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**Pattern Archive Grows with Major Donations**

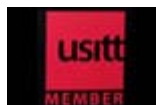
Donations continue to enrich the Commercial Pattern Archive. This year, USITT member Linda Sarver began transferring her sizeable pattern collection. [more ›](#)

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## News &amp; Notices

## CITT Plans Victoria Conference



Those who attend CITT's Rendez-vous 2011 will enjoy the Royal Theatre in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

Photo/Courtesy of the Royal & McPherson Theatres Society

Registration is now open for CITT's Rendez-vous 2011, the organization's 21th Annual Conference & Trade Show in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, from August 11 to 13.

CITT, the Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology, holds its conference over three days - from Thursday to Saturday - and offers full days of seminars and social events, with more intense certification courses and workshops held two days prior to the main event. An industry trade show features CITT corporate members presenting new products and technologies.

Rendez-vous 2011 will take place at the Royal Theatre and the Victoria Convention Centre (VCC), from August 11 to 13, with pre-conference workshops on Tuesday and Wednesday August 9 and 10. A post-conference Up-Island Theatre Tour is scheduled on Sunday August 14.

Some of the highlights of the conference include:

## 2011 Costume Symposium

July 28-30  
Southern Illinois  
University



### ■ Conference Programming - from August 9 to 13

Some of the pre-conference workshops and sessions include *Pyrotechnic Certification*, *Stage Rigging Old and New*, *Advanced VectorWorks Tutorial: VectorWorks for the Scene Shop*, *Conflict Resolution: a question of negotiating collaboration*, *Roadhouse Roundtables*, *Education Forum*, *Colour Theory: the color of light and how we measure it*, *Natural Dyes and Dye Techniques*, *Scenic Painting*, *Creating a Sustainability Rating System for Theatre*, *Props: recent project show & tell*, *Specs for Drapery and Drops*, and much more... Details about the [programming can be found here](#) and on-line delegate [registration is available here](#). Early-bird membership rate is available up to June 30th, 2011.

### ■ CITT Trade Show - Friday August 12, 2011

CITT's Trade Show will take place downtown at the Victoria Conference Centre (VCC) in the Carson Hall A and B. The Trade Show floor will be open free to the public from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. [Click here](#) to view confirmed exhibitors. To register as an exhibitor, [click here](#). The New Product Breakfast on Friday morning will showcase some of the latest technology at the trade show.

### ■ CITT AGM & Awards Banquet - Saturday August 13, 2011

The annual Rendez-vous is also the occasion for CITT's Annual General Meeting of the members and for the Awards Banquet where CITT honors those individuals and companies who have excelled in their field of live performance in Canada. This year, CITT is welcoming Rae Ackerman, Director of Vancouver Civic Theatres, as guest speaker.

### ■ Social events and networking opportunities every day!

The social events make up a big part of the conference; whether it's the Wednesday Newcomer Meet & Greet, the Thursday Junk Challenge, Friday Swag Bingo, or Saturday Award Banquet, there's always time to socialize and network with fellow colleagues.

## Accommodations

The Fairmont Empress adjacent to the VCC, is our hosting conference hotel. [Information and reservation are available here](#). The cut-off date to reserve at the special conference rate is Saturday July 9, 2011.

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### July 10 Nomination Deadline for Rock Our World Awards

Nominations are open for PLASA's fourth annual Rock Our World Awards, which recognize groundbreaking achievement by PLASA members. Designed to acknowledge the genius of both the creator of technology and the designers or integrators who apply it, these awards were originated by ESTA and continue as a worldwide program under PLASA.

2010 contestants showcased a wide variety of achievements, from the simplest problem solver to complex uses of technology that extended the boundaries of entertainment technology. Anyone may nominate a PLASA member for the awards. Nominations for the 2011 awards must have been introduced to market or taken place between October 1, 2009 and June 30, 2011 and must not have been previously nominated. Nominations close July 10.

A panel of judges include well-known industry veterans and rising young stars, and finalists will be announced in early September at PLASA's annual dinner at the LDI show.

Submit nominations and view more info at [www.plasa.org/rock](http://www.plasa.org/rock).

### August 1 Deadline for IALD Student Support

The application process for USITT's support of students to attend IALD is now open, but the deadline is August 1.

Up to 10 USITT student members will receive financial support to attend the Enlighten Americas Conference 2011 September 22 and 23 in New Orleans, Louisiana.



The financial support is made possible through a grant from The USITT Commissioner Fund. [Apply online here.](#)

For 2011, there is a \$1,000 award per student to help cover registration, travel, food and hotel.

Applications include submission of a portfolio of one to four projects on the official portfolio template. For questions, contact Jill Mulholland at [jill@iald.org](mailto:jill@iald.org).

### Applying for Tenure? Need Guidance?

Anyone who is part of the tenure process would benefit from USITT's first tenure preparation workshop, which will be held in conjunction with the Educational Theatre Association's conference in Chicago, Illinois September 23 and 24.

Session include how to express work as research to non-theatre faculty reviewers with breakouts for research universities and for liberal arts schools; preparing to submit proposals to publishers; finding appropriate outside reviewers and available resources; and individual dossier reviews.

Presenters include Mark Shanda, Dean of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences, Ohio State University; Dennis Dorn, retired faculty and frequent outside reviewer from University of Wisconsin; Tony Hardin, associate professor of set and lighting design at the University of Kentucky; Shane Kelly, head of theatre technology, DePaul University; and Sarah Brewer, associate professor of theatre arts, Rocky Mountain College.

For more information or to register, [click here.](#)

### Draft Powered Rigging Standards in Public Review

Two of the several documents that make up the E1.6 project for powered rigging systems in the entertainment industry are available for public review on the [PLASA website.](#)

- *BSR E1.6-1 - 201x, Entertainment Technology – Powered Hoist Systems*, deals with powered winches that are not serially manufactured electric chain hoists. These are most often wire rope winches that are installed as part of a powered rigging system. The document is intended to establish requirements for the design, manufacture, inspection, and maintenance of

powered hoist systems for lifting and suspending loads in theatres and other places of public assembly. It is in public review through July 11.

