

usitt

# Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

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### Building the USITT-USA Exhibits

Brick by brick, the exhibits that will represent the USITT and the United States at the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space take shape. [more »](#)



### Vote in 2011 Elections, Nominate for 2012

Even while voting is underway in the 2011 elections, nominations are being collected for the 2012 Board of Directors. [more »](#)



### Who ARE USITT's Fellows?

The august group known as USITT's Fellows do much more than just wear red ribbons. [more »](#)



### Fellowship Deadline Approaching

The USITT Fellowship program has provided support for investigation and scholarly research. Consider submitting an application for the current round of funding. [more »](#)



### A Cup of Joe

The Development Committee asks members to consider supporting Institute programming with a simple calculation. [more »](#)



### In Memoriam

Irene Corey [more »](#)



### News From USITT's President

An active time for USITT's Directors, and a time to give back. [more »](#)



### News From USITT's Executive Director

Whatever the choice, voting is an important way to stay involved. [more »](#)



### Costume Commission Plans Sessions

Professional Development Workshops are only part of the Costume Design & Technology offerings in Charlotte. [more »](#)



### Technical Production Programming

What is Kinematics? Want to be your own fire marshal? Tech Production will offer a wide range of programming in 2011. [more »](#)



### Stage Expo Filling Up

March may be months away, but exhibitors are already planning to be a major part of Stage Expo in Charlotte. [more »](#)

### 2011: What's Next ...

Annual Conference & Stage Expo with a special focus on sustainability

**March 9-12**  
Charlotte, North Carolina



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### JobsUSITT

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Find an employee

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### Employment Service Returns

After a one year hiatus, the Conference Employment Service will again be offered as part of the Annual Conference in Charlotte. [more >](#)



### The Last Word

Consider how hosting an international guest artist could help local programs. [more >](#)

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#### NEWS FROM: SUSTAINING MEMBERS

- Checkers Offers Traction Kits, Protectors
- Stage Technologies Launches CH:i
- Sapsis Announces New Rescue System.
- SILV Plans Summer Session

#### NEWS FROM: REGIONAL SECTIONS

- **Southern California:** Fourth Annual Event Planned
- **Southwest:** Symposium Slated
- **Desert State:** Student Awards Offered, Accomplishments Reviewed
- **Midwest:** Community Theatre Hosts Midwest Event

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## News &amp; Notices

**Building PQ Exhibit Brick by Brick****Michael Monsos** *USITT Prague Quadrennial Committee*

Construction on the USITT–USA exhibits for the Prague Quadrennial has started at the University of Montana. While most of the construction on the National Exhibit is complete, the texturing and painting of the roughly 16,235 faux bricks to cover both the interior and exterior facades of the garage-like space designed by William Bloodgood are keeping the students busy and at times a little loopy. The occasional weariness at repetitive tasks always seems to vanish as the students realize the incredible excitement in both the design and the project.

After spending the summer building the scenery for the National Tour of the Montana Repertory Theatre's production of *Bus Stop*, the crew usually takes a few days off. But this year some of the students spent the break in a planning meeting with some of the outstanding faculty and professionals associated with the USITT-USA exhibits. It was at those meetings that the students realized they would have the opportunity to work on something very exciting, with professionals from across the country, and to be part of a project that would elevate their skills and experience to a higher level.

It was also the uniqueness of the project that invigorated them. The University of Montana constructs national tours every year, but not to



BFA senior Doug Dion welds the truss.



From left, students Johanna Josephian, Ryan Luwe, Trevor Muller-Hegel, and Shy Iverson.



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Europe, and not a show that represents the entire country. The students are always challenged to build to a high quality product, recognizable from any angle or distance; however, the USITT-USA PQ 2011 exhibit can be touched, inspected, and evaluated by thousands of people. That's a new twist.

BFA Senior Doug Dion reduced his credit load to two classes so he could serve as lead carpenter on the National Exhibit, and to (so far) construct the Student Exhibit single-handedly. Johanna Josephian stayed in Missoula after graduating last spring to oversee all the painting and the model repair, and to build the exhibits. Shy Iverson (sophomore BFA), Trevor Muller-Hegel (junior BFA), Karl Mitchell (senior BFA), Pamela Hickey (third year MFA), and Ryan Luwe, (who is not even in the design/tech program but can build as if he were), are all coming to the shop each and every day this semester. The enthusiasm and energy from the students is what makes this project gratifying.

Exhibits Projects Manager Mike Monsos recalled, "In 2003, when I first made the case for The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance to be the host site for the construction of the exhibits, I had no idea where our program would be or what caliber students we would have in 2011. But I knew we had the facilities and the commitment from our program, and I believed in what we would be able to build. I can't tell you how proud I am that the students have more than done their part. It is, in fact, why we teach – so that our students, when challenged, can step up to and surpass whatever obstacles there may be."

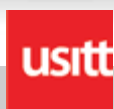
So even though all those bricks were cut out by hand, and are being textured in what must certainly be the slowest process on earth, the students keep coming, and they keep smiling – with or without donuts.



Some of the bricks.

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## Vote for 2011, Then Nominate for 2012

**Sylvia Hillyard Pannell** *Past President*



With the 2011 election voting process underway, it is time to choose a favorite candidate and participate in the process of [selecting USITT's future leaders](#).

USITT members are encouraged to nominate candidates for the 2012 Board of Directors election slate. [Nomination forms are available here](#). Member participation in the nomination of candidates for the USITT 2012 Board of Directors slate will guide and inform the Nominations Committee in selecting effective future leadership. Members are encouraged to consider self-nomination if interested in serving on the USITT Board of Directors.

Nominations are open for the following 2012 Board of Director positions : Treasurer; Vice-President for Communication; Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters; Vice-President for Programming; Vice-President Special Operations; and six Directors.

- **Treasurer** - The Treasurer shall serve on the Board of Directors and shall provide oversight of all assets of the Corporation. He/she shall ensure appropriate financial reports are provided to the Board.
- **Vice-President for Communication** - The Vice-President for Communications is responsible for all publications for the Institute.



- **Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters** - The Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters shall be the officer responsible for the areas of membership, member services, general coordination of regional sections, and student chapters.
- **Vice-President for Programming** - The Vice-President for Programming is responsible for programs at the Annual Conference & Stage Expo and such other major activities that occur at the Annual Conference & Stage Expo.
- **Vice-President Special Operations** - The Vice-President for Special Operations is responsible for Design Expo, Tech Expo, and other special exhibitions at the Annual Conference & Stage Expo.
- **Directors** - Six elected each year for a total of 18 Directors.

[Click here to complete the 2012 Election Nomination Form.](#) Once completed nomination forms are collected, the committee will develop the 2012 USITT Board of Directors Election slate. The slate will be presented to, and voted on, by the membership.

To allow time for complete review by the Nominations Committee, nominations may be made at any time, but completed forms must be received no later than March 1, 2011.

Direct questions or concerns to Patricia Dennis, Nominations Committee Chair.

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News &amp; Notices

## Uncloaking the Mystery of the Fellows

Tim Kelly *USITT Fellow*

Current USITT Fellows gathered during the 2010 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Kansas City in March 2010.

