



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Lead story ›](#)

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

[VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF ›](#)

[CONTACT THE EDITOR ›](#)

[Search the Archives](#)

GO

[SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE ›](#)



DeGaetani Award Honors PlayhouseSquare

Cleveland's resurgence as a performing arts community will be honored with the Thomas DeGaetani award in March... [more »](#)



2016 Board of Directors Mentees Wanted

Applications are being accepted for two USITT Board mentees who will get an inside view of the governance of a national organization... [more »](#)



16 Day Tour Features Germany and Czech Republic

USITT is providing a tour packed with theatres and exhibitions, including Stage/ Set/ Scenery in Berlin, and the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design & Space... [more »](#)



Ken Billington to Receive New Award

Adjudicators have chosen Ken Billington to receive the new Wally Russell Mentoring Award, honoring the late Mr. Russell, who helped many along their career paths... [more »](#)



12 Gateway Scholars Named

The Gateway mentorship program will pair a dozen students from underrepresented populations to attend the Annual Conference, and be paired with mentors of similar interests... [more »](#)



USITT Fellow Pat MacKay to Receive TEA Award

The Themed Entertainment Association will present Patricia MacKay with its Distinguished Service Award as part of its Thea Awards in March... [more »](#)



Spotlight on Giving

Keeping a safe and supporting professional family strong for the next generation... [more »](#)



USITT's President: Beginning in March

What starts at the next Annual Conference is only part of the learning that can continue throughout the coming year... [more »](#)



Executive Director: Conference Recordings are HERE

Requests for recordings of sessions so that they can be used beyond the Annual Conference will become a reality in 2015, with great selection and modest pricing... [more »](#)



3D Printing for Costuming

Advances in 3D printing technology provide a vast array of opportunities for costuming which will be explored in Cincinnati... [more »](#)



Fine Art and Fun Items Offered

Drawings and renderings from the hands of Jo Mielziner, Richard Pilbrow, Nadine Charlsen and more will be auctioned and a “garage sale” of books, bulbs, and beyond are all available... [more »](#)



Author Signings in Cincy to Include “Steeeeeeb”

Steve Younkins, creator of Q2Q Comics, will be one of 11 member authors signing books or printed panels in Cincinnati... [more »](#)



Get Interactive with Paint Lab

Scenic artists will be hands-on, not only with the Scenic Art Challenge but also with workshops and demonstrations as part of Paint Lab at Stage Expo... [more »](#)



Cue Cincinnati - - and GO

Planners are getting more than 200 sessions and demonstrations ready for the 2015 Conference, exhibitors are planning some surprises, and the city is offering great entertainment... [more »](#)



The Last Word – Reflections from Dr. Joel E. Rubin

AS USITT approaches its 2015 Conference, one of our Founders reflects on his involvement with the organization... [more »](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- H&H Provides Six Student Scholarships to Conference
- Announce YD&T Zelma Weisfeld Award Winner
- Got Projects? Scenic Design Compendium Deadline March 1
- Offer Six-Day Lighting Intensive for Teachers
- Approves Fall Arrest Standard for Portable Structures
- TCG Launches New Grant Program, Announces Winners

NEWS FROM: SUSTAINING MEMBERS

- **Live! Technologies:** New Sustaining Member
- **GLP:** New LED Batten Lights Super Bowl Halftime Show
- **RC4 Wireless:** Super Solution to Saturated Super Bowl Frequency
- **Theatre Projects:** New Chinese Theatre Features Spectacular Water Show
- **Vectorworks:** Plan Design Summit in Philadelphia
- **Cobalt Studios:** Offers Spring Courses
- **Mega-Lite:** Introduces the Outshine T54

NEWS FROM: CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

- **Rose Brand:** Micallef Joins Sales Team
- **Meyer Sound:** Yavapai College Installs MINA
- **ETC:** Eos Ti Brings Autistic World of *The Curious Incident* to Life

NEWS FROM: AROUND THE INSTITUTE

- See You in Cincinnati?
- Follow the Action!
- Tosti-Lane Retires from Cornish College

NEWS FROM: REGIONAL SECTIONS

- Section Meetings in Cincinnati
- **Midwest Regional Section:** Design Competition
- **Midwest Regional Section:** StageSource

[Lead story »](#)



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015

[Print this page ›](#)

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Cleveland's PlayhouseSquare Wins 2015 DeGaetani Award

Janet Gramza *Communications Associate*



PlayhouseSquare of Cleveland, Ohio, will receive USITT's Thomas DeGaetani Award at the 55th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cleveland.

PlayhouseSquare is a non-profit that rescued and renovated five historic theatres, and operates 10 performance venues in downtown Cleveland.



PlayhouseSquare®

Jeff Gress, Chair of USITT's Ohio Valley Regional Section, said the section nominated PlayhouseSquare and Art Falco, its president and CEO, "for their stewardship, vision, and service to the greater community."

The award, named for USITT's first president, recognizes an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to the performing arts in a specific region of the country. Playhouse Square Production Director Robert Mingus will accept the award during the Conference's opening ceremonies on Wednesday, March 18.

PlayhouseSquare began in 1972 as a grassroots effort to rescue two crumbling 1920s theatres – the Ohio and the State -- from the wrecking

ball. Local organizers formed a foundation that staged fund-raising performances and organized a successful \$40 million capital campaign to renovate and reopen those theatres and three other 1920s theatres over the next two decades.

This led to a downtown revitalization and created the nation's largest performing arts center outside New York City. PlayhouseSquare manages 10 performance spaces that house five resident companies, draw more than 1 million people, and contribute over \$43 million annually to the area's economy.

PlayhouseSquare also has formed a local development corporation that owns 1.6 million square feet of office and retail space in Cleveland and developed the 205-room Wyndham Cleveland Hotel. It has become a leader in arts education, creating the nationally acclaimed *Partners in Performance* bus subsidy program that has brought 60,000-plus students to shows since 2009.

Its theatres range from 150 seats to 3,200, with recent shows ranging from the Cleveland Play House production of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* to Great Lakes Theater's *Dial 'M' for Murder* to *Cleveland Comedy Jam*, the touring production of *Pippin*, and Hal Holbrook in *Mark Twain Tonight*.

"Supporting diverse artists, from emerging dance and music to Broadway classics, PlayhouseSquare presents the full range of American theatrical production," Mr. Gress said. "PlayhouseSquare has become a model in financial sustainability in service to excellence in artistic creation."

For information on PlayhouseSquare, visit www.playhousesquare.org.





[« Front page](#)

[Next story »](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Mentees Discover What Makes USITT 'Tick'

Curious about why USITT is so successful? Want to be privy to the inner workings of the Institute?

Then [apply for the third round of the Board Fellowship/Mentorship Program](#). The deadline is April 28.

The program allows students and those new to the theatre professions to gain leadership training while being involved in the Institute's governance. Benefits and responsibilities of those selected to be mentees include:

- access to the board information and privileges (board portal, sharepoint access, board documents) of USITT
- participation in 3 electronic board meetings and two face-to-face board meetings
- travel and accommodations to the Annual Retreat (2015) in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- travel and accommodations to the Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Salt Lake City, March 2016.
- one year's membership to USITT (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016). If you are already a member at the time of selection, your membership will be extended by a year.

The total estimated value of the board mentorship package is \$3,000 to \$3,500 per person. Two applicants are chosen each year.

Is it worth it? Find out what current mentees Debra Sherrer and Mary Jean



MJ Sedlock, left, one of the 2014-15 USITT Board Mentees, sitting in with the Board of Directors at their August 2014 meeting in Nashville.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

Sedlock (as well as former mentee Pinky Estell) [say about the program](#).

[Click here for more details.](#)

[« Previous story](#)

[Next story »](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015

Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Study Tour Includes PQ '15, Stage/Set/Scenery



Opportunities to experience both the Prague Quadrennial and the Stage/Set/Scenery event in Berlin have been packaged in a 16-day tour of Germany and the Czech Republic in June.

Tour dates are June 9 to 24 for the theatre and architectural tour. To be as inclusive as possible, special accommodations and lower pricing for those wishing to stay in student hostels will be available. Tour leaders Alessia Carpoca and Mike Monsos created the option with MGTourCo. to make the study tour affordable to younger travelers who may have more limited budgets.

Price for the land package is just \$2,940 (double occupancy) for those staying in three- or four-star hotels. Cost is \$1,760 for the student hostel option.

