



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2016

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Member Spotlight: Madilynn Garcia

Madilynn Garcia, emerging theatre manager, 2015 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, alumnus of USITT's Gateway Program, alumnus of Oregon Shakespeare Festival's FAIR (Fellowships, Assistantships, Internships, and Residencies) program, and current USITT Gateway Program Coordinator.

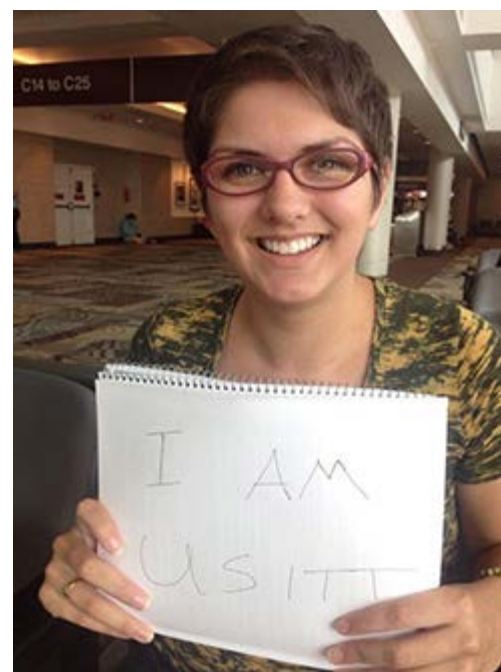
USITT: Tell us a little about how you got to the Gateway Program?

Madilynn: I grew up in Wylie, a small town outside of Dallas, TX, and I went to UT-Austin for my BA in Theatre and Dance. I worked for David Stewart, then Academic Production Manager at UT-Austin, as a production associate for over two years. Shortly after the death of Tayneshia Jefferson in late 2013, he was involved in creating the Gateway program, and one day at work he sat me down and said, 'OK, here's the deal. You're going to the USITT Conference.'

To further the program, USITT was asking institutions to partner to send students to the Conference. Texas Performing Arts at UT-Austin agreed to help, so I became the first Gateway partnership mentee.

So you attended your first Conference in 2014 as a Gateway mentee.

I was a little nervous. I'm kind of introverted and I wouldn't know anyone else there besides David (Stewart). So I went to this Conference with 5,000 people! We got there early and met other people



Madilynn Garcia

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from the USITT Diversity Initiative, and learned about the development of the Gateway program, which helped me feel less intimidated.

My mentor was Erin Joy Swank, and she was a rock star who has worn many hats over the course of her career. I learned a great deal about USITT and about the community that's there. At the time I was 20 years old and absolutely entranced by everyone I met. People were thrilled about what was happening with Gateway, and they still are. And that embrace is very much felt.

How did Gateway lead you to OSF's FAIR program?

I knew I was interested in working for OSF, and while at the USITT People of Color Network meeting, we were going around the room and Sharifa Johka (FAIR Experience Manager at OSF) introduced herself. Dstew physically pushed me away and said, 'Don't come back till you have her card.' So I approached her and said, 'I want to work at OSF,' and her response was, 'Let's make it happen.' And literally one year later I was packing my bags for Oregon. I'm so excited about the recently announced partnership between Gateway and FAIR. It's a fantastic connection for both organizations and young professionals.

Describe your experience in the FAIR program?

I was excited to do work in the literary office, but also for the FAIR experience. The FAIR cohort met once a week to talk about our experiences and ideas, and to build conversations around equity, diversity, and inclusion.

It was interesting because I was coming to the West Coast as a Latina from a very diverse city, Austin, to a very white place. At OSF, the diversity is happening mostly onstage and the rest of the organization is catching up. So that was overwhelming and even jarring in a way. So the FAIR cohort, which ranged from six to 25 people during my stay, was easily the most diverse group on campus. It was always the most refreshing part of my week.

Both Gateway and FAIR gave me invaluable experience in the field as well as an agent of change. I am a first-generation college student who put myself through



Madilynn and David Stewart at OSF



school. As someone who was raised by a single mom, I never even thought I would go to college, so it's been very critical to me to know that I can have a place in the world of theatre.

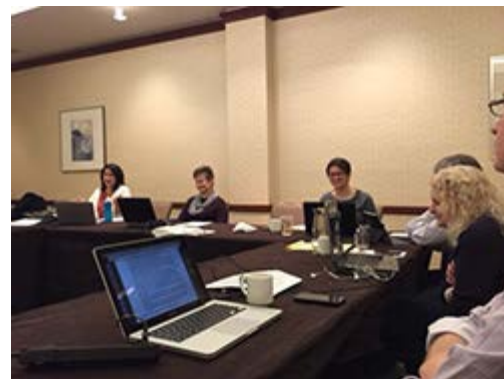
What are you doing now?