- *BSR E1.6-4 - 201x, Portable Control of Fixed-Speed Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry*, covers portable control systems for single-speed electric chain hoists. These systems are most often used to control one or more chain hoists being used to fly equipment or scenery in shows or events being done in arenas and convention centers. It was in public review through June 27.

## Updating the NEC

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USITT's Engineering Commission is preparing proposals for changes to the National Electrical Code(r) (NEC(r)) for the 2014 edition.

The 2011 edition of the National Electrical Code has been available since last fall. It is time to start the tri-annual process leading to the creation of the 2014 edition. The NEC revision process begins by the general public (you) submitting proposals to revise the Code. These proposals are due on November 4, 2011. In January 2012, the various Code Panels meet to consider these proposals and comment on them. These comments are published in the spring and are available to the public. The general public has until October 17, 2012, to comment on the Code Panels' decisions. The Code Panels meet again in November/December 2012 to consider these public comments. These decisions are published in a Report on Comments.

All proposed changes agreed on by the panels are then voted on by the membership of the National Fire Protection Association at their annual meeting in June, 2013. The new 2014 edition of the NEC will become available in the fall of 2013.

To become involved, make suggestions by writing your proposed changes on copies of the Form for Proposals for 2014 National Electrical Code available in the back of the 2011 NEC, or download the form from [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). In the upper left click on Codes and Standards. In the right center click on NEC Proposal form. Make sure you specify the exact wording change you propose and that you substantiate your proposal based on technical reasoning. There is an example in the back of the 2011 NEC.

To submit proposed changes directly to the NFPA, send them to the address on the proposal form to be received at the NFPA headquarters by 5:00 p.m. EST on November 4, 2011.

To have proposed changes submitted by the USITT Engineering Commission, send proposals by September 15, 2011, to: Ken Vannice, Chair, USITT 2014 NEC Committee Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc., 20497 SW Teton Ave., Tualatin, OR 97062 or e-mail: [kvannice@leviton.com](mailto:kvannice@leviton.com).

## July 15 Deadline for USITT Awards

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There is still time to nominate for USITT's special honors and distinguished achievement awards. Online submissions must be completed by July 15.

Nominations are open for the USITT Award, Thomas DeGaetani Award, Special Citation, and Distinguished Achievement awards giving in specific Commission areas such as lighting design, or architecture.

The process requires supporting documents such as additional letters of support, resumes/CVs.

Nominations for those awards should be made [here](#) for special achievement awards or [here](#) for Distinguished Achievement Awards.

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## Pattern Archive Grows with Major Donations

**Joy Spanabel Emery**, *Costume Design & Technology Commission*

Donations continue to enrich the Commercial Pattern Archive. This year, USITT member Linda Sarver began transferring her sizeable pattern collection as well as pattern catalogs, fashion magazines, and other related materials to the Archive. Commission members have been scrambling ever since to get the catalogs and designs digitized and finished that task a couple of weeks ago. The patterns are now in the Pattern Database, CoPA. The count in the database at this point is about 50,000 pattern records dating from the 1860s to 2009.

Another special donation came from a private collector, Elizabeth Brown. Her donation included three McCall's small scale display figures, referred to as "Minikins." The donation included many 1960s outfits for the figures. A master seamstress who is a regular volunteer in the Archive has also made several garments for the figures by scaling down patterns to fit. The outfits included dresses from the 1930s, nurse's uniforms, and a Hoover Apron. Example of the Minikins and some of the outfits can be seen under exhibits at



[www.uri.edu/library/special\\_collections](http://www.uri.edu/library/special_collections). A new exhibit, "What Were They Thinking!? Experimental Designs Found in Commercial Clothing Patterns from the Commercial Pattern Archives" opened in June.

Anyone with patterns or related items for donation should contact Joy Emery, curator, Commercial Pattern Archive, URI Library Special Collections, 15 Lippitt Rd., Kingston, RI 02881 or [jemery@uri.edu](mailto:jemery@uri.edu).

For more information on the Commercial Pattern Archive database, CoPA, see

[www.uri.edu/library/special\\_collections/COPA](http://www.uri.edu/library/special_collections/COPA). Subscription information is listed under Order Now. Watch the website for the introduction of a sample of the database.

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- 27 percent\* on FedEx Express services
- 15 percent on FedEx Ground services
- At least 70 percent on heavyweight shipping with preferred carriers

### Enrollment: As easy as 1, 2, 3

- Go to [www.siriani.com/usittfsp](http://www.siriani.com/usittfsp), click on "Enroll Now" and fill out the enrollment form.
- If you already have a FedEx account number, enter it and Siriani will link it to the USITT discount program. If you don't have a FedEx account number, Siriani will get you one and link it to the discounts.
- Siriani will notify you when your discounts are in effect. You will be invoiced by FedEx but at the USITT discounted rate.

Service provider Siriani prides itself on its customer service. Any member who would like a rate quote or has any questions about the program should call Siriani at 800-554-0005.

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The Last Word:

## A Swan Song

Reflections by **Kim Williamson** *outgoing Vice-President for Commissions*



The "candy" car from Cincinnati's A Taste of Cincinnati

Photos/Barbara E.R. Lucas

A short while back, I was queried by Barbara Ellen Lucas about my interest in writing an article for *Sightlines* which might reflect upon the six years I have had the privilege and pleasure of serving USITT as VP for Commissions. I pondered where to begin in describing what my role has been over six years of the most exciting, inspiring, and challenging changes for USITT; how the Commissions have moved forward to offer the membership opportunities to investigate the disciplines of our craft; and how the collective work of the Commissioners, Board of Directors, Officers, and USITT Staff has delighted, inspired, and humbled me.