Day trips, such as a visit to the magnificent palace of Frederick the Great in Potsdam, and a private tour of the Semper Opera House in Dresden and the Margravia Opera House in Bayreuth are planned. In Plzen, the city credited with creating Pilsner beer, both the J.K. Tyl Theatre and the Brewery Museum are on the itinerary. On the itinerary is a day trip to Cesky Krumlov, the UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a beautifully preserved medieval town, including the Cesky Krumlov Castle and the

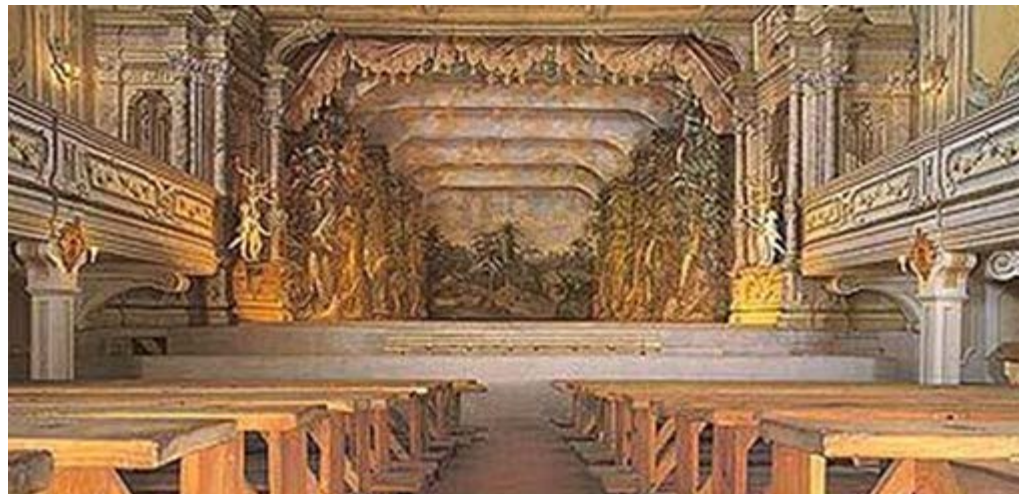


Baroque Theatre.

The 2015 Study Tour will start in Berlin. Participants will meet with German theatre professionals and have three-day passes to Stage/Set/Scenery. The tour will end in Prague where tickets and transportation to the Prague Quadrennial is included, as is entrance to the Prague Castle, St. Vitus Church, and other museums.

Participants can expect extensive walking to visit the wide variety of events, sites, museums, theatres, and castles included in the tour.

For a complete, day-by-day itinerary, visit www.usitt.org/2015studytour. MG Tour Company, Inc., which is assisting in arranging the tour and taking reservations, can be reached at tourequest@mgtourco.com. The company can also help with flights to Europe and accommodations before and after the tour events.



[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Billington to Receive First Mentor Award

Janet Gramza *Communications Associate*

Lighting Designer Ken Billington will receive the first Wally Russell Mentor Award at the Cincinnati 2015 Conference & Stage Expo.

Several people nominated Mr. Billington for the award, established last year by USITT and the Wally Russell Foundation. It recognizes generous mentorship by an entertainment industry professional.



The award is named for the late Wally Russell, a beloved figure in lighting and theatre technology who helped many young colleagues get their start. USITT will present it Friday, March 20, as part of its *Distinguished Achievement Award Winners in Conversation*, followed by a meet-and-greet reception.

Mr. Billington is principal designer and owner of KB Associates, Inc., a New York lighting design and production firm. In the last 30 years, he has designed 98 Broadway shows including 2014's *Act One*. He has seven Tony Award nominations and won the 1997 Lighting Design Tony for *Chicago*. His designs have enhanced many acclaimed opera, dance, and concert productions. For 27 years he lit the *Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular*.

According to his fans, some of his most appreciated work has been hiring young assistants, teaching them to be great lighting designers, and helping launch their careers.

Jason Kantrowitz, a lighting designer with 25 Broadway credits and a lineup of Disney and Las Vegas spectaculars, called Mr. Billington "one of the greatest theatre mentors of our time."

"After beginning his career under the mentorship of Tharon Musser, Ken has always followed the age-old tradition of nourishing young talent, spreading his wisdom and experience, and prompting young people to think in new ways," Mr. Kantrowitz wrote. "He has guided countless lighting designers, but he has also been a brilliant influence on so many set designers, costume designers, stage managers, technical directors, managers, manufacturers, sales teams, directors, and choreographers ... He is truly a guiding force in our industry."

Another successful lighting designer, Anne E. Mills wrote, “Ken often jokes about attending ‘Musser U.’ I like to tell others that I am a proud graduate of KBU.”

“Ken hired me right out of grad school with very little professional experience,” she wrote. “He made me an integral part of his office, exposed me to the world of Broadway shows, mentored me through acquiring my union card, and generally nurtured my career into becoming the best professional that I could be.”

Anne Valentino, Eos product line manager for ETC, said she has relied on her former mentor to test every lighting desk she designs. “He is legendary,” she wrote. “And the work that we have done has impacted desks across the industry.”

In a 2008 [Playbill interview](#), Mr. Billington said, “I always wanted to be an artist, but I couldn’t paint. So I paint with light. I don’t use brushes; I use electricity.”

For more info on Mr. Billington, see his website, www.kbany.com.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Gateway Program Expands for Cincy

Janet Gramza *Communications Associate*

Last year, USITT launched its Gateway mentorship program by bringing three theatre technology students from underrepresented populations to the Fort Worth 2014 Annual Conference & Stage Expo and pairing them with professional mentors in their fields.

This year, member support and organizational partnerships are allowing 12 Gateway Scholars to attend the Conference in Cincinnati with mentors from similar backgrounds and disciplines.

"Being able to expand Gateway this much in one year is a big deal," said Kasey Allee-Foreman, chair of the Diversity Committee. "The point of this program is to pair students with a mentor to maximize their Conference experience."

"When you first go to Conference, it's overwhelming," she explained. "You don't know how to choose what you're going to do. This program sets up the mentees with a peer group and connects them to their mentor's network. It's an inside connection."

As in 2014, two of the 2015 Gateway Scholars are Tayneshia Jefferson Mentorship recipients, receiving their Conference & Stage Expo registration, one year of student membership in USITT, and travel and housing through the fund established in memory of the late USITT Board Member and Stage Management Mentor.

Four other Gateway Scholars will receive this support funded by donations to the Diversity Initiative, and six will receive partial support from their universities or organizations and partial support from the USITT Diversity Initiative.

The 2015 Gateway Scholars are:

- **Jomary Pena**, State University of New York at Oneonta - *Tayneshia Jefferson Scholar*
- **Autumn Mitchell**, Alabama State University - *Tayneshia Jefferson Scholar*
- **Lydia Pearce**, Weber State University
- **Alohilani Valdez**, University of Texas at Arlington
- **Keith Kennard**, Jackson State University
- **Sarah Haber**, Sarah Lawrence College
- **Ahmad Harris**, Joe's Movement Emporium (World Arts Focus, Inc.)

- **Marisa Melito**, DePaul University
- **Raul Luna**, University of Texas at Arlington
- **Martin Alcocer**, University of Utah
- **Karina Mena**, Allegheny College
- **Jessica Drayton**, Wright State University

Ms. Allee-Foreman said the candidates had to be nominated by a USITT member, and were sent applications to fill out, including with which underrepresented group in theatre technology they identify with, their area of interest, and why they want to participate in the program.

“We want people who are interested in diversity issues and who want to have that dialogue,” she said. “Our goal is to provide opportunities for underrepresented populations to come to the Conference, but we also want to encourage a culture of advocacy in our mentees, allowing them to become active participants in diversity and inclusion efforts.”

She said the Diversity Committee will attempt to pair each Gateway scholar with “someone who looks like me, or who has experience like me, because our backstage industry is not the most diverse. Realizing that there are others like you, who are doing what you want to do, is so important to growing in your field.”

The mentors and mentees will get to spend time together, but the participants may also connect with other mentors or students by attending sessions or receptions together. USITT hopes to continue to attract more volunteer mentors and interested mentees for next year. For more on the program, visit www.usitt.org/diversity.

[◀ Previous story](#)

[Next story ▶](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015

[Print this page ›](#)

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Fellow MacKay to Receive TEA Award

USITT Fellow Patricia MacKay will be honored by the Themed Entertainment Association with the TEA Distinguished Service Award at its annual Thea Awards in March.

A long-time member of the Institute, Ms. MacKay was named a Fellow in 1984. TEA credits her with helping form a bridge between the theatre industry and themed entertainment for 25 years.



Ms. MacKay founded the publishing entity that produced *Lighting Dimensions* (now *Live Design*), and the LDI trade show. On TEA's creation in 1991, she worked to promote mutual interests between the two industries, organizing workshops and events such as Themed Entertainment Weekends and Women in Technology meetings. She has helped organize the annual Thea Awards since the 1990s. In 2012, she became a co-chair of the annual TEA Summit conference.

"Pat MacKay has continuously and generously given of her unique perspective, resources, and connections – as well as her time - to further TEA's mission," said TEA President Steve Birket. "She has done much to help drive awareness of the industry, and awareness within the industry consistently - with passion, humor, intelligence and style."

The TEA Distinguished Service Award was established four years ago to recognize a TEA member's outstanding contributions.

A pioneering figure in entertainment communications, Ms. MacKay currently divides her time between her consulting group [Ones&ZerosMedia](#) and her role as editorial director for Quite Specific Media Group. She is working on digital development and content projects in theatre, film, themed entertainment, costume, sets, projection, and lighting under the banner of A Pat MacKay Project for Quite Specific Media.

