sonja Hyer 100%, Bruce Jacklin 67%, Peggy Kenney 83%, Ray Lebowski 100%, Denise Schneiders 83%, Robert Weidle 50% (Resigned prior to July 2023 meeting), Aara Wise 100%

Regional Reps by Region:

Central: Jill Henwood 50%, Thom Ogilvie 83%

East: Christy Rahrig 83%, Mabelle Miller 83%

North: Donna Jean Evans 83%, Deb Wentz 83%

Northeast: No Delegates Represented the NE region

Northwest: Evan James Copeland 33%, Liz Latta 50%, Andy Roberts 50%, Rose Roberts 100%

Southeast: Laura Miller 33%

Southwest: Linda Roll 67%, Kevin Noll 100%, John Masterson 67%

West: Michelle Peterson 100%

Meetings:

September 5, 2022 - Board voted to:

- Board elected executive committee (listed above)

October 24, 2022 - Board voted to:

- Approve to withdraw funds from the Allied Bernstein account and deposit the funds into the general checking account
- Approve that Pay Pal fees no longer have to be split out y departments on the financial reports
- Approve to remove the Brochure Competition from the Conference Tech Competitions
- Approve to use Hometown Ticketing for state conference registration
- Approve to set up a Stripe account instead of Pay Pal

December 3, 2022 - Board voted to:

- Approve the proposed 2023 budget
- Approve a 6-month payment plan option for state conference registration
- Approve a 2-month payment plan option for state conference registration
- Approve Kate Charlesworth-Miller as 2024 Conference Chair
- Approve a donation to Fred's Team in memory of Bruce Jacklin's son

January 21, 2023 - Board voted to:

- Approve changes made to the Newsletter Editor job description
- Approve using Cherry Valley Hotel for hotel and Midland Theatre in Newark for excerpts for the 2024 State Conference
- Approve the OCTA Board as the conference chair for the 2024 State Conference
- Approve Kate Charlesworth-Miller as the 2025 State Conference chair
- Approve to have the contract with the Midland Theatre signed by Aara Wise

March 18, 2023 - Board voted to:

- Approve changes to the Guide / Responder job description
- Approve Children's Theatre Workshop as a member theatre
- Approve Millersport Community Theatre as a member theatre
- Approve Springfield Community Theatre as a member theatre
- Approve to waive dues for one year for Theatre 8:15, due to financial hardship
- Approve to extend the date for dues for this year only to April 1, 2023, before late fees
- Approve the proposal to hire Jerri Shaffer as photographer for State Conference

May 20, 2023 - Board voted to:

- Approve Chagrin Valley Little Theatre as a member theatre
- Approve Ram Drama Team as a member theatre
- Approve appeal to board to have Actors Guild of Parkersburg present their except of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night at State Conference, due to the cancellation of the Southeast regional

July 15, 2023 - Board voted to:

- Approve Ohio Valley Theatre Group as a member theatre
- Approve changes to Article II - Board of Director and Officers - adding "and Administrative Assistant" to the list of officers. Motion carried unanimously and the change to Code will go before the delegates at the September delegate meeting.
- Approve changes to Article VIII - Officers and Board of Director. Motion carried unanimously and the change to Code will go before the delegates at the September delegate meeting.

- Approve presented changes to Administration policy Executive Committee
- Approve presented new Administration policy Administrative Assistant
- Approve presented new Administrative policy Treasurer
- Approve presented new Administrative policy OCTA Office

Respectfully submitted.

Niccole Amersdorfer, Secretary

OCTAFest Chair – Annual Report 2023

Joe Barton was one of three OCTAFest Chairs.

Joe Barton was in charge of CN and SW (had to withdraw to become a responder).

Aara Wise was in charge of SW and N x NW.

Wayne Kirsch was in charge of East and West.

NE and SE were unable to have festivals this year.

Joe Barton also acquired all responders for all regionals and for State Conference:

Central-Pat Potter, Jane Mancini and Inge Klopping

East-Kathy Hyland, Dan Maloney and Deb Wentz

North by Northwest-Dan Maloney, Bruce Jacklin and Kathy Hyland

Southwest-Ian Ernsberger (had to drop and replaced by Joe Barton), Bruce Jacklin, and Deb Wentz

West-Jim Waldfogle, Theresa Benyo-Marzullo, Jeffrey Albright

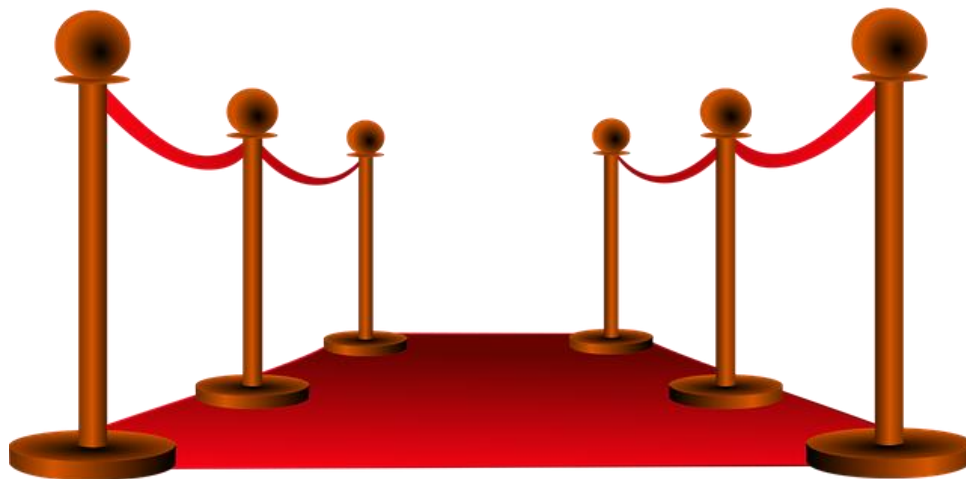
Responders for State will be:

Dr. Belinda Smith, Betsy Willis, Jerry Zimmerman

At this time, I believe all regions have reported back their scores for various responders in each region.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Barton 2023 OCTA Fest Chair