To get a perspective on what began six years ago, I referred to the first article I authored for *Sightlines* as a newly elected VP. Barbara Ellen had interviewed me and asked about what I envisioned as the future of the Commissions of USITT. Not intending to be flip, I cited one of my favorite analogies of the perfect ham and egg breakfast...the chicken is involved, but the pig is *really* committed! I continued "...this is, I believe, the future of the Commissions: the perfect combination of people who are both involved and committed and the structure to help make their ideas happen." If the remarkable accomplishments of the Commissions can be over-simplified, their collective successes are evidence of

what I envisioned six years ago; if you give dedicated people the resources they need to implement their great ideas, they will go above and beyond.

From the first Commissioners Retreat that was held following my election in 2005 to the Commissioners III Meeting in Charlotte in March, the list of what the Commissions initiated, envisioned, and developed has been remarkable by every measure. The Vice-Commissioners for Programming continue to raise the bar on the quality of the work that is inherent to programming; the Commissioners Manual is a working document which continues to evolve as a tool for the Commissioners; the YD&T award nominations have seen an increase of nearly 100% over five years due in part to developing the online submission process and the identification of adjudicators through the commissions.

Programming is and continues to be the heart of the work of the Commissions and their constituents. However, the allocations from the Commissioners Fund, under the recommendations of the Commissioners Steering Committee, brought some of the most innovative and long-lasting projects to USITT.

- **Scene Design Commission:** *5D Immersive Design Initiative*
- **Technical Production Commission:** *Destructive Testing Rig for Stage Rigging Hardware*
- **Health & Safety Commission:** *OSHA Training Certification course*
- **Costume Commission:** *Database Development for Costume Storage Solutions*
- **Architecture Commission:** *AIA/CELU Certification*
- **Architecture Commission:** *The Student Architecture Competition-The Ideal Theatre*

In the challenging moments to what USITT's future could become, the Commissions engaged fully in the implementation of the bridge model. Among the many opportunities were those developed by connecting the Management Commission with LORT and the Health & Safety Commission with OSHA. The Education Commission, in conjunction with EdTA, presented the first Professional Development Institute for High School Instructors at the 2009 Cincinnati Conference & Stage Expo. The sessions provided Continuing Education credits certified by the American Council on Education and forged a much-needed link between the Institute and our colleagues in high schools across the country.

No reflection on the six years as VP would be complete without a few musings on some of the more individual moments:

- The annual summer visit to the national office Syracuse, ostensibly to "plan" which was merely a clever disguise to chow down at Dinosaur Barbecue!
- Photo ops with Houston's giant armadillo and Cincinnati's Candy Bar Car.

- Pat Dennis' *Roberta's Rules* as an oft-needed and much appreciated moment of levity during the board meetings.
- My frequent visits to the conference office to chat with Monica Weinzapfel about our "four-legged babies" a.k.a. our horses that we both held as being far more important than any Conference details of the moment!
- The deft skill I developed of making it to nearly all of the food and beverage receptions among all of the Commissions on the same evening!



An armadillo, with light-up eyes, in Texas.

Finally, the charge and challenge I had as VP was realized more completely by the unequivocal support and assistance of the USITT Staff; the vision, dedication, and friendship of the Officers and Board of Directors; and the enthusiasm, knowledge, and camaraderie of the Commissioners.

What next? It is my goal to find another excuse to get to the Syracuse office on an annual basis! Hmm, not sure what that will be yet, but the possibilities are endless, and it is my desire do as much for USITT as USITT has done for me in my six years as VP.

Thanks for a great ride!

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The Last Word:

## Bringing the Theatre Technology World Together

Reflections by **Alexandra Bonds** *outgoing Vice-President for International Activities*

A goddess paper puppet.

Photos/Sandy Bonds

I didn't intend to be USITT's Vice President for International Activities. The job didn't exist when Dick Durst asked me to run for the Chair of the International Committee. Taking on the responsibility of a committee seemed reasonable enough, but that simple "yes," like so many in our lives, utterly transformed me, and, if I did my job right, USITT, as well.

Since taking this position, I have been able to travel extensively to interact with our colleagues overseas and collect fascinating and unique memories. I attended a meeting of the OISTAT Costume Working Group in Belgium, held at the "Dark Nights," the incomparable 16th century home of Jerome and Christa Maeckelbergh. This small core of dedicated members meets annually for creative workshops based on local resources and culture.

I was invited to be a workshop leader in the first OISTAT workshop, "From Ritual to Theatre," an exploration of

the Taiwanese Ghost Festival. Teams of professionals and students created theatrical responses to their impressions of the local ceremonies. On this occasion, I saw the Hakka Holy Boar competition where the splayed skins of their largest boars are displayed like large drums, and I appeared onstage for the first time since freshman year, though completely concealed within a gigantic goddess paper puppet of my own design.



Launching good wishes.

The following year, I traveled to Korea for their ritual workshop, this time making my own necklace of Buddhist prayer beads, kneeling and bowing prostrate as each one was added to the string. Our design team launched little plates of good wishes in a fountain, only to watch them sink from abundance.

I joined Dick Durst on his final USITT Study Tour to Egypt. Seeing the pyramids and cruising the Nile with USITT friends was unforgettable, as was the tour of the scene shop of the opera house where we discovered six inches of sawdust on the floor. A personal highlight was a nostalgic pilgrimage to my childhood home in Maadi, a suburb of Cairo, where I had lived with my family when I was three years old. As with USITT, the greatest value of these adventures was interacting with like-minded colleagues while extending the edges of learning, yet with the added advantage of going beyond national boundaries.



In Maadi in childhood and as an adult.

While the impact of these travels on my personal journey was significant, my principal aim was to raise the visibility of international activities for our membership and our global counterparts. In nine years, with support from Treva Reimer, we have increased our conference

programming to fill the matrix and linked our international guests with the Costume, Scene Design, Sound, Technology, and Management Commissions to augment awareness of international theatre across the Institute. Regular



programming now includes International Resources and Opportunities, hosted by Karen Glass, where USITT members present their overseas research and teaching experiences, and a session for OISTAT representatives to share the news of their Commissions and international workshops held in conjunction with their meetings.