Over the years, Ms. MacKay has presented panels and workshops on entertainment architecture, theatre architecture and themed entertainment, and location-based entertainment design. In the 1980s, she co-chaired the U.S.A.'s golden-Trigue-winning Prague Quadrennial Committee. She is a winner of both the New England Theatre Award and the USITT Health & Safety Award.

She has served on the Wally Foundation Board of Directors and is active on the

USITT Fellows Make It So task force. In 2007, she was honored with LDI's Light In Life award. In 2012, she produced sessions for the annual USITT Conference aimed at bringing themed entertainment professionals together with performing arts professionals to learn from each other.

The public is welcome to attend the black-tie 21st Annual Thea Awards Gala, which will be held March 21 at the Disneyland Hotel, Disneyland Resort, Anaheim Calif. For more information, visit www.teaconnect.org.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News & Notices

Announcements

- [H&H Provides Six Student Scholarships to Conference](#)
- [Announce YD&T Zelma Weisfeld Award Winner](#)
- [Got Projects? Scenic Design Compendium Deadline March 1](#)
- [Offer Six-Day Lighting Intensive for Teachers](#)
- [Approves Fall Arrest Standard for Portable Structures](#)
- [TCG Launches New Grant Program, Announces Winners](#)

H&H Provides Six Student Scholarships to Conference

USITT Contributing Member H & H Specialties has again provided six scholarships to the Annual Conference & Stage Expo for students who have been members of the Institute for at least a year.

The winners are John Hobson of James Madison University in Virginia, Kiah Kayler of University of Arkansas, Alexandra Mauch of High Point University in North Carolina, Mike Millul of Northern Illinois University, Tim Strickland of James Madison University, and Courtney Michelle Winkelman of Auburn University in Alabama. The names were drawn randomly from all student members who registered for the Conference by the Very Early Registration deadline of December 5.

H&H Specialties also helps sponsor USITT's Rigging Safety Initiative for student stages. The company can be found at www.hhspecialties.com.

Announce YD&T Zelma Weisfeld Award Winner

Maureen Freedman, a graduate student at the University of Connecticut, is the winner of the 2015 Zelma H. Weisfeld Costume Design & Technology Award.

Ms. Freedman is one of 11 young artists who will be honored at USITT's Young Designers & Technicians in the Performing Arts awards at the 2015 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati on March 19.

She is about to earn her MFA in dramatic arts design from UConn and has already served an apprenticeship with designer Rodney Gordon in New York. Costume Designer Laura Crow, who had Ms. Freedman in three classes and

nominated her for the award, described her as “the perfect combination of excellent costume designer and very skilled craftsperson.”

“When Maureen designed *Hairspray* for Connecticut Repertory Theatre with a guest director and guest choreographer from New York City, she was able to work as an equal,” Ms. Crow wrote. “She created a design that took *Hairspray* out of the glitzy standard from the Broadway show and put it in a more political place. The characters had substantial weight and texture as a result.”

Got Projects? Scenic Design Compendium Deadline March 1

The deadline to submit ideas for *Projects for Teaching Scene Design: A Compendium* is quickly drawing near.

New projects and updated old favorites will be included in the new edition. Now is the chance to submit an idea. Final submissions will be accepted through March 1. Projects can be submitted online, and a panel of editors will select those to be included based on clear outcomes or learning objectives, uniqueness, and creativity.

The final product will be available both as a hardcopy in a three-ring binder at the USITT Bookstore at the Conference as well as a print on demand/downloadable option throughout the year.

Additional questions can be directed to the panel of editors (Tammy Honesty, Gion DeFrancesco, and Brian Ruggaber) at usittscenicdesigncompendium@gmail.com.

Offer Six-Day Lighting Intensive for Teachers

Twenty-one scholarship grants are available to help people attend the special Teachers of Lighting Workshop June 14 to 19 at the GE Lighting Institute in Nela Park, Cleveland, Ohio.

Applications for the event are due March 9. The Illuminating Engineering Society and GE Lighting Institute are the sponsors. For complete details, visit www.ies.org/tolw.

This is a six-day immersion in lighting with experts providing the content in studio or lecture format. Twenty-one scholarship grants will cover the tuition, lodging, and most meals. For more information, contact RebeccaHadleyCatter@eaton.com or dginthner@umn.edu.

Approves Fall Arrest Standard for Portable Structures

ANSI's Board of Standards Review approved and published *ANSI E1.39 – 2015, Entertainment Technology – Selection and Use of Personal Fall Arrest Systems on Portable Structures Used in the Entertainment Industry* on January 28. It is now available for free download at tsp.plasa.org/freestandards, made possible by the sponsorship of Prosight Specialty Insurance.

The standard establishes minimum requirements for the selection and use of personal fall arrest systems on portable structures in the entertainment industry. Other methods of fall protection, such as safety nets and guard rails, are not within the scope of this standard.

TCG Launches New Grant Program, Announces Winners

Theatre Communications Group (TCG) has launched ON the STAGE, a new grant program focusing on international touring and announced the recipients for the latest round of Global Connections.

The deadline to apply for the next round of Global Connections grants is March 11. [Guidelines and applications can be found here.](#)

Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this grant program encourages reciprocity and cultural exchange through ON the ROAD grants, to foster new relationships with international colleagues, and IN the LAB grants, to further pre-existing international collaborations. Now in its fourth year, this round of the Global Connections program awarded a total of \$33,045 to seven projects through ON the ROAD and a total of \$30,000 to three projects through IN the LAB, with over \$400,000 awarded to date.

Thanks to additional support from the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, TCG is excited to announce ON the STAGE grants. This new initiative is designed to share U.S. culture with global audiences through sustained international tours and/or co-productions. Up to five grants between \$10,000 and \$15,000 will be awarded to theatres located in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut to tour a work internationally or to present international work on their stages. The application process for ON the STAGE will launch along with the next cycle of IN the LAB and ON the ROAD grants, with a shared application deadline of March 11.

[For a list of the latest ON the ROAD and IN the LAB recipients, visit TCG's page.](#)

[« Previous story](#)

[Next story »](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Front page ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

The Last Word:

Founder Reflects on USITT

Joel E. Rubin, PhD

I have always taken great pride in being the co-founder of USITT.

Meeting Tom DeGaetani was due to the designer David Hays (later founder of the "Theatre of the Deaf") who heard both Tom and myself expressing similar comments about the lack of coordination and cooperation between those concerned with designing new theatres. It seems impossible that over 55 years have passed since the founding conference in New York City. In thinking about my term as the second President of USITT I take the most pride in putting together (a) the team and financing for *Theatre Design and Technology*, itself now entering its own 50th year, (b) creating a USITT Office and a full-time (one-person) staff and (c) growing the membership including a budding chapter in Canada.

And having finished that term as President, incoming President Donald Swinney convinced me and later the USITT Board of Directors that we must begin to pursue communication with like communities of designers and technicians and architects around the world. We started making these international contacts as early as 1965, and through various false starts and stops ended up as prime movers in the creation of what in 1969 became OISTAT, established and funded by the Czech Ministry of Culture in Prague.

Four years later as the second President of OISTAT I had the problem of finding a Czech successor when our Secretary General Ota Ornest was jailed on charge of sedition. (Later, of course, exonerated!) Our friendship with the Czech designer Josef Svoboda solved that problem when Svoboda agreed to the use of his name, and the Ministry resumed our funding. I suppose the exhilaration of being a "founder" of OISTAT was exceeded only by being the captain of the USITT team for the United States Exhibition (co-leader was Patricia MacKay) of the Golden Triga (first-prize) winner of the 1987 Prague



Quadrennial of Scenography and Theatre Architecture. Patricia and I were good organizers and fund-raisers and fortunately we had secured John Conklin and Jennifer Tipton as exhibit designers.

I've been pleased to be called a mentor by some of those I introduced into our international efforts including Arnold Aronson, Eric Fielding, Michael Ramsaur, Steve Terry, Alexandra Bonds and the late Samuel Scripps (who turned out to be a huge supporter of USITT's international efforts). I should note that Fellow Eric Fielding as well as the late Ned Bowman have been my creative co-chairs of USITT's international efforts.

It is also time to give thanks to the (late) Kliegl Bros. Lighting Company where its then President Herbert A. Kliegl supported my international comings and goings for over 20 years, and later to (again, the late) Artec Consultants where Russ Johnson did the same for ten years. Of course I tried to be a productive member of the management and design teams at both of those venerable institutions over those same periods of time.

As Artec Consultants was fading in the mid 1990's, I established my own consulting firm providing services in theatre planning with a specialty in theatre and concert hall lighting. That has provided the opportunity for even more travel and the design of new performance facilities in Budapest, in Aalborg, Denmark, in Finland, Japan, Montreal, California, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Florida, and where else have I been? That work is continuing and I'm always game for new and interesting projects.

I don't know where I got the idea that I was responsible for collecting all of the available theatre lighting history and technology that came my way, but it was aided and abetted by all of that international travel. Subsequently, and for several years now, I have been annotating and shipping boxes and boxes of lighting collectibles off to the Lawrence and Lee Theatre Research Library at Ohio State University. A group of very unique "pose" slides from the early 1900's I had salvaged from the Kliegl rubbish bins were the subject of an article in the Fall 2014 *TD&T*. I like the Lawrence and Lee as a repository because part of the theatre department graduation requirement includes research into some aspect of the Library's collection.