Photo/ Tom Thatcher

Who are those USITT members with the mysterious handshake – wink – nods, who wear swell golden medallions fastened round their necks on a red ribbon? Their Conference badge indicates they're Fellows. And so, beyond "Jolly Good," just what *is* a Fellow and why would one want to be so known?

As in any anomalous phenomena such as the Bermuda Triangle, aliens, unidentified objects, supernatural orbs, or life after death, demystification comes with understanding. When the arcane rock is overturned, well-known Fellows "scurry" out: professors, industry contacts, institutional leaders, authors, and artisans, all long-time active USITT members. The opportunity to meet these Fellows will present itself at the 51st Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Charlotte where they will host the new **Fellows Network Nexus Area**. This informal setting, next to the USITT Booth, will be an area where Fellows and all members may sit to discuss topics of interest.

### Who are the USITT Fellows?

The honorary designation of Fellow of the Institute is bestowed for life upon



those members who have made a truly outstanding contribution to the theatre and the work of the Institute. Being named a Fellow is one of the most prestigious honors a member can achieve.

### How many Fellows are there?

There are currently 74 active Fellows. A maximum of 2.5 percent of the Institute's membership can be Fellows. A Fellow may be named only when there is a vacancy to reach that percentage.

### How does someone become a Fellow?

There are no applications for membership. Only Fellows may nominate, through a proscribed process, an individual member as a prospective candidate. An established annual voting procedure is followed in selecting any new Fellows.

### What do the Fellows do for USITT?

The mission of the Fellows is to work together as peers supporting the Institute in its advancement, fundraising, and outreach efforts. Fellows will work to be agents of change and ambassadors without portfolio on behalf of the USITT and the Industry at large.

- To lead by example in professionalism, ethics, advancement, fundraising, and communication.
- To promote Fellows outreach and proactive work within and on behalf of the Institute.
- To act as ambassadors without portfolio on behalf of the Institute in both the non-profit and commercial sectors of our industry.
- To provide Institutional memory for the organization and the industry.
- To provide wise advice and counsel for emerging and current leadership.
- To promote communication, openness, and transparency among Fellows, USITT members, and Institute leadership in all of the Institute's proceedings.
- To be agents of change on behalf of the best interests of the USITT.
- To promote best practices of USITT as a membership-based organization within contemporary society.
- To identify achievement within the organization and profession and to reward excellent achievement with admission to the Fellows.

### What can a Fellow do for me?

To become a Fellow one must demonstrate significant contributions to the Institute and industry; therefore, they are an incredible resource for information and or mentoring when requested.



## How can I contact a Fellow?

Do not be reluctant to contact a Fellow; if one doesn't have the answer to your inquiry, he/she will put you in touch with another Fellow who can assist you. The USITT directory has a complete listing of all active Fellows. By cross referencing a Fellow's name from the list with the Individual Members listings, you can find phone and e-mail contact information.

The Fellows have achieved that rank through many years of exceptional participation in various aspects of USITT and the entertainment business. There are many Fellows who are actively employed practitioners: buying, selling, teaching, designing, manufacturing, and managing many enterprises in and about the industry. There are also some Fellows who are "retired" but that has come to mean *even more active* than when they held a position in a commercial enterprise or educational institution. To USITT, the Fellows are members who have been deemed leaders in their craft or field and are an indispensable resource in continuing the work of the Institute.

Join the informal conversations that will take place in the **Fellows Network Nexus Area**. Mentoring for younger members can be established; discussions on the inner workings of the Institute are welcomed; networking with the Fellows can produce valuable contacts. You'll soon learn the Fellows are not an ancient sect that admits candidates by secret rituals the meaning of which is known only to initiated worshipers. Oh, we might know a few of the secrets, but you won't ever learn the answers unless you *ask a Fellow*.

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## News &amp; Notices

## Fellowships Available to Members

**Rich Dunham** *Co-Chair, Grants & Fellowship Committee*



Robert Gerlach and his wife, Kim, were on hand at the 2003 Stage Expo in Minneapolis demonstrating his project results from funding provided via USITT's Grants & Fellowship program.

Photo/Courtesy Robert Gerlach

One benefit USITT offers members is funding for projects that support research in a broad variety of areas within the entertainment industry. Project grants are offered in even years, and fellowship support is available in odd-numbered years.

The application deadline for the 2011-12 Fellowship Awards is January 10, 2011. [Information on the process and applications are available here.](#)

Support for fellowships and grants is in keeping with one of the fundamental missions of the Institute: to develop and disseminate technological knowledge or innovations and promote research within the profession. Through the



financial commitments of trail-blazers like Edward Kook and many individuals and corporations, plus additional support from USITT's operating budget, funds have been designated to continue this important work.

Once applications are received, the Grants & Fellowship Committee reviews them and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors for final action. Fellowship awards are usually related to funding that an individual or team will use to complete research on a specific area of interest within the design/technology fields of the entertainment industry.

The money USITT makes available for these awards is significant, and has been as much as \$10,000 for a major undertaking. In many cases, this is enough to provide sole funding adequate for completing a grant or fellowship project.

Typically, the committee recommends several different projects for support each year. USITT awards also have proven valuable in providing the seed funding that allows recipients to find matching funds from other areas. This year, USITT has awarded nearly \$20,000 in a variety of grants.

In return, a significant requirement award recipients must fulfill is to complete the projects/research within the designated time frame of the grant, and sharing the results with the membership and industry.

This is done through presentations at the Annual Conference, or Stage Expo, or through articles published in TD&T. Those with questions can contact either Tim Kelly (tkellyoffstage@gmail.com) or Rich Dunham (rdunham@uga.edu) about the fellowships or application process.

“ I am deeply grateful for the financial support of USITT which has allowed me the opportunity to interview ten mask makers in Nigeria, one mask museum curator in Malawi specializing in Nyau secret society masks, and five mask makers in Mexico. USITT supported approximately one third of the 45 interviews I've conducted. Part of this endeavor was supported with a \$7,000 USITT grant and a \$4,000 USITT fellowship. (As a result of USITT's faith in my project, my university consequently provided another \$2,000.) ”

**Deborah Bell**  
*University of North Carolina, Greensboro*

“ The opportunity to travel and exchange ideas with lighting designers from around the world has not only give depth to my understanding of how lighting design is understood around the world, but it has given lighting designers from many regions of the world a chance to express themselves. ”

**Michael Ramsaur**  
*Stanford University*

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### [Member Author Program](#)

Members who have had (or will have) a book published in 2010 are encouraged to participate in the Member Author Program. Books in this program are sold at the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo as well as through USITT's bookstore for one year. Additionally, authors are invited to be part of a book signing during the conference. Send title and publisher to [info@office.usitt.org](mailto:info@office.usitt.org) to be included in this great member benefit.

### [Need Conference Catering?](#)

USITT offers a wide variety of food and beverages for all types of events at the 2011 Annual Conference & Stage Expo. Catered functions are easy to arrange; just contact Tracy Davis at the USITT office at 800-938-7488, extension 105, or e-mail [tracy@office.usitt.org](mailto:tracy@office.usitt.org). She will provide menus and coordinate catering orders with Conference hotels and the Charlotte Convention Center.