We recently prepared our inaugural Professional Development Workshop. Participants were delighted with our leaders, Hakan Dundar and Ali Meric, for their enthusiasm and generosity about Turkish shadow puppetry. With careful management of the Samuel H. Scripps International Fund, we have instituted three travel grants -- one for members and one for students -- and a recently established a grant to bring international guests to the United States for workshops in colleges and universities. Study Tours guided by Dick Durst have shepherded members to Hungary and Romania, Southeast Asia, Greece, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Egypt and Jordan, and, of course, Prague, Czech Republic.

We launched the World Stage Design in Toronto, Canada in 2005, guided by Eric Fielding, and sent many of our members to the subsequent edition in Seoul, Korea in 2009. Our delegates to OISTAT, including Laura Crow, Rick Thomas, and Leon Brauner, have traveled the world bridging with our counterparts in a myriad of countries. In return, we have hosted the World Congress in 2005 and Commission meetings biennially. Michael Ramsaur spent a term as OISTAT President and remains on the Executive Committee.

By far the greatest involvement for me has been the honor of serving as the Commissioner and USITT-International Liaison for our representations in the National, Student, and Architecture Exhibits at the Prague Quadrennial. In 2003, Bob Scales and his students from USC built the exhibit designed by Bob Schmidt and Ursula Belden. In 2007, Tom Korder and his student team from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, constructed the exhibit designed by Nic Ularu and Madeleine Sobota, Mike Monsos and the students of The University of Montana, led by Artistic Director Susan Tsu and designer Bill Bloodgood, assembled the current edition for 2011.

With support from the Tobin Fund for Theatre Arts, we have enhanced our student presence in the PQ exhibits, designed by Tim Saternow in 2003, Ursula Belden in 2007, and a team of students for 2011. American Architecture, previously not shown in Prague, has been represented in each of these Quadrennials, under Michael Tingley, Richard Pilbrow, and Scott Georgeson. We have presented hundreds of American designers, students, and architects in this worldwide exposition and encouraged countless others to travel to Prague to partake in the concurrent activities. We no longer need to explain what the PQ is; rather designers seek us out to inquire about how to have their work shown there.

The catalog of achievements would be incomplete without the mention of support offered by three luminaries in USITT's international realm: Joel Rubin, who has provided me with his histories and insights; Dick Durst, who is always generous with his time and experience; and Leon Brauner, a gentle expert in navigating international politesse. My husband, Joseph, was always ready with quiet support and clear perceptions.

Many other volunteers, equally dedicated and too numerous to list, have offered their assistance for heightening our presence in world theatre, and our members are actively engaging in theatre globally bringing their experiences back to share with the membership. I am privileged to have served in what I believe to be the best job in USITT linking our members to the world and the world to our members through our conferences, OISTAT, and the PQ. Thank you for entrusting me with this mantle.

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### Carrie Robbins Book Signing Successful

Congratulations to Carrie Robbins and Annie O. and Barry Cleveland on an extremely successful book-signing event for the USITT Monograph Series book, *The Designs of Carrie Robbins*, held at Drama Bookshop in Manhattan.

Ms. Robbins and the Clevelands were on hand to sign copies of the monograph, which debuted at the 2011 Annual Conference & Stage Expo where Ms. Robbins was also presented the USITT Distinguished Achievement Award in Costume Design.

### New Book Chronicles Journey to Theatre Success

*A Theatre Project: An Autobiographical Story* by Richard Pilbrow is now available!

Subtitled *A Backstage Adventure: Triumph, Disaster, and Renewal that Changed Stage Lighting and the Shape of Theatre*, the book is the story of both Mr. Pilbrow's life and of Theatre Projects, the company he founded over 50 years ago.

It tells the story of an upstart company that began on a shoestring budget under the stage of Her Majesty's Theatre, London and went on to extraordinary success. *A Theatre Project* launched at the ABTT trade show in London. Mr. Pilbrow is an active USITT Fellow and is expected to sign copies of his book at the 2012 USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach next March.

## 2011 Costume Symposium

July 28-30  
Southern Illinois  
University



### Engineering Commission Changes Leadership

Mary Montalvo, USITT Engineering Commissioner, has stepped down from that position. The new Engineering Commissioner is Mitch Hefter with Kimberly Corbett as VC-Programming. Kim is actively involved with PLASA's Rigging Standard Committee and has a strong theatre background. She is a Project Consultant for Schuler Shook Theatre Planners.

In stepping down, Ms. Montalvo noted that "The Institute has provided me with life time friendships, personal and professional growth," and that her commission involvement dates to a time when program sessions were typed or hand written and sent via fax. In closing, she noted, "The United States Institute for Theatre Technology is truly a gift to all who become involved."

### John Murray Joins Magazine Editorial Staff

John Murray, a longtime audio professional who has worked in every facet of the live event industry, has joined *Front of House* magazine as technical editor. Most recently, Murray was technical editor of *Live Sound* for 10 years. He joins a new team that includes Mark Frink, editor, and Mark Herman, consulting editor.

### Randy Gener Named Editor-in-Chief at PQ

Randy Gener, the Nathan Award-winning editor, writer and drama critic, was editor-in-chief of *Prague Quadrennial Daily* in the Czech Republic and was invited to present a lecture at the Faculty of the Arts of Charles University in Prague (Univerzita Karlova v Praze). It is the oldest and largest university in the Czech Republic and one of the oldest universities in Europe in continuous operation. He served as editor and columnist of *Prague Quadrennial Daily* in 2007 as well as Scenofest team leader of the press/publication project.

A broadsheet, the *Prague Quadrennial Daily* takes a lively, irreverent, pop-culture approach to covering PQ events.