I had the honor to address the USITT Conferences for the 40th and 50th USITT Anniversaries and (hint, hint) maybe someone will think to invite me for the Conference that celebrates 60 years of USITT. Meantime, it's great to be a Fellow of USITT and watch all of those (you!) youngsters hard at work guiding USITT to even greater success.

[« Previous story](#)

[Front page »](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News From Around the Institute

- [See You in Cincinnati?](#)
- [Follow the Action!](#)
- [Tosti-Lane Retires from Cornish College](#)

See You in Cincinnati?

There is still time to decide to attend the 55th Annual Conference & Stage Expo. New presenters, exciting sessions, and a whole constellation of creative intersections will be part of the March 18 to 21 event.

On-site registration will open early Wednesday morning in the lobby of the Duke Energy Convention Center.

To speed the process, register online (www.usittshow.org) and save time picking up credentials.

Whether you call it Porkopolis or the Queen City, see you in Cincy...

Follow the Action!

The applications have been submitted, and teams have been chosen! They don't know who they're working with yet, but designers and theatre directors are gearing up for the Rose Brand Action Design competition.

Each team is challenged to create a design from a mystery theme with limited supplies. Get ready to vote for a favorite design. Track the progress of the four Action Design teams on Rose Brand's [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages starting March 18 during the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio. Use hashtag #ActionDesign2015 to see the latest photos and posts from this year's competition.



Tosti-Lane Retires from Cornish College

Long-time Cornish College professor and chair of Performance Production Department Dave Tosti-Lane retired in December, and Ron Ericson and Greg Carter were named as interim co-chairs.

Mr. Tosti-Lane, a stalwart of the Sound Design & Technology Commission, will continue his stint as Sound Commissioner for USITT.

Mr. Carter, an associate professor, is the founding artistic director of Strawberry Theatre Workshop (Strawshop) which won the 2007 Stranger Genius Award for an Arts Organization, and was nominated in four consecutive years for the TPS Gregory Award for Outstanding Production from 2010 to 2013. Mr. Carter is the former production manager at Book-It Repertory Theatre.

Mr. Erickson is head of wardrobe at Seattle Opera, and has designed costumes and scenery for Pacific Northwest Ballet, Intiman, and others. He has taught at Cornish College for more than 30 years and is a founding faculty member of the Performance Production Department, where he is head of costume design.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News From

Contributing Members

- **Rose Brand:** Micallef Joins Sales Team
- **Meyer Sound:** Yavapai College Installs MINA
- **ETC:** Eos Ti Brings Autistic World of *The Curious Incident* to Life

Rose Brand: Micallef Joins Sales Team

Julian Micallef joins the inside sales team at **Rose Brand** in the company's Los Angeles office. His diverse professional background includes over six years in technical theatre and design, event production, and property management.

Prior to relocating to Los Angeles, Mr. Micallef was a technician for *Beach Blanket Babylon*, a staple of San Francisco culture that has been running for 40 years. Through his experience in theatre, he has learned many skills including scenic installation, stage management, and projection setup. He has extensive experience working with live performance, special events, festivals, film and music projects, and entertainment productions.

He has a BA degree from the University of San Francisco where he was a double major in philosophy, and performing arts and social justice.



Meyer Sound: Yavapai College Installs MINA

To meet the growing demand for high-profile artists and productions in Prescott, Arizona, the 1100-seat Yavapai College Performing Arts Center (YCPAC) installed a versatile **Meyer Sound** MINA line array loudspeaker system as part of a major renovation.

Since YCPAC's re-opening, MINA has supported productions from Peter Frampton, *Magic of Motown*, and the Senegal St. Joseph Gospel Choir to



the Manhattan Short Film Festival.

“With the new MINA arrays, the YCPAC has an amazing system for live performances, with even coverage throughout the entire venue,” says Tom Aldridge, YCPAC presentation technology manager. “It sounds great, and meeting the requirements on a tech rider is greatly simplified. When people find out we’re running a Meyer rig, everything gets a bit easier.”

The system was designed and installed by Chandler, Ariz.-based TPI.

More information is available at 510-486-1166; fax 510-486-8356; winnie@meyersound.com; or www.meyersound.com. Become a fan of [Meyer Sound on Facebook](#).

ETC: Eos Ti Brings Autistic World of *The Curious Incident* to Life



Photo/Joan Marcus

Originally an internationally best-selling novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* made its stage debut in London at the National Theatre and has since made its way to Broadway. The production, called one of the most

fully immersive works to ever wallop Broadway, relies heavily on pixel-mapping technology and uses an **ETC** Eos Titanium (Eos Ti) lighting system.

The show follows the story of Christopher, a 15-year-old autistic boy who attempts to solve the unexpected murder of a neighbor's poodle. Lighting designer Paule Constable faced a unique challenge: interpreting Christopher's subjective sensory experiences into something the audience could experience. To bring Christopher's acutely attuned reality to life on stage, the show's creative team turned the Barrymore Theatre's stage into a sort of magic box, whose walls are made of individual square pixels to create a visual representation of Christopher's inner reality.

The lighting rig was equipped with a handful of Source Four ellipsoids for subtle profile light, as well as several Source Four Revolution automated fixtures for the controlled tungsten, all of which were run from an Eos Ti lighting desk. Ti's Magic Sheets help keep the show's technical elements organized in a visual structure that saves time and hassle. One strength of the Eos Ti lighting desk is its ability to be flexible without sacrificing power. Ti's mappable macro keys were an essential time-saving tool when it came to programming *The Curious Incident*.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015

[Print this page ›](#)

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Spotlight on Giving

So Many Reasons to Support USITT



Andi Lyons with colleagues socializing after a 2013 Board of Directors and planning meeting in San Francisco.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

I support my home with time and money to maintain it because I care about my family who lives there with me, because I enjoy spending time there, and because I feel safe in, and sustained by, that environment.

Similarly, I support USITT with my time and money because I care about the people who have become my professional family, because I enjoy spending time in their company, and because I feel safe and supported by USITT in so many ways that have directly and indirectly helped me, both personally and professionally, over the years.

I fully expect USITT will long outlive me, and I want to do my part to help make sure it is in good shape for the next generation and beyond.

Andi Lyons

[Giving Opportunities »](#)

Contributions from 1/15/2015 to 2/15/2015

Kook Fund

- Bruce Auerbach
- Alexandra Bonds
- Sylvia Pannell
- Dennis Dorn
- Charles Williams

New Century Fund

- Steen Mitchell *In honor/memory of Jack Watson*

Walley Russell Fund

- Charles Williams
- Kristopher Gardner *In memory of Tayneshia Jefferson*

New Century Fund - Diversity

- Michael Mehler
- Marva Pradier *In memory of Tayneshia Jefferson*
- Nan Arceneaux *In memory of Tayneshia Jefferson*

Samuel Scripps International Fund

- Richard Durst
- Alexandra Bonds
- Kevin Rigdon

USITT Fund

- Mark Shanda

General Operations

- Darrell Ziegler
- Carolyn Satter
- Richard Finkelstein
- Sylvia Pannell
- William Browning
- Carl Lefko
- Dennis Dorn
- Sherry Wagner-Henry
- Brent Henry
- Emily Gill
- David Grindle

- Kimb Williamson
- Martha Marking

Fellows Fund

- Arnold Aronson
- Alexandra Bonds

◀ Previous story

Next story ▶

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News From Sustaining Members

- **Live! Technologies:** New Sustaining Member
- **GLP:** New LED Batten Lights Super Bowl Halftime Show
- **RC4 Wireless:** Super Solution to Saturated Super Bowl Frequency
- **Theatre Projects:** New Chinese Theatre Features Spectacular Water Show
- **Vectorworks:** Plan Design Summit in Philadelphia
- **Cobalt Studios:** Offers Spring Courses
- **Mega-Lite:** Introduces the Outshine T54

Live! Technologies: New Sustaining Member

We welcome **Live! Technologies** as a new Sustaining member of the organization. The company will be exhibiting at Stage Expo in Cincinnati.

Their website at www.reallivepros.com shows off the many aspects of the company, from live events to AV installations, to production, to creative services.

"We exist for the busy professional looking to enhance and elevate their meeting and event spaces. From boardrooms to ballrooms and beyond, we deliver seamlessly executed live experiences through creative design, engaging event production, and intelligent technology installation," they note.

GLP: New LED Batten Lights Super Bowl Halftime Show



Photo credit: Al Pereira / Getty Images

GLP could hardly have picked a more auspicious event than the legendary Halftime Show at [Super Bowl XLIX](#) in Glendale, Arizona for its new X4 Bar 20 LED batten to make a spectacular North American debut.

During the 12-minute segment, which [Katy Perry](#) headlined, experienced Lighting Designer Bob Barnhart (of Full Flood) used 12 of the new X4 Bar 20, as well as 16 of another recently introduced fixture, GLP's large format [impression X4 XL](#) (which features 55 x 15W LEDs).

