

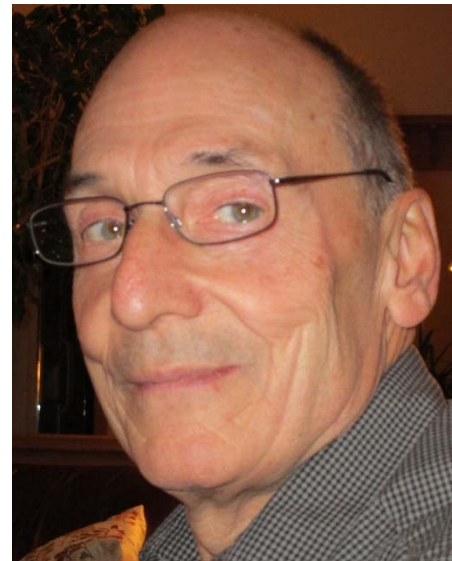
# So Many Reasons to Support USITT

by Dennis Dorn

*Dennis Dorn, when asked why he gives to USITT, provided not one, but many, many, reasons why he continues his support.*

USITT influenced my career and those of my students, allowing them the opportunity to be introduced to the industry via a large audience of attendees and readers, and the potential for networking with future colleagues and friends.

I received the first Kook grant -- to measure the actual strength of standard theatrical wood and wood/metal staging structures. RESULT: two *TD&T* articles and three MFA theses at both UW-Madison and Yale School of Drama.



Need more reasons? A sampling of the Technical Production Commission sponsored grants – all made possible by support to USITT:

- Technical Director Job Satisfaction surveys: Three separate reports: initial, 10-yr and 20-yr anniversary; 2 funded largely through USITT – RESULT: TD&T articles and nearly half-dozen conference sessions: 2 MFA theses
- Poly-urethane foam applications in theatre scenery and props One MFA thesis
- Grid-core (space panel developed by US Forest Products service) research and analysis – RESULT: Conference session in Nashville involving Forest Product investigators & one MFA thesis
- Wheatboard – Plant material used to create fiber panel substitute for wood boards, plywood, OSB, and particle board. Two conference sessions and one MFA
- Paper tubes used in set and props construction. RESULT – 3 MFA theses – Collaboration with Forest Products Lab and tube manufacturers.

Opportunities to meet and collaborate with many industry and academic colleagues on a variety of projects, and on a huge variety of levels, personal and professional. I continue to follow and interact with past students (and in some cases with my students' students) and their families and friends...

Strong connections (since 1977) as a member of the Midwest Section.

**It is important to me to give back to an organization that provided opportunity in so many ways so that others may have similar opportunity. Some ways to do this are:**

- Time and service;
- Monthly or regular donations of small amounts;
- Annual gift at time of conference or end of year;
- Estate giving can be as simple as making USITT the first beneficiary on a live-insurance policy, noting the amount with the balance going to family or other designees – OR disposing of appreciated stock that will save the donor a large tax bill.

**YEAH!!!! I've done/do all of the above. Every little bit helps, especially when everyone gives, even just a little bit.**