### Alfred University's Theatre Completed

A new theatre was recently completed for The Miller Performing Arts Center at Alfred University in Alfred, New York. Acentech's Studio A, consulted on the design of the new, 470-seat, proscenium theatre with Kallmann McKinnell & Wood Architects of Boston and David Weiss, theatre consultant from Charlottesville, Virginia.

## Dr. James C. Marchant To Lead Utah University's Program

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Dr. James C. Marchant was appointed director of the Arts Administration (MFA) Program and Utah Center for Arts Administration at Southern Utah University, Cedar City.

The program provides an interdisciplinary education that develops well-rounded generalists employable in any of the arts disciplines as professional arts administrators. The Utah Center for Arts Administration is a comprehensive resource for arts organizations offering consulting, virtual educational services, and professional seminars.

Dr. Marchant has a bachelor of arts degree from The American University in Justice with a focus in theatre, a law degree from the Beasley School of Law at Temple University and a Ph.D. in art education concentrating in cultural policy and arts administration from the Ohio State University. Most recently, he was the program coordinator for the arts administration program at the Savannah College of Art & Design, working out of its Atlanta campus. He has an interest in endangered languages and cultures and how the arts are utilized in issues of social justice.

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## Ecoglo, Inc.: Welcomes New Contributing Member

**Ecoglo Inc.** has joined USITT at the Contributing member level. Ecoglo, of 241 Main Street, Buffalo, New York, had representatives at the 2011 Stage Expo in Charlotte. Ecoglo specializes in photoluminescent step edge, guidance and handrail strips, and non-slip stair systems. Its products can help projects earn LEED points. For more information, visit [www.us.ecoglo.com](http://www.us.ecoglo.com).

## Oasis Stage Werks: Joins at Contributing Level

USITT welcomes **Oasis Stage Werks** of Salt Lake City, Utah as a new Contributing member to the organization. Oasis has a diverse business including supplying theatrical and entertainment services for more than 25 years. The company provides professional installation of stage rigging, fly systems, curtains, lighting, and dimming systems. For more information, visit [www.oasis-stage.com](http://www.oasis-stage.com).

## StageSpot: Increases Membership Level

**StageSpot**, a member of USITT for several years, and an exhibitor at Stage Expo, has increased its level of support for the Institute to that of Contributing member. StageSpot is an online store for all theatrical needs from dimming



systems to gaff tape, fly systems to paint. Its motto is "We are your friend in the entertainment business!" Visit [www.stagespot.com](http://www.stagespot.com) for more information.

## InterAmerica: Completes Stage Installation at 'Rockin' Church

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It's not every church that requires a full proscenium stage, three audio and video editing suites, and truss that would make the world's top rock bands salivate. At [Church by the Glades](#) on the edge of the Florida Everglades, however, this level of production capability is all in a day's work.

[InterAmerica Stage, Inc. \(IAS\)](#) recently completed the installation of stage equipment at the church's new sanctuary. The popular, multicultural Baptist church offers seven services each weekend, ministering to about 5,000 people on a normal Sunday. The church expanded its sanctuary/theatre to accommodate its growing audience. The new 70,000-square-foot space seats 2,000 people, and includes a special area for the many preschool children who attend services there.

The extensive acoustical design was provided by [Acoustic Dimensions](#): lighting, sound, and staging equipment by [Stage Equipment and Lighting](#); and a new automated rigging system by [J. R. Clancy, Inc.](#)

## Stage Technologies Las Vegas: Slate Automation Classes in Las Vegas

---

[Stage Technologies Las Vegas](#) will hold An Introduction to Automation and the eChameleon Suite training course August 1 through 3.

This course is aimed at programmers and operators as well as professionals from other disciplines interested in expanding their skills to include automation. Stage Technologies control interfaces will allow participants hands-on experience with eChameleon software and some current techniques and principles used to plot and run some of the biggest shows in the world. The course will cover the fundamentals of automation in entertainment, how, where and why it is used, basic automation theory, common terminology, best practice, and all the steps required to build and plot a show within eChameleon.

The course will be held in the Cirque du Soleil Training Center in Las Vegas, Nevada and will be limited to the first 10 applicants. Pricing includes coffee, refreshments, and a light lunch. To reserve a place, go to [stagetech.com/usa-training-registration](http://stagetech.com/usa-training-registration) and fill in a simple online application form or e-mail

usatraining@stagetech.com for more information.

## ETC: Illuminate Royal Wedding Dresses

---

An exhibition of historic bridal dresses just got the royal treatment – lit by **ETC's** Selador Lustr LED luminaires. The priceless dresses date to 1816 and were recently on display in Kensington Palace, London, prior to the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) chose London-based production company Entec Sound & Light to supply the lighting design and equipment for the limited-time showing, opened briefly to leading news media for global coverage. Each dress required the surrounding illumination of at least three light sources, and everything had to feed off the limited power supply in the drawing room of the late



Princess Margaret's apartments. Each wedding dress also required its own tints of color, warmth, and coolness to accentuate details like embroidery, beading, or cloth texture. TV and still cameras had to be able to get optimum shots. The BBC was, of course, among the invited royal press guests; view its [coverage](#).

For more on Selador LED and other ETC lighting solutions:

[www.etconnect.com](http://www.etconnect.com).

## Production Resource Group: Digital Spacelight Available

---

**PRG's** OHM Light is in full production and is now available for purchase. The highly efficient LED-based OHM Light, developed by PRG in conjunction with Gekko Technology, is designed specifically to replace the traditional spacelights used on many motion picture and television sets. As a viable color corrected source, the OHM Light has a similar lumen output to a tungsten spacelight.

For more information, click [here](#).

## Daktronics: Renovation Project Schedule 'Unprecedented'

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**Daktronics** automated rigging is on track to deliver its largest order to date with an unprecedented turn around time. The popular, state-of-the-art, Daktronics Pro Series console and Vortek hoists are replacing counterweight rigging systems in five high schools.