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REPORT

2022-2023 Financial Report

Checking Accounts

Jan 1, 2022, Account Balance	\$11,047.70
Dec 31, 2022, Account Balance	\$ 361.11

Checking & Savings Accounts (Maintained by OCTA)

Scholarships Balance – 12/31/22	\$ 420.40
Central Region Balance – 12/31/22	\$1,706.24
East Region Balance – 12/31/22	\$1,765.98
North Region Balance – 12/31/22	\$2,100.54
Northeast Region Balance - 12/31/22	\$ 412.38
Southeast Region Balance – 12/31/22	\$1,355.00

Checking Accounts (Maintained by Region)

Northwest Region Balance – 12/31/22	\$2,750.48
West Region Balance – 12/31/22	Closed

Investment

Allied Bernstein Account as of 12/31/22	\$ 4,523.27
2022 Total Income	\$44,765.38
2022 Total Expenses	\$70,443.50
Profit/Loss	(\$25,678.12)

Total Account Balance - Jan 2023	\$ 361.11
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Checking Accounts

Checking Account Balance 7/31/23	\$13,060.97
Credit Card Account Balance 7/31/23	\$ 1,000.00

Checking & Savings Accounts (Maintained by OCTA)

Scholarships Balance – 7/31/23	\$ 910.52
Central Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$1,966.17
East Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$2,145.43
North Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$2,554.91
Northeast Region Balance - 7/31/23	\$ 412.38
Southeast Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$1,355.06
Southwest Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$ 250.00

Checking Accounts (Maintained by Region)

Northwest Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$2,909.41
West Region Balance – 7/31/23	\$3,093.31

Investment

Allied Bernstein Account as of 6/30/23	\$5,360.74
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Respectfully submitted,

Aara Wise, Volunteer Administrative Assistant



2023 REGIONAL REPORTS

Central Region

For 2022-2023, it was a time of change for the Central Region. Jill and Thom, the Regional Representatives, began the year by attending the OCTA Board Retreat in Cincinnati, where they learned more about what it means to be a Regional Rep. With the lessons they learned, Jill and Thom reached out to member theatres throughout the year, on Zoom calls. This allowed theater delegates to find out more about what was going on with the OCTA Board, but also to convey important information about the Regionals. We were also able to welcome a new member theatre into our region with Millersport Community Theater.

Central 'Walk the Stage' was held at The Hill Theatre at Kenyon College in Mt Vernon in May. Represented were the four theatres bringing excerpts, Victoria Players Children's Theatre, Little Theatre Off Broadway, Curtain Players, and Out of The Box Community Theatre. A short meeting was held to decide the cost of the event and determine the order that the excerpts would perform.

Central Regional was held on June 3rd at Kenyon College's Hill Theatre. The event was organized by Bruce Jacklin. Thank you to Bruce Jacklin and Kate Ernsberger for running things behind the scenes. Excerpts performed were **A Christmas Story** (Victoria Players Children's Theatre), **The Drowsy Chaperone** (Little Theatre Off Broadway), **I'm Not Rappaport** (Curtain Players), and **Another Dumb Ghost Story** (Out of the Box Community Theatre). Invitees to the State Conference were **The Drowsy Chaperone** and **I'm Not Rappaport**. During the awards, Eugene Haney was presented with the Spirit of Community Theatre Award. Due to timing, we were unable to host a delegate's meeting to elect next year's Regional Reps. We instead sent a survey to the member theater delegates. Based on the results of the survey, Thom and Jill will continue on for the 2023-2024 year as Regional Reps with Thom serving as Lead Regional Rep

Submitted by Thom Ogilvie, Central Region Lead Rep.

CENTRAL REGION AWARDS

A CHRISTMAS STORY - Victoria Childrens Theatre

Alaina Smith – Merit in Acting as Ralph

Austin Endsley – Merit in Acting as Randy

Lily Endsley – Merit in Stirk-to-Itviness as Flick

The Cast of A Christmas Story – Merit in Ensemble

The Cast & Crew of A Christmas Story – Merit in Scene Changes

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE – Little Theatre Off Broadway

Kathy Hyland – Excellence in Directing

Thom Ogilvie – Excellence in Musical Directing

Katherine Wexler – Merit in Set Design

Vaughan Radde & Jessica Alkire – Merit in Duet Performance for Accident Waiting to Happen

Glen Garcia – Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance

Kasey Meininger – Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance

Aara Wise & James O. Johnson Jr. – Merit in Duet Performance for Love is Always Lovely

Carley Hamilton - Excellence in Acting as Kitty

Scott Clay – Excellence in Acting as Man in Chair

The Cast of The Drowsy Chaperone – Excellence in Vocal Ensemble

Nikki Rehmert – Merit in Choreography

I'M NOT RAPPAPORT – Curtain Players

Larry Cole – Outstanding in Acting as Nat

Steve Jefferson – Outstanding in Acting as Midge

ANOTHER DUMB GHOST STORY – Out of the Box

Anna Soppelsa – Merit in Acting as Mary

Andy Crawford – Excellence in Acting as Icles

Mitch Spiro – Merit in Creative Use of Space

Invitee ~ THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

Alternate ~ I'M NOT RAPPAPORT

East Region

To quote the lyrics from a Jekyll & Hyde song: "All of the dreaming, scheming and screaming become one." After several attempts to have a "normal" year in OCTA, the East Region has finally done it!

Like any region, we have had our obstacles. Our membership is currently down to 6 theatres: Carnation City Players, Coshocton Footlight Players, The Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County, Wayne County Performing Arts Council, Zane Trace Players, and Zanesville Community Theatre. While our region may be small in comparison to other regions, we are mighty!

Our annual report begins in October 2022. OCTA President Wayne Kirsch made it his goal to visit as many OCTA member theatres as possible, and the East Region was not excluded from this goal! After seeing a production at The Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County on October 9, East Theatre Delegates were encouraged to meet with Wayne for dinner afterwards. Bart Herman of LTOTC, Susan Barzda of ZCT, and Christy Rahrig of ZTP had dinner with Wayne at Tlaquepaque in New Philadelphia. We shared our concerns about our region, and offered suggestions on how OCTA can be a benefit for our member theatres.