The X4 Bar 20's zooming and tilting features and low profile helped produce different effects. At one point, Ms. Perry entered the stage on a giant tiger (with her performing sharks) to be joined by Lenny Kravitz and Missy Elliott.

The lighting inventory was provided by PRG's Los Angeles-based account manager (and Super Bowl veteran) Tony Ward

RC4 Wireless: Super Solution to Saturated Super Bowl Frequency



When it comes to big stages, there are few with as many operational complexities as the annual Super Bowl. Coordinating wireless controls for lighting around the stadium to keep from interfering with the frequencies used by the NFL was a challenge met by **RC4 Wireless**.

To help lighting designers stay off of an already saturated 2.4GHz band in an environment where hard wiring was impossible, the company offered the RC4Magic-900, a 900MHz version of the RC4Magic Series 3 wireless DMX and dimming system which recently won a PLASA Award for Innovation.

While other companies struggle to improve how they utilize the crowded 2.4GHz band, RC4 sees opportunities to move out of 2.4GHz entirely.

"902-928Mhz is limited to The United States, Canada, Brazil, Singapore, and Australia," declared James David Smith, the founder and chief product developer at RC4 Wireless. "Even so, we have seen several of our largest theme park, theatre, stadium, and North American tour customers shifting away from 2.4GHz. When I created RC4 Harmonized Design to accommodate not only our own 2.4GHz RF solutions but also industry-acclaimed LumenRadio CRMX and Wireless Solution W-DMX, the result was a versatile, patent-pending platform for rapidly solving new problems with maximum dependability. Incorporating alternate RF technologies is one of numerous powerful advantages."

Theatre Projects: New Chinese Theatre Features Spectacular Water Show

The [Han Show Theater](#) in Wuhan, Hubei is the most ambitious theatre ever undertaken by **Theatre Projects** and the most spectacular performance space in all of China. It's a purpose-built 2,000-seat theatre which is home to an equally ambitious water spectacular, the Han Show, which premiered on December 20.

The grand opening marked the culmination of four years of design and construction. The awe-inspiring water spectacle and iconic venue anchor one end of the new, mile-long Han Street retail, dining, and business district.

Working for the Wanda Cultural Tourism Planning & Research Institute Co., Ltd., Theatre Projects provided full theatre consulting services. This included a vast array of non-conventional specialized equipment required for an extraordinarily complex water show. Theatre Projects also provided on-site project management throughout design and construction.

The cylindrical Han Show Theater measures over 100 meters high from basement to roof and over 100 meters in diameter. Beyond the conventional, over-scale TSE systems and unique special effects, the theatre includes an 8.2 meter deep performance basin which holds over 10 million liters of water.

Vectorworks: Plan Design Summit in Philadelphia

The [Vectorworks Design Summit](#) will be held April 27 to 29 at the Sofitel Hotel

in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Join the software company that helps transform the world by attending a networking event with visionaries who share a passion for design. From dynamic keynote presentations to engaging thought-leadership breakouts, the Vectorworks Design Summit will help solve the next design challenge.

Cobalt Studios: Offers Spring Courses

As winter turns to spring, **Cobalt Studios** in White Lake, New York offers several, multi-day events for scenic artists with special instructors in two April sessions.

Bob Moody will lead *Landscape Painting for Murals and the Stage* April 6 through 10. Brandeis University's legendary professor is a lover of painting large scale dramatic landscapes. This seminar will take participants through a 9-by-12-foot landscape of their own. Learn how to masterfully render the elements of landscapes - skies, mountains, fields, rocks, and trees.

Using Pneumatic Sprayers for Scenic Artwork will be held April 13 to 16. Complete intensive, hands-on projects guided by Kamilla Harkless from Los Angeles, California, where spraying is *big*. Participants do lots of spraying, enough for the sprayer to become an extension of the hand. Walk away with four sprayed projects and the confidence to continue.

For more information on these and other courses, visit www.cobaltstudios.net

Mega-Lite: Introduces the Outshine T54

Mega-Lite recently launched the Outshine T54 par fixture for outdoor use.

The Outshine T54 is very powerful with 18 3-watt Tri-RGB LEDs and is IP rated 65. It is versatile with three modes of operation and four dimming modes, and is flicker free. The unit features silent operation, making it an ideal unit for indoor use as well. Production friendly, the Outshine T54 fits in most 12-inch truss and is lightweight. With use of the unit's double mounting yoke, it can be hung or ground stacked.



[Visit our website to learn more.](#)

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015

[Print this page ›](#)

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News From **Lea Asbell-Swanger**, *USITT President*

The Excitement Starts in March

In the earliest Roman calendar March was the first month of the year. The Romans were also quite accomplished at the public spectacle and building immense venues for the sole purpose of hosting these events. With these two thoughts in mind, it seems appropriate that the USITT Annual Conference and Stage Expo will once again this year be held in March.

For many of us, the conference serves as a kick-off to new learning opportunities as well as inspiration to accomplish the tasks ahead. While it is the culmination of a year's worth of work, it also begins, in earnest, the work toward the next conference.

As for the spectacle, we've got that covered as well. A general definition for *spectacle* refers to an "event that is memorable for the appearance it creates" and anyone that spends any time on the expo floor can see that first-hand. There are plenty of other examples of spectacle on a variety of scales. There are sessions with legendary designers and practitioners, exhibits covering every design genre, live competitions championing a variety of skills and expertise, and celebrations of work well-done – all of it memorable.

For those of you who've attended the conference in the past, this is not news, but as I write this the number of registrations is indicating that we'll have more attendees in Cincinnati than at any previous conference in our history!

Two years ago in my March Sightlines article there were also sure signs of growth which I talked about at that time. I also talked about the perception that USITT is a student focused organization and for many that perception still exists. Yes, people desiring and studying to have a career in the production side of the performing arts and entertainment industry between the ages of 18 and 22 are an important part of our membership, but they are only a part.

We are continually asked to provide conference programming that challenges those well along their career path both in terms of access to new technology and advanced skills in existing technologies, processes, and techniques. As we've expanded our education and training options beyond the conference location and timeframe, we've learned by those that opt for those opportunities that learning cannot end once a degree is achieved. The advances in technology have necessitated an acknowledgement of the importance of continuing education and training throughout a career. Employees who want to be more productive have begun to realize that a broader set of skills makes that possible and opens doors to new job possibilities. Ultimately it's the realization

that what one was taught when a student was only the tip of the iceberg.

USITT represents people all along the continuum that is our industry and it has the responsibility to move those interested to points beyond their current knowledge regardless of the generation to which they may be assigned. This means, as members, we have individual responsibility to this charge as well, so let's gather in Cincinnati in a couple of weeks and make a spectacle of learning!



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

Please e-mail Lea at Lea.Asbell-Swanger@usitt.org.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News From **David Grindle**, *USITT Executive Director*

Opening a Secret Window – Extending Conference Learning



Won't it be terrific to have sessions such as Distinguished Achievement Award presentations included in a recorded package and available after the Conference? Shown are Scenic Designer Eugene Lee and Scene Design Commissioner Michelle Harvey.

I must now acknowledge that USITT invests obscene amounts of member dollars on a black ops algorithm that schedules all of every Conference attendee's favorite sessions at the exact same time. It is a daunting task and one that we seem to get better at each year.

In all seriousness, I hope that it is the quality of our programming that is creating this challenge. For the past few years, we've been working to insure a balance of entry level, mid-level, and advanced programming. We can always get better at this, but I hope people see a significant improvement.

Even so, each year we are asked if sessions are being recorded. There have been a variety of challenges to that in the past which we now have overcome.

I am happy to report that, in 2015, Conference attendees will be able to purchase recordings (video and audio) of more than 75 sessions, a mix of events from all Commissions. While we couldn't record every session due to logistics, we will offer many of the most popular sessions on every skill level.

The other challenge of our major event is that “it’s tech week somewhere,” and people don’t have the ability to make it to the Conference. Sessions will be available for purchase by non-attendees as well.

Recordings will be grouped by Commission, and those who are attending can purchase a Commission group for \$25 each. All recordings from the 2015 Annual Conference & Stage Expo will cost \$100 for attendees. These prices are valid only during the Conference week, so please be sure to order them on site.

After March 21, members can still receive Commission sessions at \$45 per group, or \$175 for the full conference. Non-members can purchase a single group of sessions for \$75 each or buy all those that were recorded for \$300.

Recordings will be captured from an onsite stream, and most will contain the speaker’s voice and the images from the presentations. Some sessions will include video of the speakers as well. Purchasers will receive e-mail links to their items once the feeds have been processed.

A full list of sessions will be available online at www.usittshow.com.

USITT strives to make learning available to all at a reasonable price. We hope that you are able to take advantage of this new service, and we really hope it solves the problem of all the “good” sessions seeming to be at the same time. We’d really like to get those algorithm elves out of our offices!

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

News From

Regional Sections

- [Section Meetings in Cincinnati](#)
- [Midwest Regional Section: Design Competition](#)
- [Midwest Regional Section: StageSource](#)

Section Meetings in Cincinnati

Everyone attending the 2015 Annual Conference in Cincinnati has a great opportunity to learn more about USITT's Regional Sections. Thursday morning, March 19 all sections hold meetings where information is shared about regional activities. All are welcome at these events which can include awards, elections, and lively conversations. A list of sessions and their meeting places is included in the Conference program and is [available on the mobile app](#).