Daktronics has an aggressive installation schedule requiring 75 hoists installed in 60 days at five different locations with less than eight



weeks to design, manufacture and deliver five, unique, turn-key, automated rigging systems. Four schools required grid-mounted hoists, while the other school's hoists are the typical underhung mounts.



For more information, visit the company's [website](#).

## [Rose Brand: Blog Discusses Creating a Custom Huppa](#)

**Rose Brand's** newest blog article was guest written by a customer, MMD Events. The article explains how to create a custom huppa (wedding canopy) using Rose Brand products. Visit [blog.rosebrand.com](http://blog.rosebrand.com) to see the entire article.

**Rose Brand** is North America's largest provider of theatrical fabrics, custom stage drapery, custom sewn creations and production supplies for the live entertainment, film, TV, display, and event industries.

## [J.R. Clancy: Major Projects Highlighted at SHOWTECH 2011](#)

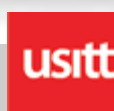
Using video to bring some of its most recent major projects to life for show attendees, **J. R. Clancy, Inc.** presented its most popular products at **SHOWTECH 2011** June 7 to 9 in Berlin, Germany.

Attendees had the opportunity to see video of one of Clancy's most extensive and distinguished projects: the award-winning chandelier at the **Winspear Opera House** in Dallas, Texas. Also featured was work at **Princess Nora bint Abdulrahman University** in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. and current work at the **new Abu Dhabi campus of Zayed University** in the United Arab Emirates.

For more information, contact International Sales Director Charles Shatzkin ([charlesshatzkin@jrclancy.com](mailto:charlesshatzkin@jrclancy.com)).

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Florida State University: Upgrades Membership Level

**Florida State University** has upgraded its level of support to that of a Sustaining member. Cameron Jackson, executive director of the School of Theatre, is the contact for the organization which offers MFA in scenery, lighting, costume design, technical production, theatre management, directing, and acting, as well as the BA, BFA, MS, MA, and PhD.

For more, visit [theatre.fsu.edu/](http://theatre.fsu.edu/)

Serapid: Announces New Marketing Manager

**Serapid** Group appointed Bonnie Taube marketing manager for North America and Europe. Ms. Taube will be responsible for creating marketing strategy to grow and expand the Serapid business worldwide.

Prior to joining Serapid, Ms. Taube worked in publishing as the founder and president of a commercial real estate magazine. After selling her publication to 21st Century Newspapers, she worked as an advertising executive for The Oakland Press. Ms. Taube was a captain in the U.S. Army stationed in Germany, and has an English degree from Syracuse University.



As the new marketing manager, Ms. Taube brings over 15 years of advertising and marketing experience to Serapid.

For more information, visit [Serapid](http://Serapid.com), e-mail [info-us@serapid.com](mailto:info-us@serapid.com), or call 800-663-4514 (toll-free) or 586-274-0774 (direct).

## 2011 Costume Symposium

July 28-30  
Southern Illinois  
University



### RC4 Wireless/Soundsculpture Inc.: Introduces New Software, Batteries

---

**RC4 Wireless/Soundsculpture Inc.** recently released RC4MagicPC 2.0. Several new features to make it more useful include access to one particular remote dimmer when several are up and running at the same time; ability for a 20-character descriptive name; and real time monitoring of dimmer battery voltage. Update the firmware in RC4Magic Series 2 devices for full use of MagicPC 2.0.

For small props -- applications that don't need more than 2A/h of capacity -- check out the new RC4Magic NiMH Professional Rechargeable Batteries.

Visit [www.theatrewireless.com](http://www.theatrewireless.com) for more information.

### Nemetschek Vectorworks: Wins Student Design Competition

---

**Nemetschek Vectorworks** congratulates Colin Chauche, winner of the iSquint Student Design Competition. Mr. Chauche is a senior at State University of New York Fredonia where he will graduate with a BFA in theatrical production and design with a concentration in lighting design. As winner of the competition, he will receive a professional license of the 2011 version of Vectorworks Spotlight with Renderworks software, as well as a personal license of Lightwright 5 and a single license of Field Template SoftSymbols V3. He has been a student member of USITT since 2008.

His winning design was from *The Sound of Music* by Rodgers and Hammerstein production at SUNY Fredonia.

The designs were evaluated by a panel of judges that included Kevin Linzey of Nemetschek Vectorworks, as well as industry experts Justin Lang from competition sponsor iSquint.net, John McKernon from Lightwright Lighting Design, Steve Shelley from Field Template, and Gregg Hillmar, author of *Light Plot Deconstructed*.

Mr. Chauche will be the lighting design intern next year at the Playhouse on the Square in Memphis, Tenn.

### Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas: Students Meet

## Design Challenges

---

The **Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas** (SILV) class of 2011 was confronted with the challenge of creating user friendly, three dimensional images in the latest edition of AutoCAD. Don Childs led a group of 19 students of varying levels of expertise through the complexities of computer aided drafting. The class covered a massive amount of information from drawing a line all the way to designing layouts of an entire theatre.

Midway through the week, the students were given the opportunity to see *Jubilee*, one of the longest running shows in Las Vegas. The next morning, the magic of *Jubilee* was demystified by Louis Bradfield, the show's original master electrician. The students also had the opportunity to talk to Debra Solt, director of work force and economic development at Vegas PBS, at Grill Chat.

## TMB: House of Worship Program Flourishes in North Carolina

---

Elevation Church's Blakeney Campus, in Charlotte, North Carolina, recently completed a new video system with two Hippotizer HD media servers. **TMB** House of Worship Program Partner Audio Ethics, of Charlotte, designed and performed the installation.

TMB is exclusive distributor for Hippotizer in The Americas. For information about Hippotizer, visit [www.tmb.com/products/hippotizer](http://www.tmb.com/products/hippotizer). For more information about TMB's HOW Partner Program, visit [www.tmb.com/products/hippotizer/how](http://www.tmb.com/products/hippotizer/how). Learn more about other innovative products from TMB at [www.tmb.com](http://www.tmb.com).