Fast forward to November 2022. The goal for this year was to FINALLY have a regional festival in summer 2023. But location was the key issue. A Delegates meeting was held via Zoom on November 6. Originally, this date worked for most of our member theatres, but then we had several last-minute cancellations. Attending the call included Susan Barzda of ZCT, Mabelle Miller of LTOTC, Christy Rahrig of ZTP, and Lisa Sommers of LTOTC. At this meeting we confirmed that we could not host the regional at Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County due to a show conflict, and our backup location of the Triple Locks Theatre, home of Coshocton Footlight Players, could not confirm if they were available.

On January 14, 2023, we held another Delegates meeting via Zoom. Attending the meeting was Susan Barzda of ZCT, Nathan Mayse of Footlight Players, Mabelle Miller of LTOTC, Christy Rahrig of ZTP, and Lisa Sommers of LTOTC. Nathan confirmed that the Triple Locks Theatre would not be able to host a regional, so we were back at square one. Christy sent emails to two member theatres who did not have delegates present at the meeting about having the regional at their locations. Mabelle informed us she would reach out to the fellow LTOTC board members who work at nearby Dover High School about hosting a regional there. Even though Dover High School is not affiliated with OCTA, it is a central location for many of the East theatres and has several amenities. We kept our fingers crossed for good news.

Time moved on to March 2023 when we DID hear good news! Mabelle was about to secure Dover High School in Dover to host our 2023 East Regional! Mabelle took care of the contract and secured a food truck to

be on site as well. OCTA President Wayne Kirsch made his return to the East Region and had dinner with board members of Zane Trace Players and Zanesville Community Theatre after seeing ZTP's production of "Cinderella" on March 19. The ZTP Board Members who attended greatly appreciated that someone from the executive board of OCTA was willing to not only drive to see a show, but also make time to meet with them to discuss concerns. It was said this had not happened in several years, so it was refreshing that Wayne made the effort.

The rest of the communication among the East Theatre Delegates took place through emails and Facebook Messenger from March through June. By mid-May, two shows were confirmed to excerpt at regional: "Love, Loss, and What I Wore" from Footlight Players, and "Tuesdays with Morrie" from LTOTC. Mabelle and volunteers from LTOTC worked hard to have everything set for a smooth and easy day.

Then, the big day came - June 11, 2023. The OCTA East Regional was held! Close to 40 attendees made the trip to Dover High School for the day, including participating excerpt cast members and volunteers to assist where needed. We also held a delegates meeting while the responders were making their awards and choices. Attending was Susan Barzda of Zanesville Community Theatre, Nathan Mayse of Coshocton Footlight Players, Mabelle Miller of Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County, and Christy Rahrig of Zane Trace Players. Nathan accepted the offer to join Mabelle and Christy as Regional Representatives, so we are very excited to have 3 regional reps going into the 2023-2024 year!

Mabelle Miller was awarded (as a surprise) the Spirit of Community Theatre Award at the East Regional Festival. The East honored a second Spirit of Community Theatre award to Jillian Von Gunten of Zanesville Community Theatre on July 29. We also had two area high school graduates who were awarded OCTA scholarships - Belle Fockler and Cadence Hendershott. The East is very proud to have the opportunity to recognize these outstanding individuals and their tremendous contributions to community theatre locally and on a state level.

"Tuesdays With Morrie" from The Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County was selected to excerpt at State in September, and "Love, Loss, and What I Wore" from Coshocton Footlight Players was selected as the alternate. It has since been confirmed that BOTH excerpts are going to State!

The East Region is also celebrating some big milestones this year! Two of our member theatres were founded the same year as OCTA in 1953: Coshocton Footlight Players and Potter Players Community Theatre. Potter Players is currently on hiatus due to the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and hopes to return soon. Zanesville Community Theatre just celebrated their 60th season with a special presentation at a performance of their final production of the year.

We are very proud of the progress the East has made over the last four years since our inception. We look forward to seeing the strides we will make in the coming year with the addition of another regional representative and the hope that some former member theatres will make their return. Bravo to what we have accomplished so far, and cheers to whatever is next!

Submitted by Christy Rahrig, East Region Rep.

EAST REGION AWARDS

LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE – Coshocton Footlight Players

Sheila Mayse – Merit in Acting as Holly

Ellen Perrenoud – Merit in Acting as Young Gingy

Nathan Mayse – Merit in Set Design

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE – Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County

Chester Boffo – Outstanding in Acting as Morrie

Jack Thomas – Excellence in Acting as Mitch

Roxie Long – Merit in Directing

Kenn Holmes – Merit in Set Design

Invitee ~ TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE

Alternate ~ LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE

North Region

The North Region held a meeting at the 2022 North Regional OCTA in Bucyrus, and voted for Donna Jean Evans and Deb Wentz to continue as Regional Reps. Virtual meetings were held on December 1, 2022 and April 2, 2023. Much of the communication within the region was done through texts and emails. Due to the inability of any theatre's ability to host the 2023 North Regional OCTA, the decision was made to join the NW Region in combining our Regional OCTA. NW was agreeable to this, and the date was set for June 24, 2023 at Owens Community College in Perrysburg. The North Region was represented by three excerpts.

Delegates had an in-person meeting at the North Regional on June 24th. In attendance were Brad Rowe, Jason Chandler, Donna Jean Evans and Deb Wentz. Donna Jean and Deb were willing to continue as Regional Reps, and others were in agreement. Millie Butts' term on the OCTA Board will end at the Labor Day State Conference. Millie has expressed her willingness to serve as a Regional Rep after that. A vote was taken, and all were in agreement.

Amy Wylykanowitz has reiterated her willingness to take over the North Facebook page, and will begin doing that now.

Submitted by Deb Wentz, North Region Lead Rep.