### [FCC Frees Up Vacant Airwaves](#)

The Federal Communications Commission recently took steps to free up vacant airwaves between TV channels -- called "white spaces" -- to unleash a host of new technologies such as "super Wi-Fi." [Click here for a complete copy of the "Second Memorandum Opinion and Order."](#)





This is the first significant block of spectrum made available for unlicensed use in more than 20 years. TV white space spectrum is considered prime real estate because its signals travel well making it ideally suited for mobile wireless devices. It also requires wireless microphone users who seek to register in the TV bands databases to certify that they will use all available channels from 7 through 51 prior to requesting registration. Requests to register in the database will be public, thus allowing interested parties to weigh in on any given request.

For further information, contact Hugh L. Van Tuyl (202-418-7506; [hugh.vantuyl@fcc.gov](mailto:hugh.vantuyl@fcc.gov)), or Alan Stillwell (202-418-2470; [alan.stillwell@fcc.gov](mailto:alan.stillwell@fcc.gov)).

## December 7 Deadline for Student Travel Award

Student International Travel Award applications are due December 7 for the award period of March 2011 to March 2012.

Eligible projects may be developed from a wide variety of theatre topics, and priority will be given to PQ-based projects this year. One award winner will be selected, and the award will be presented at the Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Charlotte, North Carolina in March (Attendance required to receive the award). [Click here for more information.](#)

The USITT Student International Travel Award offers biennial support to students seeking funding for theatre design, technology, and research related international travel. The award amount, \$1,000, is supported by the Samuel H. Scripps International Fund, and is available through the USITT International Committee.

## App Revenues Support Those in Crisis

When ETC developed the iRFR application -- which turns any iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch into a remote controller for ETC lighting consoles -- the intent was to provide convenient and affordable facility-wide lighting control to venues around the world. The iRFR has accomplished much more than that. All the proceeds from purchases of the iRFR app are donated to Behind the Scenes and Light Relief, organizations that provide emergency funds to entertainment-technology industry professionals dealing with illness or injury.

In the year and a half since it became available, the iRFR app has raised almost \$35,000 for Behind the Scenes and Light Relief.

The iRFR app -- available for purchase from the iTunes store -- duplicates the functionality of an ETCNet3 Radio Focus Remote. It is compatible with both the Eos and Congo families of control, and requires no special hardware or factory-coding.

To learn more about Behind the Scenes and Light Relief, or to apply for a grant, visit [www.estafoundation.org](http://www.estafoundation.org) or [www.lightrelief.org.uk](http://www.lightrelief.org.uk).

## Rock Our World Winners Announced

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The third annual Rock Our World Awards were presented at ESTA's annual dinner on October 21, the evening before the LDI show.

The winners were: Total Structures for the RSC Lightlock; Theatre Projects Consultants for the Dee and Charles Wily Theatre Carallon; and J.R. Clancy, Electronic Theatre Controls, and Mike Wood Consulting for the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House Chandelier.

These awards -- which recognize groundbreaking achievement by ESTA members in new products, product applications, or projects -- were created to acknowledge the genius of both the creator of technology and the designer or integrator who applies the technology in a real world environment.

Almost 30 nominations were received from across the industry which were narrowed down to a shortlist of 12 finalists for the panel of judges to review. The judges for this year's awards were Seth Jackson, Tom McPhillips, Bill Sapsis, Brad Schiller, and Jim Tetlow chaired by Mike Wood.

Congratulations to all winners! Now it's time to keep an eye out for what rocks your world in the coming year. Nominations will open next spring.

## Architecture Competition Documents Due

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The deadline for application documents for the "Ideal" Theatre Student Design Competition, USITT's Student Architecture competition, documents are due December 22. [Click here for complete competition rules and schedule.](#)

## Get Out and Vote!

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USITT members (current members as of noon, Eastern Standard Time on November 8, 2010) were sent an e-mail that included an hyperlink to the voting site. A URL to the web site and a registration code was also included.

The initial e-mail was sent on November 15, subsequent reminder e-mails will be sent on: December 1, 2010; December 15, 2010; and January 3, 2011.

Paper ballots were distributed to members that prefer not to receive e-mail. Voting will close on January 5, 2011, midnight EST. For more information, contact Shannan Hoerger at 800-938-7488 or 315-463-6463 ext 101.

## Volunteers Recognized at Event

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ESTA (Entertainment Services and Technology Association) presented the 2010 Frank Stewart Volunteer of the Year Award to Scott Blair and Eric Johnson for organizing the ESTA Control Protocols Plugfests and to Peter Willis for his work on the ESTA Connectivity Pavilion.

Mr. Johnson was among those who, in addition to helping the Control Protocols Working Group create standards documents, provided management of the

Control Protocols Plugfest. The event provided the industry with a commercial-free certification zone so members could test products using communications standards.

The award was presented at ESTA's annual dinner October 21.

The Frank Stewart award was created to honor Mr. Stewart's unrivaled service to ESTA during the 18 years he served as treasurer. This award recognizes extraordinary effort by a volunteer or group of volunteers during the previous year.

## Consider Prague Tour in 2011

USITT is planning to offer a Study Tour in 2011 centered around the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design & Space. This will be offered in place of the more time-intensive 2011 Study Tour to both Turkey and Prague, which will not be held.

Details of the PQ Study Tour are still under development, and will be highlighted on the USITT website at [www.usitt.org/StudyTours.aspx](http://www.usitt.org/StudyTours.aspx). Plans are to offer a more affordable price and include airfare from the United States, hotel accommodations near the PQ exhibitions, and access to the city's most historic sites.

Tours of places like the "New Town," the "Old Town," Prague Castle, the old Jewish Quarter, and the Museum of Decorative Arts are being considered. A day trip to Cesky Krumlov to see the Castle and its remarkable baroque theatre may also be included. The Castle Theatre in Cesky Krumlov is among the most well-preserved historical sites of its kind in the world.

The tour will include the exclusive pre-opening PQ party on June 15 and include time for many 2011 Prague Quadrennial events. Marianne Custer will continue as tour leader.

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## For the Price of a Cup of Joe...

**Dennis Dorn** *USITT Development Chair*

USITT Development plans are actively underway. Last month, two committees were formed and members of those committees are discussing long-range plans. In the meantime, two new programs are underway or in development and both will appear shortly.



*Buy USITT a cup of joe* is the name of the first initiative. The aim is to help develop a culture of giving among present and future members of USITT. Many are either not able to, or at this point willing, to write that annual check. These same people might be inclined to give in smaller amounts that might little affect their daily routines. So many of us start the day with a cup of coffee, or perhaps some other shot of caffeine. The 'cup of joe' campaign message is that, by skipping one or two days of coffee purchases and donating that money to USITT, members could have a significantly positive impact toward the benefits provided by USITT and the organization's long-range financial security.

Members of the Board were shown the campaign flyer in Las Vegas, Nevada and more than a third immediately signed up. Other Board members indicated they'd like to continue their annual giving, one of the major features of the USITT@50 campaign, as their way of supporting USITT. The goal is to gain commitments of one kind or the other from the entire Board, followed by as many USITT members as possible.