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

## Commitment Makes Institute Run Smoothly



USITT President Joe Aldridge has been known to eat both lunch and dinner at the Dinosaur Barbecue, but he's also the person who helped us all discover Oklahoma Joe's as a destination in Kansas City.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

On June 3, we held another web-based Board meeting. I was in Syracuse to conduct the meeting with the staff in attendance (mostly from their respective offices since we were previewing a new software service for the meetings). As we continue using this format for Board meetings, I can see the advantages. More people can participate from the comfort of their own computers, and we aren't out the expense of having everyone travel to attend a meeting. I will never be in favor of holding all of our meetings via the internet. I believe that we still need to be able to sit in a room and speak with one another, face to face.

Member attendance continues to be good. We have had, on average, 31 members attending the last three web-based meetings. We have even had one member call in from the UK to participate.

Executive Director David Grindle approached me with a new organizational chart for the office, complete with new titles for all of the staff, which more closely reflect the duties that each staff member carries. I whole-heartedly agreed and that re-organization has been completed. Carol Carrigan is now the Director of Finance and Human Resources. Barbara Lucas is now the Director of Communication. Monica Merritt is now the Director of Member Services. Jim

## 2011 Costume Symposium

July 28-30  
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University



Lucas is the Marketing Sales & Service Associate. Tracy Davis is our Accounting Manager. Shannan Hoerger is our Member Services Associate.

These six individuals, plus David, are the glue that holds this organization together. Among the seven, there are 46 years of service to the Institute. Carol, Monica and Barbara each have been with us for 13 years. Tracy has been with us for more than three years, Shannan for more than two years, and Jim for more than a year. David just recently celebrated his one year anniversary as Executive Director.

Any time you call the office, you will receive the benefit of the dedication of these seven employees. I know that they make my volunteer role much, much easier, as they have for many who have served before me.

I encourage you to stop by the office should you find yourself in Syracuse. These folks know the best restaurants in town. The diversity in menus is pretty amazing. Of course, if you ask any of them to name my favorite dining establishment in Syracuse, to a person, they will tell you that I regularly hang out at the Dinosaur Barbeque. Great food, so good that I try and eat there once a day while I am in Syracuse.

Here's hoping that your summer is quiet and relaxing and a bit cooler than mine will be here in Las Vegas. This first year has gone by really quickly, and I have so much more to learn. Thanks for your support!

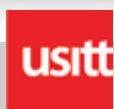
Feel free to contact me if you have a desire to become a volunteer with the Institute.



**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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## Regional Sections

### Ohio Valley: Tour, Elections Held

On May 2, Ray Kent of Westlake, Reed, and Leskosky coordinated a private tour of the first four phases of the renovation of the lighting and audio systems of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum for the Ohio Valley Regional Section. Taine Gilliam and Brian Bernicken of Vincent Lighting explained the new DMX universes controlling each exhibit area. The 20 attendees saw new LED fixtures and custom speakers that create narrow "aisles"

of sound in front of the exhibits. Special guest, Martha Marking, Vice-President of Members, Sections & Chapters joined the tour. Section members also expressed special thanks to Ray, Taine Gilliam, Brian Bernicken, Emily Faust, and the folks at the Rock Hall!

The election results are in. New board members are: Rick Clever (VC for Operations), and Brian Morgan and Elynmarie Kazle (Board Members at Large). Jeff Gress and Brian Ruggaber return at Board Members at Large; and Steve Pauna returns as Secretary. A big thank you to Rebecca White and Ray Kent for their service to OVS.

The OVS Fall Conference will be held Saturday, September 24 at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania.



Photo/Emily Faust

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## News From **David Grindle**, *USITT Executive Director* Unveil the Strength that Is USITT

What a year it has been!!!!

Last July I wrote in *Sightlines* for the first time and talked about USITT being about the members. Over the year that I've been in the position of Executive Director, I have come to find that our Institute is a more diverse and interesting collection of people than I had ever imagined. We have something to celebrate and, true to the nature of most of our members, we still don't like to draw attention to ourselves. Garrison Keillor would say that is a very Minnesotan attitude to have, and from many of our members in that part of the world, he's right.

One of the great joys of this job is talking to people who are not members of USITT and telling the story of who we are and what we do. The awe on their faces when I tell the stories of our members, both individual and organizational, is a great image. Our world is a hidden gem of talent, business success, and caring. Those stories are incredible to share and tell to the rest of the world.

Other non-profit executives often say to me, "I've heard of USITT, but I don't know what it does." When they hear, they too are in awe that we do all that we do. They can't believe the volunteer spirit in the organization and the willingness of our members to help both the Institute and each other. Frequently I hear how they wish they could get such commitment from their members. It's nice to smile and say that it is part of our heritage and deeply ingrained in the sense of duty among the members.

In the coming year, renewal notices will come to you via e-mail and postal service. When you renew, you will receive a USITT Member window cling for your office, car, or glass surface of your choice. I encourage you to display it in a place where it can be easily seen and shared with others. Let people know you are a member of a great organization that cares for its members and its industry.

Share your stories of the connections you've made through the Institute and the things you've learned. That continues to rate the highest among the things our members value the most.







Last summer I encouraged you to share your successes with us so we can share them with the membership as a whole. Some of you took us up on it, and we were excited to share the news. Again, you are encouraged to let us know about you and your work. It is through sharing news and celebrating our members that we keep that focus firmly on those who matter the most, U, the start of USITT.

Have a great summer wherever you are.



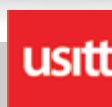
**We'd like to hear your comments on this story.**

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

Follow me on Twitter -- #USITTExec

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Conference &amp; Stage Expo

## Planning Includes Noshing

*Helen Willard - Stage Expo Sales Manager*

Conference Committee members did not spend all their time indoors during the May planning meetings. Some found a moment to two to visit favorite local purveyors of food and drink including The Yard House, at left, above.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

Each year in May, the Vice-President for Programming convenes a meeting of members of the Conference Committee with the Commissioners Steering Committee, plus regional programming and promotional volunteers to schedule program sessions for the following year's conference. During the day-long meeting, every session which has been proposed for the Annual Conference is reviewed and scheduled for a particular day and time in a specific room. This year's meeting was held at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach, which will be USITT's headquarters hotel during the 2012 Conference.