North Regional Awards

PROOF – Fremont Community Theatre

Laura Hohman – Merit in Acting as Catherine

SILENT SKY – Harlequins Coach House Theatre

The Cast – Outstanding in Ensemble

Kate Volz – Excellence in Acting as Henrietta

Izzy Ballard – Excellence in Acting as Margaret

Heidi Sarvis-Sapp – Excellence in Acting as Williamina

Becky Heyman – Excellence in Acting as Annie

Jennifer Wertz – Excellence in Costumes

Karen Abbott – Excellence in Directing

Harlequins Coach House Theatre – Merit in Technical Execution

DISENCHANTED – Bucyrus Little Theatre

Heather Giglio – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Snow White

The Cast – Merit in Ensemble

Debbie Gifford – Excellence in Costumes

Martha Tidball – Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance as Cinderella
Amanda Zucker – Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance as Rapunzel

Invitee ~ SILENT SKY

Alternate ~ DISENCHANTED

Northeast Region

Due to the lack of participation the Northeast regional was canceled. Stow Players will represent the Northeast Region as the OCTA Board approved Invitee with The Children's Hour..

Northwest Region

The regional reps held a planning meeting in October to generate ideas to increase involvement in the region.

The Northwest delegates met 3 times via Zoom (November, March, and April) and once in person at the regional festival in June. Five theatres chose to excerpt at the 2023 regional festival. At the regional meeting in June, four returning reps, Elizabeth Latta, Evan James Copeland, Andy Roberts and Rose Roberts were joined by one new volunteer, Corbin Wyland.

One of the main topics for discussion at several meetings was the difficulties finding volunteers. We also made great strides in expanding our digital footprint, creating a very successful social media campaign and promoting our regional on a local theater podcast as well as having interviews available for our theatres to participate in during the regional.

Our Regional Festival was held on June 24th at Owens Community College. It was our first ever combined regional, co-hosted with the North Region. 5 theaters from the Northwest Region chose to excerpt. Our regional for next year has been scheduled for June 21st and 22nd, 2024 at Maumee Indoor Theatre.

Submitted by Rose Roberts, Northwest Region Lead Rep.

Northwest Regional Awards

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE – Toledo Repertoire Theatre

Marissa Rex – Outstanding in Acting as Stella

Kate Abu-Absi – Outstanding in Acting as Blanche

Garrett Monasmith – Excellence in Acting as Stanley

Ryan Albrecht – Merit in Acting as Mitch

Morgana Swift – Merit in Acting as Flower Vendor

The Cast – Excellence in Ensemble

Jeffrey Albright – Excellence in Directing

Luke D. Rosen – Excellence in Sound Design

Tonya Shauwecker – Excellence in Costumes

FREUD'S LAST SESSION – Williams County Community Theatre

Denver Henderson – Outstanding in Acting as Sigmund Freud

Kevin Smith – Excellence in Acting as C.S. Lewis

Crystal Rose Bowers – Excellence in Directing

Crystal Rose Bowers – Outstanding in Set Décor
Denver Henderson & Kevin Smith - Excellence in Costumes

THE MUSIC MAN – Waterville Playshop

Tasha Rothert – Excellence in Music Direction

Nicole Spadafore – Excellence in Choreography

Jared Ellison/Bruce Gardner/Tom Pendleton/Jack Ellison – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as The Quartet

The Cast – Excellence in Ensemble

The Children – Excellence in Children’s Ensemble

Kyle Ruhe & Brad King – Excellence in Duet Performance for Sadder by Wisner

Michael Stierman – Excellence in Acting as Mayor Shinn

Joe Barton & Tammy Fitch – Excellence in Directing

Brad King – Merit in Musical Theatre Performance as Harold

Rachel Donker – Merit in Acting as Zanetta

Gavin Miller – Merit in Acting as Tommy

Jennifer Braun – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Marian

CHICAGO – 3B Production

The Cast – Outstanding in Ensemble

Bob Marzola-Hughes – Outstanding in Choreography

Joe Barton 0 Outstanding in Directing

Janine Baughman – Outstanding in Music Direction

Joe Barton – Excellence in Costumes

The Cast – Outstanding in Dance Execution

Jesse Bernal – Outstanding as Producer

Joelle Stiles – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Velma

Maria Fallouh – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Roxie

Patrick Boyer – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Billy Flynn

Jill Reinstein – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Mary Sunshine

Matt Badya – Outstanding in Acting as Amos

Betsy Bellavia – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Mamma Morton

ON THE EXHALE – Actors Collaborative Toledo

Marissa Rex – Outstanding in Acting as The Woman

Jeffrey Albright – Outstanding in Directing

Invitees ~ CHICAGO and ON THE EXHALE

Alternate ~ A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

Southeast Region

Due to the lack of participation the southeast regional was canceled. Actor Guild of Parkersburg will represent the Southeast Region as the OCTA Board approved Invitee with The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime.

Southwest Region

The Southwest Region held meetings via Zoom on September 27th, October 25th, November 22nd, January 24th, February 28th, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd, and June 27th.

At each meeting, the deadlines for the various OCTA awards were discussed, Hall of Fame, Spirit of Community Theater, Scholarships, and Competitions. The dates of the regional convention and state conference were mentioned at every meeting. Since the State Convention is being held in the Southwest Region, planning for this was also discussed.

In September, each group was sent a new Theatre Information Form to be filled out and sent to the Administrative Assistant. This included the groups that said they had “no changes”.

The Southwest Regional OCTAFest was held on June 16-17 at Parrish Auditorium, Miami University Hamilton Ohio. There were 11 theatres excerpting. Cincinnati Music Theatre (*Kinky Boots*), Footlighters, Inc (*A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*), Tri-County Players (*A View From the Bridge*), and alternate Mariemont Players (*Ken Ludwig's The Gods of Comedy*) were chosen to represent the Southwest Region at OCTAFest in September.

The 2023 ACT Cincinnati Awards Ceremony was held on June 17 at the Embassy Suites hotel in Blue Ash, Ohio.

Kevin Noll will continue as Lead Rep. John Masterson and Linda Roll will continue as Regional Reps. Denise Schnieders was elected to the OCTA Board.

Submitted by Kevin Noll, Southwest Region Lead Rep.