The second campaign currently in progress is to follow up with those individuals who were USITT@50 participants. The *Continuing My Support* campaign offers participants the options of either monthly or annual donations for periods of time ranging from one to five years. Previous participants will receive letters and this campaign will be available on both the website and through an e-mail announcement.

Each member's willingness to contribute financially demonstrates to all the commitment to making USITT part of the future by providing further opportunity for present and future generations to learn and network. Remember, if USITT has been part of your past, help make USITT part of the future.



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## News &amp; Notices

## In Memoriam: Irene Lockridge Corey

Compiled by **Sylvia Hillyard Pannell**

Irene Lockridge Corey died October 13 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. She was 84. A pioneer in the field of theatrical make-up and design, she earned two degrees from Baylor University: a bachelor's degree in 1947 and a master's in 1949.

After teaching art at Baylor, she was chair of the art department at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky, which later gave her an honorary doctorate.

Together with her husband, Orlin Corey, she produced more than 50 theatrical productions including *The Book of Job*, which was produced off Broadway and around the world and was a summer attraction in Pine Mountain State Park in Kentucky for 20 years. A co-founder of the Everyman Players touring company, she designed productions for Centenary College's theatre department and for productions across the globe.

After moving to Dallas in the 1970s, Ms. Corey worked with Peter Wolf Design Concepts, and in 1983 she co-founded Irene Corey Design Associates with her niece, Suzanne Lockridge, where she helped create the designs for Barney, the Wiggles, and numerous other iconic characters. She wrote two seminal textbooks on make-up and theatrical design, and she taught at colleges in the United States, Europe, and South Africa.

Her numerous honors include lifetime achievement awards from the Children's Theatre Foundation of America and USITT, and she was accepted into the National Museum of Women in Art in Washington, D.C.

In 2007, when Ms. Corey was the recipient of the USITT Award, her work was the subject of a Special Exhibit. At that time, Sylvia Hillyard Pannell, then-President noted "The USITT Award, the highest honor given by USITT, recognizing a lifetime contribution to the performing arts community was presented to Irene Corey for her peerless theatrical costume and make-up



designs and her work as a fine artist. She astonished the theatrical design world with her creativity which history now shows to have established artistic trends that are the antecedent of design styles that strike us as startlingly original today.”

Joy S. Emery, a USITT Fellow, recalled “One of Irene’s favorite books was *The Courage to Create* by Rollo May. It always struck me as the central mantra of her life. Her creative spirit was expressed in her exciting costume designs, expressive make-up creations, and her luminous water colors. Her garden was a delightful oasis of colors, scents, and textures. She was always challenging herself and learning. Irene has shared with and inspired students and practitioners with her books, *The Mask of Reality*, and *The Face is a Canvas*. Her giving and creative spirit will endure.”

Preceded in death by her second husband, John Barr, she is survived by one niece, one nephew, one great-nephew, one great-great niece, her first husband, and numerous friends and former students.

We know that she will live on in her art, her creations, and the countless students she influenced throughout the years.

A memorial service was scheduled for Sunday, November 28 at 2 p.m.. at the First Presbyterian Church, 408 Park Ave. Dallas, Texas. A reception was scheduled to follow at the home of Marilee Polakoff and Susan Cox also in Dallas, Texas.

Memorial donations in her honor may be made to the Irene Corey Memorial Fund at Arizona State University, for the digitization of Ms. Corey’s personal papers, which include her lectures and theatrical design work. Gifts may be sent to the ASU Foundation, P.O. Box 2260, Tempe, AZ 85280-2260 or may be made online at [www.asufoundation.org/corey](http://www.asufoundation.org/corey).

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The Last Word:

## Noh Experience Available in U.S.

**Shan R. Ayers, MFA**

*Education Commission*

*International Committee Liaison*

*Berea College*

In my role as the Education Commission's liaison to the International Committee, I assist in keeping a list of international educators who are in the States and who are willing to do workshops.

In my travels to Japan this past summer, I was informed of the residence of a Noh master from the Kanse School of Noh in Kyoto. Tsuyoshi Asano is currently in residence at the University of Kentucky and is offering workshops throughout the state as his schedule

allows. On October 29, Asano Sensei led a workshop at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky, hosted by the Berea College Theatre, the Berea College Asian Studies program, and the Department of Foreign Languages. In this workshop, attendees were shown the basic posture of the Noh dancer and informed how music, dance, individual performers, and the chorus of shites (leading actors) all collaborate to create a unified and cohesive experience. As a bonus, Asano Sensei dressed a young male student as a leading woman, similar to a character from the Noh play, *Izutsu*.

Later this year, a company of performers from the Kanse School of Noh in Kyoto will be on tour in the United States. There are a few dates available if anyone is interested in booking this company for a full Noh production. Interested parties can contact Dr. Michael Rich, professor of Japanese Language and Culture at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky,





[michael\\_rich@georgetowncollege.edu](mailto:michael_rich@georgetowncollege.edu), for more information, fees, and available dates.

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### Sapsis Receives ESTA's Highest Honor

ESTA (the Entertainment Services and Technology Association) presented the 2010 Eva Swan Award to Bill Sapsis for his dedicated volunteerism and the exceptional impact his efforts have had on the association, The ESTA Foundation, and the industry.

The award was presented at ESTA's annual dinner October 21. Mr. Sapsis's accomplishments include being a founding member of the ETCP Council, Co-Chair of the Subject Matter Experts for the ETCP Rigging Certifications, Co-Chair of the Technical Standards Program Rigging Working Group, member of the Technical Standards Committee, member of The ESTA Foundation's Behind the Scenes Committee, and founder of the Long Reach Long Riders. He is also an author, teacher, and speaker acting as an ambassador on behalf of ESTA, ETCP, and Behind the Scenes around the world.



The Eva Swan Award is presented to a member who has put forth exceptional efforts in time, expertise, and personal resources on behalf of ESTA; been instrumental in shaping and promoting the strategic direction of the association; made major contributions to the realization of the mission, goals and objectives; and enhanced the value of membership for all.

### Member Releases New Book

Rich Dunham recently released new book. A former member of USITT's Board of Directors and Lighting Commissioner, he is well-known for his lighting design



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work.

The book, published by Pearson Education, is *Stage Lighting: Fundamentals and Applications*. This text was published August, 2010 and is available for purchase at [mypearsonstore.com](http://mypearsonstore.com) or for adoption in any Lighting Design course.

[Click here for more information](#). Contact Wendy Gordon, executive marketing manager, with any questions.

## An Amplification - Edward Kook

We received a very illuminating message from Dr. Joel E. Rubin, USITT Fellow and our second President, in response to Rich Dunham's article in the November issue.

"An article concerning USITT's Edward F. Kook Fund in the current *Sightlines* is in error in stating that Past-President Kook was one of USITT's Founders. He was not, but the story is actually more interesting than that.

Esteemed late member Kook (who served also as USITT's eighth President) was, at the time of USITT's founding, the behind the scenes string-puller in the "Board of Planning and Standards for the Living Theatre" which had Jo Mielziner as its chair and Henry Hewes as Executive Secretary. The Board was established within (ANTA) the American National Theatre and Academy's New York Chapter, and was set up to include many of the movers and shakers who would be involved with the design of theatre buildings. Kook considered USITT to be a threat to the Board's own agenda, and efforts of collaboration proffered by USITT were continuously rejected. For example, the Board of Standards and Planning for the Living Theatre was one of the invitees to the initial formation meetings of the Institute but declined to participate. Ben Schlanger, the first USITT Vice-President, and also a member of the Board, came under great pressure to limit his USITT affiliation.