The committee's visit kicked off on Friday afternoon with a look at the exhibit halls, meeting space, and ballrooms in the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center. A tour of the Hyatt meeting space and an organizational meeting followed. Extra time was spent in the LBCC Grand Ballroom, which will be the site of the inaugural USITT Sound Lab in 2012.



After the meeting, several members made a pilgrimage to the Yard House, just across Shoreline Drive from the hotel, for dinner and a sampling of some of the 180-plus beers on tap. Others drove a few miles south to visit another old friend, the Belmont Brewing Company, located right on the beach by the Belmont Pier.

Saturday's meeting convened early and concluded many hours later, after a careful review of all the proposed sessions and Professional Development Workshops. Members also reviewed proposals for a number of special exhibits which will be on display at Stage Expo 2012. Next year's special exhibits will also include the USITT/USA PQ 2011 National Exhibit, *From the Edge*, the student exhibit, *Emerge*, and the architecture design exhibit.

With so many restaurants close to the LBCC, choosing one for lunch was difficult, but the California Pizza Kitchen's outside patio proved a popular choice. Once the meeting concluded, dinner selections included the Auld Dubliner Pub, across the street from the LBCC, and Alegria Cocina Latina, located further up Pine Street.

Committee members are looking forward to checking out more restaurants during the January Conference Committee meeting. Plan now to travel to Long Beach March 29 to 31 for the 52nd Annual USITT Conference & Stage Expo and sample what Long Beach has to offer. For information about exhibiting at Stage Expo 2012, contact [hwillard@aol.com](mailto:hwillard@aol.com).

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Conference &amp; Stage Expo

## The Long Beach TMZ

**Brian Alan Reed** Long Beach Promotions Coordinator

Huntington Beach, and its famous pier, is just one of the beach, and more beaches, which are close at hand in Southern California. Those visiting for the 2012 Annual Conference will have their choice of sand options, airports, museums, and many other delights.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

Not long ago, I asked my theatre students what "TMZ" stands for. As I suspected, they had no idea other than that it was the name of a Hollywood gossip web site and television show. I explained to them that "TMZ" refers to the "thirty-mile zone," also known as the "studio zone." In the entertainment industry, the TMZ is the area within a 30-mile radius of the intersection of West Beverly Boulevard and North La Cienega Boulevard in Los Angeles. Industry labor unions use this zone to determine rates and work rules for their members including additional compensation for travel time between the studio and an outside-the-zone location.

With the Hollywood TMZ in mind, I consulted my map to see what might be of interest to USITT members within the Long Beach 30-mile zone—the LBTMZ. A book could be written on this subject, but I've limited myself to four categories.

### Airports



When flying in for the 2012 Annual Conference, there are three choices within the TMZ - the Long Beach Municipal Airport (LGB), Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), and Orange County's John Wayne Airport (SNA). More about getting to and from the airports will be included in a future article.

## Scenic Drives

Access to a car and the desire for beautiful scenery in the LBTMZ could lead to a trip either north or south along the coast. Driving north takes the driver along the beautiful Palos Verdes Peninsula, then Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Manhattan Beach to LAX. Heading south leads through Seal Beach, Huntington Beach, and Newport Beach (near John Wayne Airport) to the artists' colony of Laguna Beach. The weather in late March should be splendid and so should the drive.

## Museums

Besides the obvious ones, there are some favorite, smaller museums that are not usually heard of. These include the Museum of Neon in downtown L.A., the Museum of Jurassic Technology on Venice Blvd., and the Pasadena Museum of California Art. There's also the George C. Page Museum in Hancock Park, next to LACMA. It's a great museum for young and old that includes a large collection of Ice Age fossils (mammoths, mastodons, saber-toothed cats—cool stuff like that) that have been discovered in the La Brea Tar Pits adjacent to the museum.

## Home Cooking

Great food of nearly any sort can be found in the LBTMZ, but since this is the July issue of *Sightlines*, with Independence Day cook-outs around the corner, I should mention a signature California dish. It's Santa Maria-style "barbecued" beef tri-tip roast (grilled, actually, over a red oak fire). It's typically served with pinto beans, salsa, green salad, and grilled French bread. Tri-tip is served in many California steak houses and barbecue joints, but why wait until next March to sample some? Variations on the simple, traditional recipe are easily found on the internet, so give it a try this summer. It goes especially well with a good red wine or microbrew from the Central Coast - but lemonade will do just fine.

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Conference &amp; Stage Expo

**Shine Light on Props**

Elizabeth Popiel Scene Design Commission



Photos/Liz Popiel

Designed or built a delightful or unusual stage prop and want to share it with the world? Planning on attending the 2012 USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Long Beach?

Send a picture of this prop -- along with a brief description of what, when and how it was made -- for consideration for: *"I Made It Myself,"* a juried poster session for next year's conference. If the proposal is accepted, complete guidelines for the poster presentation will be sent back. Include relevant names and titles of designer or craftspersons.

Awards will be given for creativity, craftsmanship, and best solution to a problem.



Deadline for entries is August 16. Candidates will be notified of acceptance by September 30. Send entries by e-mail to: [propsUSITT@gmail.com](mailto:propsUSITT@gmail.com) with last name and Poster Session entry 1 in the subject heading.

Questions can be directed to Session Chair Liz Popiel at [scenicdesigner@hotmail.com](mailto:scenicdesigner@hotmail.com).



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# Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members



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## 2011 Costume Symposium

July 28-30  
Southern Illinois  
University



### 2011-2014

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- Jennifer L. Knott
- Andi Lyons
- Kevin Rigdon
- Loren Schreiber
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