Southwest Regional Awards

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE – Tri-County Players

The Cast – Outstanding in Ensemble

Mary Stone – Outstanding in Acting as Beatrice Carbone

Keith Cassidy – Outstanding in Acting as Eddie Carbone

Tom Peters – Outstanding in Direction

Jonn Baca – Excellence in Fight Choreography

Thurman Allen – Excellence in Acting as Marco

Ellis Quinne – Merit in Acting as Rudolpho

KEN LUDWIG'S THE GOD'S COMEDY – Mariemont Players

Eric Day – Outstanding in Acting as Dionysus

The Cast – Excellence in Ensemble

Jennifer Day – Excellence in Direction

Elaine Michael – Excellence in Costumes

Natasha Boeckmann – Merit in Acting as Thalia

Debbi Berlon – Merit in Acting as Dean Trickett

Ashley Herbert – Merit in Acting as Brooklyn

Anna Hazard – Merit in Acting as Daphne

Alex Saldano – Merit in Acting as Ares

THE LARAMIE PROJECT: TEN YEARS LATER – Centerstage Players

Tobie Braverman – Merit in Acting as Catherine Connolly

Joel Lind – Merit in Acting as Dave O'Malley

Betty Coulter – Merit in Acting as Marge Murray

Fred Hunt & Chris Vassaux – Merit in Audiovisual

KINKY BOOTS – Cincinnati Music Theatre

Garrett Klass – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Lola/Simon

Rebecca Wall – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as Lauren

Robert Breslin & Garrett Klass – Outstanding in Duet Performance for Not My Father's Son

Jules Breslin – Outstanding in Choreography

Matt Santeler – Outstanding in Set Design

The Kinky Boots Band – Outstanding in Orchestral Performance

Jamie Sivrais – Merit in Acting as Don

Robert Breslin – Excellence in Vocal Performance as Charlie

Aubrey E. Wilson – Outstanding in Direction

John Michael Durnill – Merit in Acting as George

Alan Masters – Outstanding in Musical Direction

Madelaine Wilkerson – Outstanding in Vocal Direction

Sierra Magill & Madelaine Wilkerson – Outstanding in Wigs and Hair

BE MY BABY – Sunset Players

Dennis Murphy – Merit in Acting as John Campbell

Elaine Michael – Merit in Acting as Maud Kinch

Michael Kiser – Merit in Door Malfunction Ad-Lib as Dimetri

HOLIDAZED – Village Players of Fort Thomas

Bill Brohaugh/Lisa Holt/A.K. Forbes/Eric Thomas – Excellence in Original Play

Stephanie Klein Garvey – Excellence in Acting as Boy/Amy Noelle

Wayne Kirsch – Excellence in Acting as Scrooge

Arny Stoller – Outstanding in Acting as Narrator

Stephanie Klein Garvey/Wayne Kirsch/Arny Stoller – Excellence in Trio Ensemble Acting

Linda Roll & Stephanie Klein Garvey – Excellence in Costumes

Mark Waldfogle – Excellence in Acting as Winter

Angela Klocke Forbes – Merit in Directing

Rose Vanden Eynden – Merit in Acting as Joan

A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER – Footlighters, Inc.

Chad Brinkman & Amanda Marasch – Outstanding in Directing

Allan Masters – Outstanding in Music Direction

Forrest Goodwin – Outstanding in Sound

Amanda Marasch – Outstanding in Choreography

The Orchestra – Outstanding in Orchestral Performance

Wayne Wright – Outstanding in Musical Theatre Performance as D'ysquith Family

The Cast – Outstanding in Ensemble

Jennifer Day & Cathy Lutts – Outstanding as Producer

Kristie Marasch & Carolyn Martinez – Outstanding in Costumes

Chad Brinkman – Outstanding in Set Design

The Cast – Outstanding in Vocal Ensemble

Alex Devore/Delaney O'Toole/Hope Pauly – Outstanding in Trio Performance as Monty/Sibella/Phoebe

RADIUM GIRLS – The Drama Workshop

The Cast – Merit in Ensemble

Amanda Borchers – Excellence in Costumes

Adam Borchers – Excellence in Set Design

Dennis Murphy – Excellence in Costumes

Collette Thomas/Cassandra Homan-Wall/Izz Allison – Merit in Trio Acting Ensemble as Irene, Kathryn and Grace

TWELFTH NIGHT – Loveland Stage Company

Joe Simmons – Excellence in Acting as Malvolio

Mike Yarick – Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance as Feste

Kiya Fix – Excellence in Directorial Concept

The Cast – Excellence in Ensemble

Kate Arnold & Becky Jones – Excellence in Costumes

THE MATCHMAKER – Beechmont Players

Kathy Beiting/Adria Bentley/Faye Crawford – Excellence in Costumes

Zak Slemmer – Excellence in Acting as Barnaby

Michael Blessing – Merit in Acting as Cornelius

Jody Hart – Merit in Acting as Dolly

The Cast – Merit in Ensemble

Zak Slemmer & Michael Blessing – Merit in Duet Acting Performance

NUNSENSE – Mason Community Players

The Monk-ee's Band – Merit in Orchestral Performance

Julie Poux – Merit in Musical Theatre Performance as Rev. Mother

Wes Ledyard – Excellence in Puppet Design

Kelley Flaughter & Sr. Mary Annette – Excellence in Musical Theatre Duet as Sr. Mary Amnesisa & Sr. Mary Annette

Invitees ~ KINKY BOOTS, A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER, and A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Alternate ~ KEN LUDWIG'S THE GOD'S COMEDY