In all fairness, Kook made some concessions to allow Chuck Levy and Sonny Sonnenfeld, both employees of Century Lighting, to be active in USITT and to sit on the USITT Board. Chuck was much beloved by all who knew him. He worked for Ed at Century Lighting and his job was to keep in contact with the Broadway electricians. Sonny Sonnenfeld, now perhaps the oldest living member of USITT and by common acclaim the industry's greatest salesperson, (and, a Founding Member of USITT), also served several distinguished terms on the USITT Board. Chuck and Sonny, to their credit, were never pawns in their USITT Board responsibilities.

It took Jo Mielziner to convince Ed to join USITT. That took place sometime after February of 1964 when Stanley McCandless was honored at the USITT Convention banquet and Kook and Mielziner attended. Kook told me later that he had been impressed that I, then an officer at Kliegl Lighting, had presided over a banquet for a retiring employee/consultant of Century Lighting. I suspect it was Mielziner who pointed out to Kook that there were 400 or so potential customers sitting in that banquet room.

Ed Kook's role in USITT after he joined (possibly, about 1968 just after he had sold Century Lighting to Lighting Corporation of America) was always principled and enthusiastic. He was a demon at getting things done, he rescued the Institute from financial disaster, promoted the idea of endowment funds, and participated actively until a short time before he passed away in 1990. He became a great mentor to many of us who were active in USITT."

We thank Dr. Rubin for his careful reading, and for sharing his knowledge with us.

## Liberace Museum Closes Doors

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After 31 years of operation, the Liberace Museum closed its doors October 17 to focus its monetary contributions on the Liberace Foundation. The closure was blamed on the economic downturn and the decline in the number of visitors.

The memorabilia at the Liberace Museum will be maintained. A national touring exhibit is planned, and details will be announced at a later time. The board will also continue to research options for a location change to make the museum more accessible to potential patrons.

## In Memoriam: Christopher Hofmann

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Christopher Hofmann, a current member of USITT at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois, died October 14. He was 46. Mr. Hofmann had attended the 50th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Kansas City, Missouri.

A long-time member of the Institute, he was a technical director and mentor. He was technical director at Cape Cod Community College in Massachusetts for many years.

He is survived by a wife and two children.

## In Memoriam: Oscar Brockett

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Theatre historian and scholar Oscar G. Brockett died November 8. He was 87. Dr. Brockett's many honors include the USITT Award in 2009 and the 2010 Golden Pen Award for *Making the Scene: A History of Stage Design and Technology in Europe and the United States* with co-authors Margaret A. Mitchell and Linda Hardberger.

Dr. Brockett's scholarship was outstanding, and he was considered by many to be the world's foremost theatre historian. His *History of the Theatre* is the top-ranked and highest-selling theatre history text of the 20th century. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Fulbright Award, was a Fellow of the American Theatre at the Kennedy Center, and was awarded multiple Career Achievement Awards from groups like the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, and the Texas Educational Theatre Association. [Click here to view his obituary.](#)

A more complete tribute will be included in future USITT publications.

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### ETC Introduces Pearl, Releases New Application

**Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)** introduced the Pearl luminaire as the newest member of its Selador Series LED line at LDI 2010. Pearl provides a carefully chosen mix of warm white and cool white LEDs that can be adjusted to output just the right color temperature of white light -- for the eye or the camera.



Developed at the request of video-lighting directors, Pearl units were used at press events in conjunction with this year's Emmy Awards.

For more information on Selador Pearl, go to [www.etcconnect.com/pearl](http://www.etcconnect.com/pearl).

ETC also released a new application – the iRFR Preview – a companion to ETC's standard iRFR application. Available now for free download from the Apple iTunes store, the iRFR Preview allows users to monitor active cue playback by connecting to an Eos, Ion, or Element lighting control console from an iPhone, iPad, or iPod.



To download the iRFR Preview application, search for Electronic Theatre Controls in the iTunes store.

### Daktronics Announces Rebranding of Vortek Division

Daktronics announced the rebranding of its Vortek rigging division to Daktronics. Daktronics Inc. has dominated the scoring and digital display industry for decades and acquired Hoffend & Sons, Inc. of Victor, New York in 2006 and rights to Vortek products. With that purchase, Daktronics expanded its product offering with sophisticated rigging systems for theatres, auditoriums, and arenas.





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Vortek's current website ([www.vortekrigging.com](http://www.vortekrigging.com)) will become [www.daktronics.com/rigging](http://www.daktronics.com/rigging). Vortek will remain as the product name for Daktronics hoists.

## Rose Brand Sponsors Career Seminar

The Prominent Women in the Arts Seminar, featuring Tony-nominated composer Jeanine Tesori was held November 16. The seminar, held at The Academy of the Holy Angels in Demarest, New Jersey was to build awareness of different career paths in the arts featuring women from all arts disciplines. **Rose Brand** was an event sponsor.

Featured speakers include, in addition to Ms Tesori, Melinda Geter, production manager at Rose Brand: Lisa Cline, director of project management at **PRG Scenic Technologies**; Laurie Cohen, operations director at Scenic Arts Studios; Jennifer Colombo, associate scenic designer at Eight Hands High.

## Wenger Offers Discounts

It's time to strike up the music because right now great discounts on the kinds of **Wenger** staging decks needed for the upcoming performance and competition season are available. In fact, the Versalite, Trouper, Stagehand, and Upper Deck staging systems are all on sale.

Wenger's buy more, save more deck discount is good from through December 15. Orders must ship before December 31. [Read more at www.wengercorp.com](http://www.wengercorp.com).

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### Checkers Offers Traction Kits, Protectors

**Checkers Industrial Products, Inc.** now offers optional traction kits for a large variety of its cable protectors. This is just one more safety benefit to their industry-leading line of cable protection products.



For increased traction, Fastlane Drop Over Cable Protectors are available with optional Velcro strips for use on carpet and/or anti-slip rubber pads for use on smooth surfaces. These interlocking cable protectors reduce trip hazards and can be extended to any length. For more information, visit [www.cableprotector.com](http://www.cableprotector.com).

### Stage Technologies Launches CH:i

**Stage Technologies** announced the launch of CH:i – ChainHoist Intelligence. This technology provides control of variable speed chainhoists even if they are integrated into a larger system with power flying winches, performer flying, deck tracks, and stage lifts. Fully compatible with all Stage Technologies control desks and touring automation systems, **CH:i** can be used on the road or in a permanent venue installation.



Also new to market from Stage Technologies is an enhancement to the popular Verlinde Stagemaker hoist. Stagemaker Max:d uses an onboard variable-speed drive system, providing an advanced feature set to include locked groups, “teach and learn,” and complex cueing actions.

For more information, contact [pr@stagetech.com](mailto:pr@stagetech.com) or visit [stagetech.com](http://stagetech.com).

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## Sapsis Announces New Rescue System.