Midwest Regional Section: Design Competition

The Midwest Mechanical Design Competition registration is now open! This is a chance for you to show off your skills, network with students from across the Midwest, and have your work critiqued by theatre, engineering, physics, and other professionals. The competition is open to college students of all ages and skills, including undergraduate and graduate students. In the competition, students build a small, working prototype for a specified machine — trebuchet, cannon, dart shooter, etc. — and then test them out at the regional competition in May. This year, competitors will be building the wildest contraptions that they can come up with to achieve an otherwise mundane task, otherwise known as a Rube Goldberg Machine. All competitors get T-shirts. The winner will receive a Conference registration to the 2016 USITT Conference and Stage Expo in Salt Lake City. Come join us for a day of flipping, falling, bouncing, noise-making fun. [For more information about the competition, including how to register, please see the website.](#)

I hope to see you there in May!

Midwest Regional Section: *Newsies* on-stage and backstage



December 13 was an enjoyable and enlightening day for 26 members of the Midwest Regional Section who attended a backstage tour and matinee performance of the touring production of *Newsies*. The show was being performed in Chicago at the historic Oriental Theatre, more commonly known today as the Ford Center for the Performing Arts. Jennifer, head of show props and Noah, head carpenter, told the group about the technical challenges of the show as well as fielded questions. Before the opening of the tour in Philadelphia, the show had five weeks in Schenectady to work out all of the technical issues. This set was newly built for traveling and did not incorporate any of the pieces used in the NY production which played at the Nederlander, even though the set was essentially the same as the Broadway production.

This show travels in nine trucks and had a 16 hour load-in. The main set is comprised of three, 24 foot high aluminum "towers" which serve as the main acting area for much of the show. The towers are tracked up and downstage on cables within the show deck and contain a "turtle" inside the unit which allows the unit to rotate different degrees on the deck. There are LED "birdies" hidden within each of the towers. Each of the towers takes 2 1/2 hours to assemble during load in. Noah told us that he has 35 set carts used solely by his carpentry crew.

The show travels with a road crew of 15 and an additional 65-75 locals are hired for load in. There are 10-12 local crew hired as dressers. Jennifer said the main prop used in many different ways on the show are the newspapers, all printed for 1889, and as many as 200 have to get thrown out per performance. She talked about how the flash effect used for the cameras had to be done differently due to fire laws in Chicago. A light bar incorporates a CO2 cartridge and powder to create a flash effect without pyro as they have used in other cities.

One of the participants of the day commented: "While the very informational backstage tour was very interesting, the transfer to the in house patron was pure entertainment, plus to have the technical workings in mind, only added to a great day of pure live theatre. It was VERY worth the trip, and the time spent." Another said "The event was great! I personally enjoyed the performance all the

more, because thanks to the backstage tour before the show, I already knew how everything worked and where all of the light fixtures were hidden, etc., so didn't have to spend the time and brain power figuring that out during the show the way I usually do.”

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Conference & Stage Expo

To Explore 3D Printing for Costuming

Joe Kucharski *Costume Design & Technology Commission*

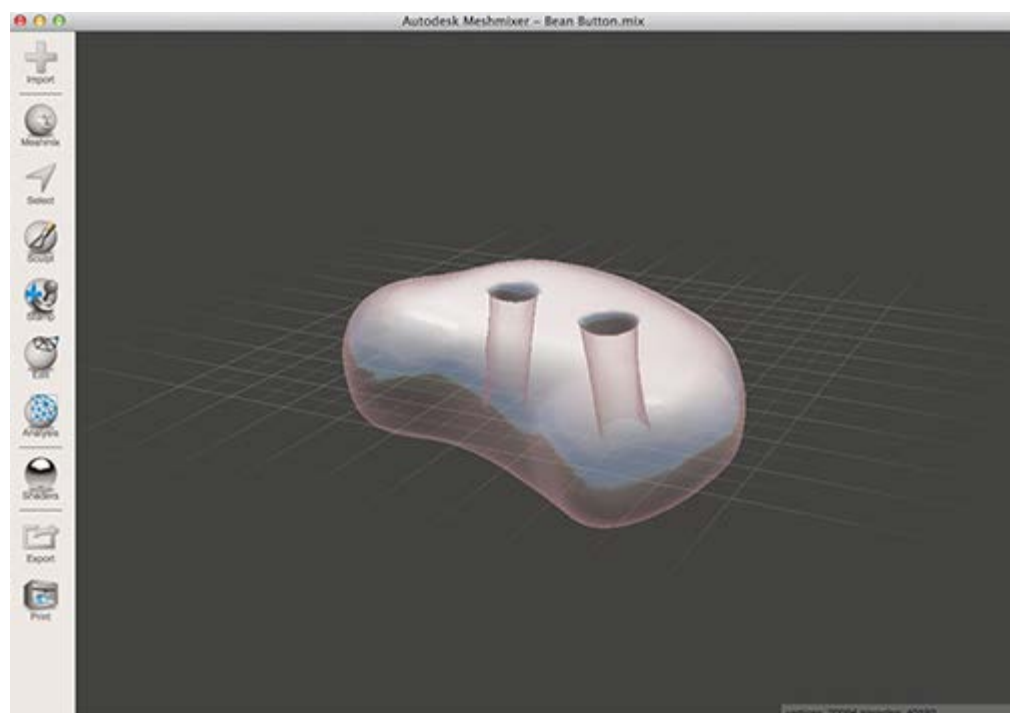


Photos/Courtesy Joe Kucharski

Want a quick and easy way to create costume pieces? Investigate the possibilities with the *3D Printing for Costumes and Technology* panel at the Cincinnati 2015 Annual Conference & Stage Expo.

Heather Milam (Indiana University), Joe Kucharski (Baylor University), and Lisa Hanusiak (Walt Disney Parks & Resorts) will discuss the ins and outs of using this technology for costumes from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Thursday, March 19 in Duke Ballroom D.

3D printing has become increasingly accessible to designers in the last 10 years and has changed the way designers can problem solve and execute designs for theatre, film, and themed entertainment.



The panelists will walk attendees through the history and three basic types of additive prototyping and manufacturing technology that costume designers and technicians can most benefit from. This will include basic software, various printing materials, and finishing techniques that can be used at universities and regional theatres.

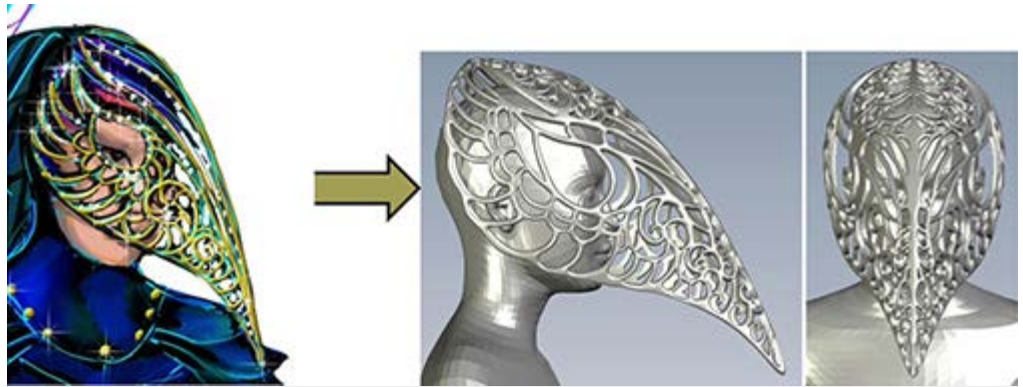
Mr. Kucharski will discuss his process of designing, digitally modeling, and 3D printing notions and small décor pieces for recent productions at Baylor University Theatre.

Ms. Hanusiak, materials and process engineer, whose collaboration with costume designer Mirena Rada on the Walt Disney World Resort's *Festival of Fantasy Parade* was featured on the professional costume design blog, *TyrannyOfStyle.com*, will talk about recent developments in 3D printing costume pieces, including case studies in additive prototyping as well as manufacturing. The panel will also feature a display of some of the large-scale, groundbreaking, 3D printed costume pieces from the *Festival of Fantasy* parade.



Initially developed over 30 years ago by engineers as a means of rapid prototyping, as the printers have advanced and become more user friendly, theatre practitioners have begun to adopt them as both a means of rapid prototyping, and rapid manufacturing, creating finished production pieces. The technology is being used in both educational theatre productions and large-

scale theme park spectacles.



Digital Sculpting - The head piece was digitally sculpted using 3D sculpting software beginning with the Costume Designer's rendering to achieve a first draft. The digital design was then finalized in an interactive sculpting session between the Costume Designer and the Digital Sculptor.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Conference & Stage Expo

Ninth Art Auction, Garage Sale Featured at Expo

Rich Dunham Art Auction Chair



Douglas W. Schmidt and Richard Pilbrow are just two of the artists whose contributed works will be part of the 2015 Art Auction.