West Region

West first met on Nov 12th with 3 theatres represented to discuss this year's plans for OCTA competition. At that meeting Beaver Creek Community Theatre volunteered to host our regional on July 9th. During the meeting we also discussed all the competitions, ways to improve OCTA and the OCTA experience. We met again on Feb 4th, with 4 theatres represented. The location of the festival was confirmed, and activities were discussed. Our next meeting was held on March 25th. During this meeting we finalized activities for the festival and the date set for the Walk the stage. We also reviewed Spirit of Community Theatre nomination, Hall of Fame Nominations, and other contests that they could enter during all of the upcoming OCTA festivals. May 22nd was our Walk the Stage at Beaver Creek Community Theatre. Our final meeting of the year was held during our regional on July 9th. We had 7 of our theatres represented. We discussed dates for the upcoming year's meeting and set them on the calendars. They were also reminded of the State Conference, how to register, information about the delegates meeting. As well as reminded of the Guide/ Responder Program. At that time Amil Tellers volunteered to Host our 2024 Regional with the tentative date of July 13th. During our Festival we had 3 excerpting theatres Beaver Creek Community Theatre with Sordid Lives, Amil Tellers with Four Weddings and an Elvis, and Troy Civic Theatre with Barefoot in the Park. Beaver Creek with Sordid Lives was selected to

represent the West Region at the State Conference. Troy Civic Theatre with Barefoot in the Park was selected as Alternate. We had two winners for the Spirit of Community Theatre Award this year! They were Lisa Marling of Preble Players and Niccole Amersdorfer of Troy Civic Theatre!

Submitted by Michelle Cody Peterson, West Region Lead Rep.

West Regional Awards

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK – Troy Civic Theatre

Jenny Weber – Outstanding in Acting as Mother

Zach White – Merit in Acting as Paul

Steve Dietrich – Excellence in Directing

Andrea Wintrow – Merit in Costumes

Steve Dietrich – Merit in Set Design

SORDID LIVES – Beaver Creek Community Theatre

Matthew Smith – Outstanding in Acting as Earl

Diane Strohm – Excellence in Acting as Dr. Eve Bolinger

Doug Lloyd – Outstanding in Directing

Chris Harmon – Merit in Acting as Wardell

Carol Finley – Excellence in Costumes

Matthew Smith & Diane Strohm – Excellence in Duet Acting Performance

Chris Harmon – Excellence in Set Décor

Jenny Wheeler – Merit in Props

FOUR WEDDINGS AND AN ELVIS – Amil Tellers of Dramatics, Inc.

Kim Lane – Excellence in Acting as Sandy

The Cast – Merit in Ensemble

John Slechter – Excellence in Acting as Fist

Missy Keller – Merit in Design

Invitee ~ SORDID LIVES

Alternate ~ BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

OCTAFEST JR. 2023

Unfortunately, due to only one entry, the OCTA Jr. Festival had to be cancelled. The one entry from Caryl Crane Youth Theatre was given the opportunity to move on to the State Festival. They were unable to move forward due to scheduling. The board of directors will work to increase numbers for 2024.

*Respectfully Submitted,
OCTA Board of Directors*



Ohio Community Theater Association
EST. 1953



SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY THEATRE AWARDS 2023

Central Region
East Region
North Region
Northwest Region
Southwest Region
West Region

Eugene Haney
Machelle Miller & Jillian Von Gunten
Nadine Jensen
Janine Baughman
Cathy Lutts & Kent Smith
Niccole Amersdorfer & Lisa Marling

***** 2023 Scholarship Winners *****

Michael Schacherbauer Scholarship \$500.00 – Belle Fockler, East Region & Samantha Ezell, North Region

Fred Wise Memorial Scholarship \$500.00 – Cadence Hendershot, East Region

Patron Scholarship \$500.00 – James Covarrubias, Southwest Region

Patron Scholarship \$250.00 – Emma Mayes, Southeast Region & Racheal Tingley, West Region

Thank you to our generous Individual donors and Patrons for believing in education enough to continuously provide scholarships for those young people interested in continuing the pursuit of theater. Without your generosity this would not be possible!



PATRONS – JAN. 1, 2022 – DEC. 31, 2022

*In Memory of Fred Wise

** In Memory of Michael Schacherbauer

RISING STAR (\$750-UP)

Jesse Bernal Ray Lebowski Kate Charlesworth-Miller & Mark Miller

STANDING OVATION (\$500-\$749)

Susan Barzda Jason Neymeiyer

BRAVO! (\$250 -\$499)

3B Productions Niccole Amersdorfer & Jennifer Kaufman Dr. Frances Gibser Rex Huffman

CURTAIN RAISERS (\$100-\$249)

Theresa Benyo-Marzullo Steve & Peg Dietrich Karen Finn Gladys & Eugene Haney
Jerry Zimmerman & Roger Rex

APPLAUSE (\$50-\$99)

Tom Albury	Michael Blake	Richard Brock	Millie Butts	Joan Conlon
Bruce Jacklin	Michelle Johnson	Allen Kasack	Peggy Kenney	Sara Ledzianowski
Geri Martin	Nathan & Sheila Mayse		Susan Metz-Guthrie	
Susan Moreland	Connie Murphy	Pat Potter	Christy Rahrig	
Greg Schaper	Bonnie Seggaard	Sharon Shelton	Kathy Sturm	Kathy Taylor
The Drama Workshop		The Village Players of Ft. Thomas		Randy Warman
Robert Weidle				

OPENING KNIGHTS (\$10 - \$49)

Jena Blair	Michelle Burdett	Evan Copeland	Mendell Hibbard	Kathy Hyland
Terressa Knoch	John Masterson	Bonnie Rake	Sue Rapier	Christina Riddle
Linda Roll				

Patrons can be identified at the conference with purple ribbons attached to their name badges. Patrons contributing \$50.00 or more receive preferred seating during the conference excerpts. Patrons contributing \$250.00 or more receive preferred seating during the Sunday Banquet. Contributions above \$250 have a variety of additional perks. See the website for more information.

Through the generosity of our Patrons, we can provide services, scholarships, programs, and events. We thank you for your continued support of OCTA!