In keeping with its leadership role in fall arrest equipment and technology, **Sapsis Rigging, Inc.** introduced the ProPlus Rescue System designed to work anywhere a fall hazard exists. The ProPlus Rescue System allows for the safe and rapid assisted rescue of a victim.



The system can be safely attached to a truss, beam, catwalk or grid, and can be deployed in less than a minute. It meets the requirements of OSHA regulations for assisted rescue.

For further information, visit [sapsis-rigging.com](http://sapsis-rigging.com)

## SILV Plans Summer Session

**Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas (SILV)** is hard at work making its 2011 summer program – its fifth season – the best yet.

In addition to the return of favorite sessions, next summer will see the addition of new topics including Automation, Patterning, and Projections & Video. For students who can't make it to Vegas for a full week, or for weekly students who want a little something extra, SILV announced a new series of weekend sessions in specialized topics. The weekend sessions include CAD Calculations, Photoshop for Theatre, Foam Carving, Stage Management, Gobo Color Magic, and Design Charette.



Students who sign up and pay in full before April 1 will get a special early bird discount on tuition and fees. Members of USITT, IATSE, USA, and IAAM receive the same savings, and the two discounts are combinable. Find out more at [stagecraftinstitute.com](http://stagecraftinstitute.com).

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News From **Joe Aldridge**, *USITT President*

## Successful Meetings, LDI Presence Appreciated



Wishing all a peaceful and enjoyable holiday season.

Photo/Joe Aldridge - Hawaii, 2010

The Board of Directors and committee meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada in October went very well. The Finance Committee met and began to work on a preliminary budget that will be presented prior to the Board meetings in Charlotte. The Publications Committee also met and began to work on plans for the upcoming year.

The full Board convened on October 22 at 1:30 p.m. with all of the Board members as well as a number of USITT members attending. It adjourned at 4:30 p.m. and reassembled on Saturday, October 23. For the first part of Saturday, the Board met with a special guest, USITT Attorney Holly Hoehner. This was the first opportunity for the majority of the Board (myself included) to meet Ms. Hoehner. On previous occasions we have had our accountants as guests, so it was fitting that Ms. Hoehner meet with the Board. In the hour allotted, she gave us the "Reader's Digest" version of the fiduciary responsibilities of not-for-profit board members, described her experience in this arena, and fielded questions from the Board. She is well versed in New York State law concerning not-for-profit organizations such as USITT, and provides us with the advice and guidance needed to make certain that we are in compliance. At the conclusion of the retreat, the Board meeting reconvened and



successfully completed all of the items on the agenda. Having been a member of the Board for some time now, I feel that the membership has once again selected a Board that is as strong and diverse as any Board in recent history. I look forward to continuing to work with each and every one of them.

USITT was well represented at LDI with an abbreviated, yet stunning booth. I want to thank the folks at SteelDeck for their generous assistance and support with the USITT booth. As do many of our members, Steel Deck went above and beyond the call in assisting at LDI. Also, thanks to the fine folks at James Thomas for allowing us to use their exhibit as a vantage point where photos could be taken.



As the Holiday Season approaches, I encourage you to take time to count your blessings. If you have the means to help any of our less fortunate members, do so. Don't do it because I encourage it; do it because it is the right thing to do.



**We'd like to hear your comments on this story.**  
Please e-mail Joe at [joe.aldridge@unlv.edu](mailto:joe.aldridge@unlv.edu).

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- **Midwest:** [Community Theatre Hosts Midwest Event »](#)

### Southern California: Fourth Annual Event Planned

The Southern California Regional Section presents the Fourth Annual Theatre Design and Production Job Fair Expo and Student Design Exhibit and Competition Saturday, January 22.

Members of the USITT Southern California Section (and those from neighboring Sections) are encouraged to save the date. The event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Ruth B. Shannon Center for the Performing Arts on the campus of Whittier College in Whittier, California.

Faculty and other theatre professionals, along with students, are welcome to attend at no charge. Potential employers and representatives from graduate and undergraduate programs are invited to participate in the job and career fair. Student designers, technicians, and stage managers for theatre and dance productions are encouraged to submit their work for the Richard Thompson Student Design and Production Exhibit and Competition.

For more information about the event, contact Section Co-Chairs Donna Parsons ([stagemama@aol.com](mailto:stagemama@aol.com)) or Jim Taylor ([jptaylor@pomona.edu](mailto:jptaylor@pomona.edu)). For information about the venue, contact Brian Reed ([breed@whittier.edu](mailto:breed@whittier.edu)).

### Southwest: Symposium Slated

The Southwest Regional Section's Winter Symposium will be held January 15 to 16 in San Antonio, Texas. San Antonio College will host the masterclasses, and tours of both the McNay Art Museum's Tobin Collection of Theatre Arts and SeaWorld San Antonio will be featured.

The Tobin Collection of Theatre Arts, which includes close to 9,500 objects, emphasizes scene and costume designs for European and American theatre from the 16th century to the present. Highlights include Baroque festivals, Shakespeare plays, the Ballets Russes, Broadway musicals, and contemporary



operas. The Tobin Collection includes the work of path-breaking designers from Edward Gordon Craig and Robert Edmond Jones to Ming Cho Lee and Ralph Koltai, as well as by artists in the theatre including Pablo Picasso, Natalia Gontcharova, Robert Indiana, and David Hockney.

SeaWorld San Antonio will host a day of backstage tours and discussions with department heads exploring the challenges of theme park entertainment. SeaWorld San Antonio is the largest of the SeaWorld parks, covering 250 acres.

Students are encouraged to enter the Student Design Competition and Exhibition, an adjudicated exhibit. Past prizes have included: USITT Conference registration and travel sponsored by Schuler-Shook; Cirque du Soleil show tickets; Fisher Technical one-week Navigator seminar; Meyer Sound Lab one-week audio seminar; Vari-Lite one-week moving lights seminar; SILV summer program tuition; and WYSIWYG Educational Version. There is a \$10 entry fee.

Masterclasses include Rock & Roll Lighting (design and programming), Casting and Molding for Costume Crafts and Props, Scene Painting: Wood Graining Techniques, a Costume Mixed Medium Rendering Class, and a Digital Scenic Rendering Class. Interviews and portfolio reviews with representatives from SeaWorld, Cirque du Soleil, and other regional vendors will also be featured.

Cost for the weekend is \$35 for Student Members and \$45 for Individual Members. Check [usitt-sw.org](http://usitt-sw.org) for updates.

## Desert State: Student Awards Offered, Accomplishments Reviewed

---

Attention all college students! Saturday, December 4 is the deadline for The Desert State Regional Section's Student Award Program. All entries are due to the committee or section board by that date.

This award program, sponsored by the national organization, assists three students from each section to attend the Annual USITT Conference & Stage Expo. The 2011 Conference will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina from March 9 to 12. The National organization provides free registration to the conference while the Desert State Section helps with travel expenses and pays for one year of national student-membership.

Specific requirements and award details will soon be on the website and distributed to all colleges and universities. For more information, contact one of the award committee members: Jill Maurer at [jmaur@wrldesign.com](mailto:jmaur@wrldesign.com), Jimmie Byrd at [jimmiebyrd@msn.com](mailto:jimmiebyrd@msn.com), or Ronald Thacker at [ronald.thacker@asu.edu](mailto:ronald.thacker@asu.edu).