The wait is almost over! The popular, tri-annual Theatre Art Auction and Garage Sale returns to the 55th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Silent bidding for more than 30 costume, lighting, and scenic renderings, or other theatrical design materials, artwork, and specialty items will begin 11 a.m. Thursday, March 10 on the Expo floor near the Network Nexus and will be taken until 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21. Bid numbers can be purchased for a \$5 donation to the Edward F. Kook Fund. It will not only allow bidding for the auction, it will allow purchases at the Garage Sale, which can be acquired immediately.

Held by the Grants & Fellowships Committee every three years, proceeds from the event go to the Edward F. Kook Fund. This fund, along with other USITT resources,

finances the awards made through the Grants & Fellowships program. Approximately \$300,000 has been distributed to a variety of grant and fellowship recipients. Typically, \$20,000 to \$25,000 in awards are distributed each year. The awards have helped sponsor all manner of research and technological

development with the entertainment industry. The 7-LED Seledor Lighting system developed by Rob Gerlach and Novella Smith is a primary example of research that was aided through the Grants and Fellowship Program.

The highest bids at the auction closing will determine who will receive an item. Winners (or a representative) must be present to pay for and take possession of the item. Cash, check, or credit cards will be accepted. USITT will not be responsible for packaging or shipping any item.

Theatre artists represented in this year's auction include Richard Pilbrow, Douglas Schmidt, Dunsai Dai, Jo Mielziner, Huaixiang Tan, John Scheffler, Joe Tilford, Darwin Payne, and Carolyn Ross. Some of the most interesting items are Jo Mielziner's lighting cue sheets for the original Broadway production of *Death of a Salesman*; a blueline copy of Richard Pilbrow's light plot and section for the North York Performing Arts Center (Toronto) production of *Showboat*; two signed Cirque du Soleil posters with accompanying show tickets and several rare/collectable books (some signed by the authors) ---including at least one five-volume set of costume history references. An original Denis Diderot block engraving of Stage Mechanics will be offered.

Garage Sale gems include vintage lamps, show posters, show/touring jackets from several very popular shows, and a number of books and other memorabilia from several of member collections and estates. Hit the garage sale early and often since additional items will be added throughout the week.

It's all in good fun. Help a good cause while taking home a piece of theatrical history.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)





Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Conference & Stage Expo

Q2Q Comics Author Joins Book Signing Lineup

Janet Gramza *Communications Associate*

Steve Younkens, sound designer and creator of *Q2Q Comics*, will be on hand to sign prints and do sketches from his popular theatre tech comic strip at the 55th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Steve, or “Steeeeeeb,” as he goes by on Twitter, is famous in the backstage universe for his webcomic – its techie characters, T-shirt-worthy slogans (like “It’s Tech Week Somewhere!”), and his hilarious “Anatomy of” drawings of a stage manager, lighting designer, sound designer, director, tech director, and costume designer.

Individual “Anatomy of” prints exclusive to USITT will be sold for \$8 each at the Conference & Stage Expo store, and three different Q2Q T-shirts will be available for \$20 each. Mr. Younkens’s Member Author session will be 4 p.m. Friday, March 20, at Stage Expo.

His is one of 11 member author events planned for the Conference, including book-signings by USITT 2015 Distinguished Achiever in Scene Design Douglas W. Schmidt and the authors of the new book, *The Designs of Douglas W. Schmidt*, Annie and Barry Cleveland. 2015 Golden Pen Award author Christin Essin will be there with her book, *Stage Designers in Early Twentieth Century America*:



Artists, Activists, Cultural Critics.

Mr. Younkins said the Conference will be his first appearance showcasing Q2Q Comics since he launched it a year ago. "I am incredibly excited to be able to engage with the exact people the strip is written for!" he said.

He is a company member and sound designer with the Maryland Ensemble Theater in Frederick, Maryland, and a sound designer and mentor at Hood College. He earned a BA in writing from Hood in 2011, and is now a grad student there studying modernism and

narrative in the humanities department.

A cartoonist since high school, he started making webcomics in 2007, and currently has two other strips, *Circ Jockeys* and *Doomsday Sandwiches* online. He didn't study theatre in college, but "that was where I got involved," he said. "A friend asked me to do sound for a production of *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* that she was directing, and I've worked on every production I could since then."

"The idea to make a theatre comic came from my roommate, a technical director and avid webcomics reader, who was lamenting the lack of theatre webcomics," he added. "So I drew up a few characters, and we all chuckled at them, and it's sort of exploded from there."

One of the characters, Sound Designer Steve Austin, is based on the author. His "Anatomy" includes "Brain, for knowing exactly which version of 'that cello song' you meant" and "Mouth, for imitating spooky wind noises."

The real Steve posts new Q2Q comics at www.q2qcomics.com each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, which, said Executive Director David Grindle, "makes him our only Member Author who writes a new book three times a week."

All the Member Author signings will be in the 600 Aisle of Stage Expo near the Fellows Nexus booth. Here's the schedule:

Thursday, March 19	
11:00 a.m.	William J. Byrnes, <i>Management and the Arts, 5th Edition</i>
11:30 a.m.	Richard Cadena, <i>Electricity for the Entertainment Electrician & Technician, 2nd Edition</i>
Noon	Delbert L. Hall, <i>Rigging Math Made Simple, 3rd Edition</i>
4:00 p.m.	Eric Fielding & Peter McKinnon, <i>World Scenography 1990-2005</i>
4:30 p.m.	Robert Lewis Smith, <i>Theatre: Its Nature, Its Variety, Its Development</i>
5:00 p.m.	Lynne Porter, <i>Unmasking Theatre Design: A Designer's Guide to Finding Inspiration and Cultivating Creativity</i>

Friday, March 20	
11:30 a.m.	Christin Essin, <i>Stage Designers in Early Twentieth Century America: Artists, Activists, Cultural Critics</i> -- Winner of the 2015 USITT Golden Pen Award
Noon	M. Barrett Cleveland and Annie O. Cleveland, with Douglas W. Schmidt, <i>The Designs of Douglas W. Schmidt</i>
4:00 p.m.	Steve Younkins, <i>Q2Q Comics</i>
5:00 p.m.	Anne E. McMills, <i>The Assistant Lighting Designer's Toolkit</i>

Saturday, March 21	
10:00 a.m.	Bill Sapsis, <i>Entertainment Rigging for the 21st Century</i>



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015

[Print this page ›](#)

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

[Next story ›](#)

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

[GO](#)

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Conference & Stage Expo

A Bigger, Better Paint Lab in Cincinnati!

Anthony Phelps



Paint Lab 2013

Photos/ Anthony Phelps

Last year's Paint Lab was so popular that it has been expanded for the 55th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio March 18 to 21.

In 2015, the Paint Lab will feature not only the Scenic Art Challenge but several workshops by a variety of scenic artists while Stage Expo is open.

The Scenic Art Challenge will be held 1 p.m. Friday, March 20 in the Paint Lab on the Stage Expo floor. Up to 16 students will be allowed to show off their painting skills under the supervision of professional scenic artists and instructors. Students will be given a rendering and supplies, and will have four



hours to create the painting in the lab. Observers are welcome. On Saturday, a panel of scenic artists will give feedback to all the participants.

Space in the lab is limited. Faculty should make sure students know about this opportunity, so they can bring their paint clothes to the Conference. Participants can sign up for the event starting Wednesday morning in the message area near registration.

The Paint Lab is sponsored by the Scenic Design & Technology Commission, but many individuals participate as volunteers. Rosco will again supply the paint, and the faculty and staff at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music will supply tools and supplies.



For questions, e-mail phelps@paintersjournal.com.

Those at last year's Conference in Fort Worth may remember the first Paint Lab and Scenic Art Challenge. Eighteen students participated in the Scenic Art Challenge. Many people stopped by to observe the student painters and came to the feedback session the next day.



[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Conference & Stage Expo ...And We're Back!



Gema Diaz

Cincinnati Ballet will be presenting *Mozart Requiem* at the Aronoff Center March 20 and 21.

Photo/Courtesy Cincinnati Ballet

Kathie Brookfield *Cincinnati Promotions*

The opening of the Cincinnati 2015 Annual Conference & Stage Expo is very soon, but there is still time to pre-register – or even register on site.

Pack for early spring weather: low to mid 30s at night and daytime highs in the 40s to 50s.

There's lots to do in Cincinnati during any free time. Several theatres have productions running while the conference is town. Check the links provided for performance days and times, and ticket ordering information.

Peter and the Star Catcher runs Tuesday through Sunday at the [Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park](#) located in Mt. Adams, Eden Park. *Detriot '67* will be running at [Ensemble Theatre](#) in Over the Rhine. *Little Women* will be in its final week at [Cincinnati Shakespeare Company](#). *Late Night Improv* is at the [Know Theatre](#) on March 17.

The [Cincinnati Ballet](#) is presenting two programs at the Aronoff Center: March 20 to 21 is *Mozart Requiem* and March 22, *Toy Box*.

There are several art museums in downtown Cincinnati and Eden Park. The [Cincinnati Art Museum](#) in Eden Park has a fashion exhibit, "The Total Look: The Creative Collaboration Between Rudi Gernreich, Peggy Moffitt and William Claxton."