OCTA'S HALL OF FAME HONOREES



Individuals, Theatres or Businesses can be nominated by anyone, whether the nominee is living or posthumously. Along with the Nominators application and essay on why candidates should be inducted into the Hall of Fame, Inductees are chosen by a committee for their Outstanding Contributions to the promotion of Theatre Arts in Ohio. Each year a unique plaque and medal are given to the Inductee during the Banquet.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2000

Jim Ponchot -- Southwest Region
Art Rouse -- Southwest Region
Robert Winters -- Southeast Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2002

Mary Haas -- Southwest Region
Bob Belfance -- Northeast Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2004

Anne Matousek -- Northeast Region
Mary Beth Schulz -- Northeast Region
Patricia Shannon -- Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2006

Eleanor Smith -- Central Region
Cecil W. Goldsmith -- Northwest Region
Gib and Lou Reese -- Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2008

Virginia Chizer - Southwest Region
Fred Wise - Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2001

William Allman -- Northeast Region
Ohio Valley Summer Theatre 50 yrs.-SE Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2003

Gene White -- Central Region
Valerie Gerstenberger -- Northeast Region
Janet Michel -- Northwest Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2005

Cele Klein -- Northeast Region
Rondalee Derry -- Northwest Region
ACT-Cincinnati -- SW Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2007

Steve Haskins -- Southeast Region
Roger Grooms -- Southwest Region
Suzanne Bayley -- Southeast Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2009

Eleanor Heyman - Northwest Region
Dr. Donald Rosenberg - Southwest Region
Robert DeBenedictis - Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2010

Carol Mills - Southwest Region
 Sam Macera - Northwest Region
 Michael Schacherbauer - Former Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2012

Marilyn Stocker - Central Region
 Ted & Jane Mixer - Central Region
 Waterville Playshop - Northwest Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2014

Elston Hurst -- Southwest Region
 Al & Jean Rodin -- Central & West Regions
 Reuben & Dorothy Silver -- Northeast Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2016

Willard Misfeldt - - Northwest Region
 Dee Dunn - - Southwest Region
 Bob & Judy Slater - - Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2018

Mike Burke – Southwest Region
 Fig Jankowski – Northeast Region
 Betsy Gauerke – Southeast Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2020

Madge Levinson – Northwest Region
 Stagecrafters – Southwest Region
 Toledo Repertoire Theatre – Northwest Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2022

Bob Welly – Northwest Region
 Dave Myers – Southwest Region
 René Saxton - Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2011

Sally Bowlin - Southwest Region
 The Mariemont Players, Inc. - SW Region
 Shirley Goldsmith - Northwest Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2013

John Lee -- Southeast Region
 Williams Co. Comm. Theatre – NW Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2015

Pat Furterer - - Southwest Region
 Harold Eisenstien - - Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES - 2017

Syd Spate - - Northwest Region
 Arny Stoller - - Southwest Region
 Mark & Betty Peters - - Central Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2019

Gary Buerk – Northwest Region
 Jim Schmitt – Central Region
 Norma Niinemets – Southwest Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2021

Gerri Nichols – West Region
 Peggy Kenney – Southwest Region
 Wayne Kirsch – Southwest Region

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES – 2023

To be announced at the conference

OCTA LIFETIME MEMBERS

+ denotes deceased

Emory & Janet Michel +
 John & Patricia Shannon
 Bob & Judy Slater +
 Eleanor Smith +
 Marty & Cathy Williams
 Michael Schacherbauer +

Member Theatres & Listed Delegates by Region as of August 13, 2023

Only delegates listed have the right to represent or vote for a member theatre. Proxy votes are not allowed per our Code of Regulations. ** Denotes Founding Member Theaters

Central Region	Delegate	Alternate Delegate
Alcove Theatre	Kate Ernsberger	Bruce Jacklin
Curtain Players, Inc.	Kathy Hyland	Heather Schultz
Licking County Players, Inc.	Eugene Haney	
Little Theatre Off Broadway	Kate Charlesworth-Miller	Lisa Napier-Garcia
Millersport Community Theatre	Johanna Whetstone-Leuvoy	Ethan Mauger
Mt. Vernon Players, Inc.	Tammy Souhrada	Julia Manning
MTVArts, Inc.	Susan Moreland	Bruce Jacklin
Out of the Box	Lee Ninde	CJ Jamison
The Lancaster Playhouse	Mike Bruce	Mary Ann Boone
Victoria Players Children's Theatre	Jill Henwood	Andy Todd
Worthington Community Theatre	Jessica Schollenberger	Amanda Harshbarger

East Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
Carnation City Players	Joan Conlon	Kim Lewis
**Coshocton Footlight Players	Nathan Mayse	Shane Pyle
Little Theatre of Tuscarawas Co	Lisa Sommers	Bart Herman
Wayne Co Performing Arts Council	Jenny Karger	
Zane Trace Players	Susan Barzda	Christy Rahrig
Zanesville Community Theatre	Susan Barzda	Sheryl Wise

North Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
Bellevue Society for the Arts	Brad Rowe	Keith Robinson
**Bucyrus Little Theatre	Jason Chandler	
Caryl Crane Youth Theatre	Brian Marshall	Dr. Lilly Shaffer
Fremont Community Theatre	TJ McKee	
Mansfield Playhouse	<i>No Delegate Listed</i>	
Olde Towne Hall Theatre Inc.	Deb Wentz	Sharon Godsey
Playmakers Civic Theatre	Millie Butts	Sylvia Chappell
**Harlequins Coach House Theatre	Donna Jean Evans	
The Ritz Players	Laura Warren	Mike Steyer

Northeast Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
Aurora Community Theatre	Theresa Benyo-Marzullo	Craig Kollai
Broadview Heights Spotlights	Tim Anderson	Brenton Cochran
Chagrin Valley Little Theatre	Cory Marowitz	Jen Monfort
Dynamics Community Theatre	Leah McConnell	Patricia Stupi
Hudson Players Guild Inc.	Dan Gerbracht	Michelle Dolciato
Medina County Show Biz Company		Jen Dove
Stow Players	Le Ann Covey	David Sherman
The Dover Players	Mark Little	Gregory Lavelle
Theatre 8:15	Dawna Kornick	Dan Gerbracht
Trumbull New Theatre	Melanie Lucas	
Twin Masks Performing Arts Center	Claudia Lillibridge	