The Desert State board held a board retreat at Northern Arizona University where it planned the calendar for the year and organized events. The year started with a student-focused workshop in Flagstaff. The morning session focused on portfolio reviews and applying for jobs while the afternoon session consisted of a hands-on, found object build project.

The Desert State board congratulated the Arizona State Thespian Festival on its 30th anniversary. This is an excellent event for high school students and several local vendors also participated.

David Grindle, Executive Director of the national organization, will be the keynote speaker at the Section's annual meeting January 17. The annual meeting committee is in conversation with local vendors about participating in the vendor fair and presenting workshops. [Check the website in December for workshop details and to register.](#)

## **Midwest: Community Theatre Hosts Midwest Event**

The Midwest Regional Section started its 2010-11 programming year in October with an event on the east side of Lake Michigan in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan. Jim Chervenka and the staff at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre (GRCT), one of the largest community theatres in the country, hosted an educational and interesting day of hands-on work.

The day included a make-up workshop presented by Dawn Butler; a demonstration of moving fixtures, LED fixtures, and accessories for convention fixtures by David Kolenda of John S. Hyatt & Associates, the opportunity work with five audio consoles with direction from sound designers from GRCT and Gus Gustafson of Corporate Sound; and a showcase of the ways to use expanded polystyrene foam in productions by David Len, GRCT's scenic designer, and Brad Wynalda of Arvron Inc.

Up next in the Midwest Regional Section is the January event at University of Wisconsin-Whitewater January 22. The day will include a wireframe headpiece workshop presented by Jeff Lieder where participants will leave with a completed headpiece. Other workshops include: Down and Dirty White Models, Best Practices for Stage Management, and Working with



Photos/Shane Kelly



Vectorworks and Lightwright. Visit [www.usittmidwest.org](http://www.usittmidwest.org) for more information.

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## News From **David Grindle**, *USITT Executive Director* **Have a Voice - Vote!**

One of my favorite movies is *The Queen* starring Helen Mirren. In this film, she portrays Queen Elizabeth II at the time Tony Blair is elected and Princess Diana dies in Paris, two monumental events in the late 20th century for the people of the United Kingdom. The film opens with a discussion between the Queen and one of her footmen as she asks him about voting, something she is not allowed to do. She comments to him what a privilege it is to have a voice in your government since she has none.



USITT is entering into its annual election cycle where the membership has the opportunity to vote for officers and directors. These are the people who make the decisions about where your dues go, what programs are supported, and the direction the Institute is headed. They are the people who make the decisions that dictate the priorities the staff and I focus upon in the day-to-day operations of the Institute. A prime example is the directive from Board President Joe Aldridge to me, "Focus on the membership." A broad mandate, but one with a great deal of focus for everyone. Different officers offer different priorities and focuses, and those officers come from the election by the members.

We don't have nearly enough of our members voting. Honestly, less than 20 percent of active members vote for the elected leadership of this organization. So, actually, your vote counts and counts a lot. Read the slate of candidates and vote for the ones you think will provide the best leadership. The information is out there and easily accessible. These folks are all committed to the Institute, come from various parts of the industry and academia, and all want to see the organization flourish but have different points of view.

I'm pleased to say that we have a great list from which to choose. All of us in the National Office are excited about the opportunity to work with any of them. I've said that membership comes with privileges and obligations. Everyone loves the good parts and think that others can take care of the not-so-fun things like voting. Not true. Take the time to vote for your elected leadership. Let every voice be heard, one vote at a time. [Click here for instructions on how to vote now.](#)

**We'd like to hear your comments on this story.**



Please e-mail David at [david@office.usitt.org](mailto:david@office.usitt.org).

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## Costume Smorgasbord Awaits in Charlotte

**Martha H. Cooper** *Programming Chair, Costume Design & Technology Commission*

The Costume Design & Technology Commission will offer a diverse array of events at the 51st Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Charlotte. Events will begin Tuesday, March 8.

Colleen Muscha will lead a day-long workshop on creating leather sword belts and baldrics. Process and techniques will cover various types of swords and holders, proper fit, construction techniques, leather stamp tooling, dyeing of leather, etc. Tandy Leather has donated leather and supplies. This professional development workshop is held off-site and includes transportation.

Tuesday afternoon will include an excursion to Mary Jo's Cloth Store, just south of Charlotte in Gastonia. Many people think Mary Jo's is the best fabric store on the east coast. It started 59 years ago as a small mill-outlet. Its silk and bridal areas are awesome, the trim department is mouth-watering, and the home decorating and cotton quilting sections are each larger than many individual fabric stores. Transportation is included.

The first daily session begins Wednesday morning, March 9 with a look into two private clothing collections as an introduction to the costume exhibit on the Expo floor. Garments from two renowned collectors, Gene London and Harriett Lake, are featured. Mr. London assembled a world-class collection of costumes created by some of the film industry's greatest designers—Adrian, Edith Head, Walter Plunkett, and Bob Mackie are just a few of the famous designers represented. Ms. Lake's closet contains over 4,500 hanging pieces: 1,600 hats, and 450 pairs of shoes. Hers is an almost intact wardrobe of post-WWII fashions featuring pieces by Coco Chanel, Christian Dior, and Adrienne Landau.







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Additional sessions Wednesday include: accurately patterning bodices, a look into the process of transitioning into designing for film and television, and a presentation by Charles Mo, curator of the costume collection at Charlotte's Mint Museum of Art. He will present selections from the museum's historic 18th, 19th, and 20th century collections. The day will wind up with the annual informative Commission meeting.

The week continues with sessions on topics that include the popular poster session; costume distressing techniques; a hands-on costume technology event; custom designing fabric for Walt Disney Company's various entertainment venues; creating period hats from "those unwanted donations"; the inner workings of wardrobe personnel on Broadway shows; techniques used by various designers in creating poses for costume renderings; and designing costumes for dance. Additional events of interest include a talk by the Commission's international guest and an event honoring an outstanding individual in the field.

Finally, all Commission friends and members are invited to an evening reception to enjoy networking with colleagues, visiting with old friends, and welcoming new ones.

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Commissions

## Technical Production Offers Sessions, Workshops

**Paul Brunner** *Technical Production Commission*



The Technical Production Commission will offer another wide range of sessions for the 2011 Charlotte Conference & Stage Expo.

**The Physics of Theatre Project** will apply Kinematics to help describe the motion of scenery and provide answers to common questions such as “How fast does it need to go?”, “How much wing space will it take to get it up to speed?” A panel discussion entitled **Production in the Classroom, Classroom in the Production** will discuss the enduring challenge of integrating production work into the classroom, and vice versa, and the academic workload. **Using Microcontrollers in Production: the little chips that can solve big problems** will exhibit methods to use low-cost microcontrollers to solve problems in scenery automation and special effects. Speaking of low-cost options, a session on stock platforms will reacquaint participants with budget-conscious platforms approaches and help them put their money where it can do the most good.