The [Taft Museum](#) has two special exhibits, as well as being an excellent example of Federal architecture in Palladian style, built in 1820. "Wild West to Gilded Age: American Treasures from the Santa Barbara Museum of Art" and "An Eye for the West: Paintings and Sculptures from Local Collections."

The [Contemporary Arts Center](#) is just a few blocks from the Duke Energy Convention Center. Two exhibits that will close on March 22 are, "Based on a True Story" and "Unmade."

Everybody needs to eat. Check out some of Cincinnati's hometown food specialties - Skyline Chili and Graeter's Ice Cream. Use the Urbanspoon app to find more culinary delights in downtown Cincinnati or get a taste of local favorites at the concessions in the convention center.

Use the USITT app (www.usitt.org/mobile) to stay up to date on any Conference changes.

See you soon!

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

For the Record:

Leadership

USITT Leadership

- Lea Asbell-Swanger, *President*
- Jimmie Byrd, *Secretary*
- Daniel Culhane, *Treasurer*
- Carolyn Satter, *Vice-President for Commissions*
- Michael Mehler, *Vice-President for Communications*
- Jack Feivou, *Vice-President for Conferences*
- Marketa Fantova, *Vice-President for International Activities*
- Tom Hackman, *Vice-President for Programming*
- Martha Marking, *Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters*
- Daniel Denhart, *Vice-President for Special Operations*
- Mark Shanda, *President-Elect*

Directors

2012-2015

- Kasey Allee-Foreman
- Bill Browning
- Alessia Carpoca
- Carey Blackerby Hanson
- Linda Pisano
- Kevin Rigdon

2013-2016

- Paul Brunner
- Michael Katz
- Elynmarie Kazle
- Robert Scales
- Kim Scott
- Paul Vincent

2014-2017

- Mickey Henry
- Rafael Jaen
- Shane Kelly
- Karen Maness
- Michael McNamara
- Vickie Scott

Board Mentees 2014-2015

- Mary Jean Sedlock
- Debra Sherrer

Sightlines Editorial Staff & National Office Staff

- **Barbara E.R. Lucas**, *Sightlines* Editor, Director of Communication
- **David Grindle**, Executive Director
- **Carol B. Carrigan**, Director of Finance and Human Resources
- **Monica L. Merritt**, Director of Member Services
- **Jim Lucas**, Marketing Sales & Services Associate
- **Shannan Hoerger**, Member Services Associate
- **Ron Procopio**, Stage Expo Manager & Special Events Coordinator
- **Christine Troscher**, Education & Training Coordinator
- **Janet Gramza**, Communications Associate
- **Lori Furcinito**, Finance Assistant
- **Gabrielle Chiddy**, Marketing Strategist

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2015
Print this page ›

Showcasing
the best

2015 CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO

CINCINNATI ■ MARCH 18-21

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Celebrating PlayhouseSquare
- Be a Board Mentee
- 2015 Germany Prague Tour
- Wally Award to Billington
- Gateway Expands
- TEA Honors Pat MacKay
- Announcements
- Last Word: Reflections

NEWS FROM:

- Around the Institute
- Contributing Members
- Spotlight on Giving
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- 3D Printing for Costumes
- Art Auction Garage Sale
- Authors Featured
- Paint Lab
- Cue Cincy - and Go

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

For the Record:

Members

USITT gratefully recognizes the individuals and businesses in these special categories of membership:

- [Contributing Members »](#)
- [Sustaining Members »](#)

Contributing Members

- American Harlequin Corporation
- Apollo Design Technology, Inc.
- Automatic Devices Company
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- Behind the Scenes/PLASA Foundation
- University of California
- Cirque du Soleil
- City Theatrical, Inc.
- J.R. Clancy, Inc.
- Creative Handbook
- Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Daktronics
- DeSisti-Leaderlight-Coemar
- Disney Parks Creative Entertainment
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Foy Inverterprises, Inc.
- Friends Beauty Supply
- Future Light
- Gantom Lighting & Controls
- H & H Specialties Inc.
- InterAmerica Stage, Inc.
- KM Fabrics, Inc.

- Kryolan Corporation
- Live Design Magazine/LDI Show
- MDG Fog Generators
- Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.
- Michigan Technological University
- Musson Theatrical, Inc.
- Norcostco, Inc.
- Philips Group
- PLASA
- PRG
- Production Advantage, Inc.
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.
- Rose Brand Theatrical Fabrics, Fabrications & Supplies
- SECOA
- StageRight Corporation
- StageSpot
- Steeldeck Inc.
- Studio Gear
- Sustainable Technologies Group
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- TAIT
- Texas Scenic Company
- TheatreWorld Backdrops
- Vincent Lighting Systems
- Wenger Corporation
- Yale School of Drama/Repertory Theatre
- ZFX , Inc. – Flying Effects

Sustaining Members

- 20th Century Fox
- A.C. Lighting Inc.
- A.C.T. Lighting
- Acme Corp. Production Resource
- The University of Alabama
- Alcons Audio USA
- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- Aquarii, Inc.
- Atlanta Rigging Systems

- Auerbach Pollock Friedlander
- A V Pro, Inc.
- Baby Lock
- Backdrops Beautiful
- Backdrops Fantastic
- Batts Audio, Video and Lighting
- BellaTEX, Inc.
- Ben Nye Makeup
- Berea College Theatre
- BMI Supply
- University of California — Irvine
- California Institute of the Arts
- Center Theatre Group
- Chauvet
- Chicago Flyhouse Inc.
- Chicago Spotlight, Inc.
- University of Cincinnati
- Clear-Com Communication Systems
- Clearwing Productions
- Cobalt Studios
- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
- Creative Conners, Inc.
- Dazian Fabrics, LLC
- Designlab Chicago
- Diablo Sound
- Dragon & Phoenix Software, Inc.
- Eaton's Cooper Controls
- Elation Lighting
- Emerson College
- Entertainment Lighting Services
- ENTTEC Americas, LLC
- Fanshawe College
- Feld Entertainment
- Florida State University
- Focal Press
- Full Compass Systems, Ltd.
- GALA Systems, Inc.

- Gemini Light Sound & Video
- GLP German Lighting Products, Inc.
- Gerriets International Inc.
- Grand Stage Company, Inc.
- Hall Associates Flying Effects
- Harkness Screens (USA) Ltd.
- heatshrink.com
- Herbert L. Camburn Associates
- iWeiss Theatrical Solutions
- IALD-International Association of Lighting Designers
- IATSE Local 126
- InCord Ltd.
- InLight Gobos
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees
- Irwin Seating Company
- JLG Industries, Inc.
- Johnson Systems Inc.
- Kenmark, Inc.
- Kirkegaard Associates
- L-ACOUSTICS
- Lectronsonics, Inc.
- LEE Filters
- Lehigh Electric Products Co.
- Leprecon
- Leviton/NSI/Colortran
- Lex Products Corp.
- Limelight Productions, Inc.
- Lite-Trol Service Company, Inc.
- LVH Entertainment Systems
- Lycian Stage Lighting
- The MAGNUM Companies, Ltd.
- Mainstage Theatrical Supply
- Mega Systems
- Mehron, Inc.
- University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- Mongol Global Tour Company, Inc.

- Nemetschek Vectorworks
- Niscon Inc.
- University of North Carolina School of the Arts
- Northern Sound & Light, Inc.
- Nova Lume
- On Location Lighting Systems, Inc.
- Ontario Staging Limited
- OSRAM SYLVANIA
- Pace University
- Pathway Connectivity
- Penn State University
- Period Corsets
- Peter Albrecht Company
- PNTA, Pacific Northwest Theatre Associates
- Pointwright Entertainment Rigging Specialists
- Prolyte Group
- Prepared, LLC
- Rational Acoustics, LLC
- RC4 Wireless/Soundsculpture Inc.
- Rockford University
- Saginaw Valley State University
- Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.
- Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc.
- Sensey Electronics
- Serapid, Inc.
- SEW-Eurodrive, Inc.
- Show Sage
- Siong Ann Engineering Pte Ltd
- Smooth-On, Inc.
- Stage Decoration & Supplies, Inc.
- Stage Equipment and Lighting, Inc.
- Stage Rigging Services, Inc.
- Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
- Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas
- StageLight, Inc.
- Stagemaker
- Staging Concepts, Inc.

- SUNY Oswego Theatre Department
- Techni-Lux, Inc.
- Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC
- Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.
- Theatre Technology Apprenticeship Program
- Thern Stage Equipment
- Tiffin Scenic Studios, Inc.
- TMB
- Truss Aluminum Factory
- Turning Star Inc.
- Ultratec Special Effects Inc.
- Union Connector Co., Inc.
- United Scenic Artists Local 829
- USHIO America, Inc.
- University of Virginia
- Wayne State University
- XS Lighting, LLC

As of 1/15/2014

Commercial Endorsement Policy: USITT is pleased to announce the release of new products, and report on the activities and successes of commercial members. However, USITT does not recommend or endorse specific companies or products.

Volume LV, Number 3



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.