Northwest Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
3B Productions	Jesse Bernal	Joe Barton
Actors Collaborative Toledo	Jeffrey Albright	
Archbold Community Theatre Inc.	Teresa Van Sickle	Jan Delaney
Black Swamp Players	Leah Truman	Heath Diehl
Children's Theatre Workshop	Evan James Copeland	
Fort Defiance Players	Rob Barnett	
Fort Findlay Playhouse		Vickie Garner
Maumee Valley Civic Theatre	Jeffrey Tonjes	Amanda Tonjes
Oregon Community Theatre	Beth Giller	Tim Yard
Ram Drama Team	Mary Brucker	Jennifer Hess
The Village Players of Toledo	Evan James Copeland	David Nelms
**Toledo Repertoire Theatre	Benjamin Jameson	Bonnie Herrmann
Van Wert Civic Theatre	Trent Gossett	Ed Eichler
Waterville Playshop	Shannon Ruhe	Joe Barton
Williams Co Community Theatre	Mary Beth Snider	

Southeast Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
Actors Guild of Parkersburg	Jane Mancini	David Rexroad
Apple City Players	Allyson Aldridge	
Chillicothe Civic Theatre	Mike Ziogas	John Manasco
Mid-Ohio Valley Players	Nathan Maciag	
**Ohio Valley Summer Theatre	<i>No Delegate Listed</i>	
Ohio Valley Theater Group	Jessica Price	Kaitlyn King-Moore
River City Players	Janis Carnahan	Celia McCoy
Roundtown Players	<i>No Delegate Listed</i>	

Southwest Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
Acting Up	Laura Peebles	Alicia Farbstein
Beechmont Players Inc.	Tim Rogers	Maggie Ingram King
Cincinnati Music Theatre	Kendra Struthers	Peter Merten
Fairfield Footlighters	Melissa Noll	Kevin Noll
Footlighters Inc.	Peggy Kenney	Robert Weidle
Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre	Jane Winkler	
Innovatheatre	Denise Schnieders	Richard Lee Waldeck
Loveland Stage Company	Carissa Sloan	John Sloan
Mariemont Players, Inc.	Arny Stoller	
Mason Community Players Inc.	Gail Rudolph	Lara Gonzalez
Merit Theatre Company	Kaitlyn Iocco	Benjamin Iocco
Queen City Productions	Kevin Dunaway	Lisa Dunaway
Sunset Players Inc.	John Wesseling	Amelia Burke
The Centerstage Players Inc.	Jane Culp	Trisha Cooper
The Drama Workshop	Ray Lebowski	Kevin Noll
Tri-County Players Inc	Nancy Hughes	Judy Berrens
Village Players of Ft. Thomas	Dan Maloney	Wayne Kirsch

West Region	Delegates	Alternate Delegate
Amil Tellers of Dramatics Inc.	Karen Finn	Diane Finn
Beavercreek Community Theatre	John Falkenbach	Doug Lloyd
Dayton Theatre Guild	Debra Kent	
Preble Players	Lisa Marling	Michele Thomas
Sock & Buskin Community Theatre	Christi Thomas	Franklin Streb
**Springfield Civic Theatre	Steve Schlather	Suzanne Grote
Towne & Country Players Inc.	Ron Asman	
Troy Civic Theatre, Inc.	Sonja Hyer	Nicole Amersdorfer
Wapakoneta Theatre Guild Inc.		Jerry Pitchford
Windmill Productions	Chris Tillman	Linda MacGillivray

OHIO COMMUNITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION PAST ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS - 1953 – 2023

+ denotes deceased

? – 87 Jan Michael +
87-93 Pat Shannon
93-06 Eleanor Smith +

06-08 Joyce Leahy
08-12 Eleanor Smith
12-Present Aara Wise

PAST PRESIDENTS - 1953 – 2023

+ denotes deceased

Temp 5/1953 -
Dorman Richardson +
9/1953 - Dorman Richardson +
1954 - Donald Kleckner +
1955 - Donald Kleckner +
1956 - Emory B Michel +
1957 - Emory B Michel +
1958 - Roy Hall +
1959 - Roy Bowen +
1960 - William Allman +
1961 - Richard Boyd +
1962 - Jak Barrow +
1963 - Reuben Silver +
1964 - Reuben Silver +
1965 - Harold Eisenstein +
1966 - Harold Eisenstein +
1967 - Jean Barger +
1968 - Jean Barger +
1969 - Jean Barger+
1970 - Donald Rosenberg +
1971 - Robert McKnight +
1972 - Eleanor Heyman +
1973 - Art Rouse +
1974 - Syd Spate +
1975 - Cecil Goldsmith +
1976 - Cecil Goldsmith +
1977 - Jack Paullus +
1978 - Jack Paullus +
1979 - Bruce Scranton
1980 - Suzanne Annis
1981 - Gail Anderson +
1982 - Gail Anderson +
1983 - Pam Scheer
1984 - Pam Scheer
1985 - Allyn Barnes +
1986 - Allyn Barnes +
1987 - Michael Schacherbauer +

1988 - Michael Schacherbauer +
1989 - Bob Beasley
1990 - Bob Beasley
1991 - Michael Schacherbauer +
1992 - Jerry Zimmerman
1993 - Jerry Zimmerman
1994 - Shari Hartsock (Ewing)
1995 - Lisa Billing
1996 - Lisa Billing
1997 - Michael Schacherbauer +
1998 - Jerry Zimmerman
1999 - Ginny Morrison
2000 - Ginny Morrison
2001 - Jerry Zimmerman
2002 - Jerry Zimmerman
2003 - Christi Thomas
2004 - Christi Thomas
2005 - Susan Metz (Foster) Guthrie
2006 - Jerry Zimmerman
2007 - Jerry Zimmerman
2008 - Ginny Morrison
2009 - Ginny Morrison
2010 - Ginny Morrison
2011 - Ginny Morrison
2012 - Joe Barton
2013 - Joe Barton
2014 - John Falkenbach
2015 - Dawna Kornick
2016 - Dawna Kornick
2017 - Jesse Bernal
2018 - Joe Barton
2019 - Joe Barton
2020 - Joe Barton
2021 - Joe Barton
2022 - Jesse Bernal
2023 - Wayne Kirsch