A guest fire marshal in, **Be Your Own Fire Marshal**, will present information concerning fire safety in theatre and recommend ways to communicate with a local fire marshal in order to make him your ally. If CAD is your thing, parametric modeling design techniques are already embraced in general industry, and Dan Lisowski and Randy de Celle will demonstrate AutoDesk Inventor as an invaluable tool in 3D mechanical design.

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There are two exciting Professional Development Workshops.

**Automation Systems at UNCSA** is a two-day hands on workshop designed for the beginner or intermediate theatre technician who wants more exposure to motors, encoders, drives, and control systems. Major suppliers will demonstrate their current automation equipment. **CNC Router and Plasma Operations** is a one-day hands-on workshop that will take participants through CNC setups and operations for theatre. Attendees will have detailed instruction with a ShopBot CNC router, as well as CNC Plasma Torch operations. Both workshops are hosted at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.



Tech Expo 2011 will be part of Stage Expo, and don't forget to pick up a 2011 Catalog. To suggest a session idea for the 2012 Annual Conference & Stage Expo, submit them to Paul Brunner, Vice-Commissioner for Programming for the Technical Production Commission, at [pbrunner@indiana.edu](mailto:pbrunner@indiana.edu).

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Conference &amp; Stage Expo:

**Budget Time for Stage Expo Offerings****Helen Willard** - *Stage Expo Sales Manager*

USITT's 51st Annual Conference & Stage Expo will be held March 10 - 12 at the Charlotte Convention Center, located in uptown Charlotte, North Carolina. Stage Expo will be held 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Allocate plenty of time to see all of Stage Expo, the annual showcase of businesses, products, services, and educational opportunities for the performing arts and entertainment industry.

Stage Expo 2011 will fill exhibit halls B & C1, located on the lower level of the Charlotte Convention Center. In addition to the booths and tables, Stage Expo 2011 will include Cover the Walls, Tech Expo 2011, and a wide variety of other special exhibits. Stage Expo 2011 will also include seven Cyber Lounges so attendees can check e-mail and surf the web, as well as the USITT Booth & Boutique, where conference attendees can learn more about the Institute, purchase logo items, or attend book signings.

For more information about Stage Expo 2011 exhibitors, visit the [Stage Expo Web Page](#) to see the layout and a current list of exhibitors. Click on a highlighted booth to find contact information and a brief description for each exhibitor. Links are provided to exhibitors' websites for more information about their products and services.

As a result of USITT's presence at the LDI trade show in Las Vegas, several





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companies have booked exhibit space at Stage Expo. Newly added exhibitors include ACT 85, A.C.T Lighting, Eilon Engineering, Flying By Foy, Mallatt Pharmacy & Costumes, SSRC, and Virginia Tech. Long-time exhibitor Clear-Com Intercom Systems has increased its booth size for Stage Expo 2011.

A limited number of booths, commercial tables for small companies meeting criteria, and non-commercial tables for colleges, universities, and other non-profit organizations are still available. To suggest companies or organizations, send an e-mail message with contact information to [hwillard@aol.com](mailto:hwillard@aol.com).

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Conference &amp; Stage Expo:

## Employment Service Returns

**Carolyn Satter** - Conference Employment Service Coordinator

After a year's hiatus, the Employment Service will again be available during the 2011 Annual Conference & Stage Expo offering opportunities for job seekers and employers. The Employment Service will have offices and interview space in the Westin, Charlotte, adjacent to the Charlotte Convention Center. This will provide a quiet and professional atmosphere for review of jobs and applicants, and on-site interviews.



Forms will be available online, for both employers and job seekers, in December at [www.usitt.org/2011](http://www.usitt.org/2011). To have the greatest probability of success, pre-registration is strongly advised. All program participants must be members of USITT since the service is a member benefit.

As a special incentive, organizations exhibiting at Stage Expo can list multiple jobs at one low rate. A wide variety of employment opportunities can be offered including summer employment, graduate positions, intern positions, assistantships, teaching posts, and professional jobs.

Job applicants can range from undergraduates, to graduate students, to entry level professionals, to professionals with broad-ranging experience.

The fees for USITT's Conference Employment Service have been restructured with incentives added for those signed up before the conference. Those who sign up by February 16 will receive a CD containing resumes of all candidates; or have their resumes included on those CDs. Employers and candidates can then sign up for private interview space during the 2011 Annual Conference.

Fees for 2011 if completed by February 16 are: Job seekers, \$20 for posting a resume; Employers, \$150 per posting with a maximum of \$375 for three or more positions; Stage Expo exhibitors will pay a \$125 fee with no limit on the number of jobs posted.

Fees will increase for those who sign up at the Conference.

Applications and job postings can be viewed at the Employment Service Center from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, and 8 to 10 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9. Interviews will take place 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 10

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## For the Record: Leadership

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- David W. Will, *Vice-President for Conferences*
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- Mary Heilman
- David Krajec
- Carolyn Satter
- John S. Uthoff
- Monica Weinzapfel

#### 2009-2012

- William Browning
- Jonathan Darling
- Linda Essig
- Mitch Hefter
- Brian Reed
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- R. Michael Gros
- Pamela Leung
- Debra Garcia Lockwood
- Jill Maurer
- Stephanie Young

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- **David Grindle**, Executive Director
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- Apollo Design Technology, Inc.
- Automatic Devices Company
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- Cirque du Soleil
- City Theatrical, Inc.
- J.R. Clancy, Inc.
- Clear-Com Communication Systems
- Creative Handbook
- Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Daktronics
- Disneyland - Creative Entertainment
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Entertainment Services & Technology Association (ESTA)
- Future Light
- GAMPRODUCTS, INC.
- H & H Specialties Inc.
- KM Fabrics, Inc.
- Kryolan Corporation
- Live Design Magazine/LDI Show
- MDG Fog Generators
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- Morris Architects
- Musson Theatrical, Inc.
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- Philips Group
- POET Technical Services
- PRG
- Production Advantage, Inc.
- Protech Theatrical Services, Inc.
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- SeaChanger
- SECOA
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- Stage Technologies
- StageRight Corporation
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- Texas Scenic Company
- Vincent Lighting Systems
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- A.C.T. Lighting
- AC Power Distribution, Inc.
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- ALPS/Advanced Lighting & Production Services, Inc.
- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- Auerbach Pollock Friedlander
- A V Pro, Inc.
- Ben Nye Makeup
- BMI Supply
- California Institute of the Arts

- Center Theatre Group
- Checkers Industrial Products Inc.
- Clarence Smith Performing Arts Center
- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
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- Hall Associates Flying Effects
- Harkness Screens (USA) Ltd.
- heatshrink.com
- I. Weiss
- IALD-International Association of Lighting Designers
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees
- James Thomas Engineering
- Johnson Systems Inc.
- Kenmark, Inc.
- Kirkegaard Associates
- KUPO Industrial Corp
- LCS Series (Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.)
- LEE Filters
- Lehigh Electric Products Co.
- Leprecon
- Leviton/NSI/Colortran
- Lex Products Corp.
- Lighting & Electronics, Inc.
- Limelight Productions, Inc.
- Lite-Trol Service Company Inc.
- LVH Entertainment Systems
- Lycian Stage Lighting



- Mainstage Theatrical Supply, Inc.
- Mallat Pharmacy and Costume
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