I have been working as a production associate and freelancing in Austin while looking for a more long-term place to be. I'm very interested in being part of institutional change in the industry and I'm figuring out what that means as an early career professional. My education has given me a strong background in theatre history and criticism while most of my professional experience has focused on management. At this point, I'm focusing on the latter of those skill sets and looking forward to the next step.

How did you end up becoming USITT's Gateway coordinator?

It all happened so quickly. After the 2014 Conference, David and Kasey Allee-Foreman asked if I wanted to be on the Diversity Committee and my response was, 'Of course!' And that's been phenomenal. I'm surrounded by so many people who are so passionate and committed to changing this field for the better, so I really enjoy serving on the committee. It's a fun group and we know how to hit the ground running. At the conference last year, the group was discussing who would be the coordinator for Gateway in 2016. There was a slow head-turn from the group and I knew it was the perfect opportunity to step up.

I'm also excited to serve as the program coordinator for the next Gateway cohort at USITT 2016. I've navigated the Conference before and I'm a good example of what the membership looks like in 2016. So I'm someone who can make an impact by being there, and by helping further the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our field.



At a USITT board meeting.

Thanks so much! See you in Salt Lake City!

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In Memoriam: Sonny Sonnenfeld

Randy Earle *USITT Fellow*

Memories of Sonny

On Wednesday, Feb. 10, the lighting community lost one of its stars. Sonny Sonnenfeld died at age 96, just weeks after learning he had won USITT's 2016 Distinguished Achievement in Lighting Design & Technology Award.

A founding member of the Institute and a Fellow since 1997, Sonny called USITT "my continuing education program." He also founded the Broadway Lighting Master Classes and the annual Stage Lighting Super Saturday in New York.

He was both a legendary entertainment lighting salesman and a pioneer in architectural lighting. Architectural Lighting Magazine named him to its **Lighting Legends Hall of Fame** in 2001. In 2003 he received the Wally Russell Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sonny's companion, award-winning lighting designer Jennifer Tipton, will accept his award from USITT's Lighting Design & Technology Commission and participate in a tribute to Sonny led by his friend Scott Parker on Friday, March 18, at 5:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, Sonny's life was celebrated far and wide, with many industry leaders and publications honoring his contributions.

Here are some excerpts:

From Fred Foster, CEO of ETC, where Sonny worked for 10 years until 2004:

"Sonny *cared*. He cared about lighting, he cared about business, but most of all, Sonny cared about his customers.



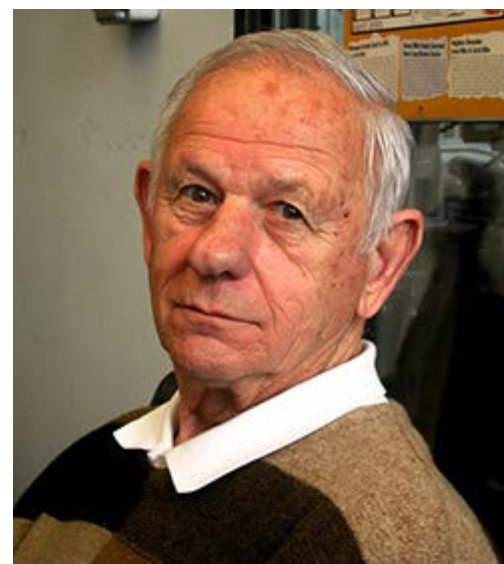
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When I first heard about him from ETC Vice President of Sales Mark Vassallo (then a rep for ETC), his stories and lessons about selling focused on the customer. From before he formally became part of ETC, and well after he “retired” for the first time, everyone who knew him would tell of a lesson that they had learned from him.

“Sonny’s care for his customers was returned to him many times over. There were consultants who would only specify what Sonny sold. This was not because of any underhanded maneuver on Sonny’s part; it was because they had proof over the years that he would take care of them if anything went wrong on a job. Sonny didn’t buy this loyalty. He earned it. And he taught a lot of us how important it is to take care of customers.”



Sonny at ETC

From *Lighting & Sound America*:

“Famed for his ability to sell, and for such techniques as showing up at a client's office armed with bagels and the latest industry gossip, Sonnenfeld told *LSA*: “My creed as a salesman, as well as in life, is a simple one: 1. Respect your customers. 2. She/he is probably smarter than you are. 3. Never fake it. Say, ‘I don’t know, but I will find out and get back to you’ -- and do so. 4. Be honest; don’t lie. 5. Start early and work late. 6. Make friends with your customers. I have become friends with some spectacularly wonderful people.”

From friend and USITT Fellow Bill Sapsis of Sapsis Rigging, Inc:

“The indomitable and legendary Sonny Sonnenfeld passed away this morning, in his sleep, in the apartment he shared with Jennifer Tipton. For a little guy he was huge. His influence in the lighting industry is incalculable. He offered his insights, and there were many, into the industry at the Broadway Lighting Master Classes, Super Saturday and NATEAC, to name just a few.



With Barbizon's Jonathan Resnick

I got to know him in 2012 when I invited him to speak; no. wait. That's not accurate. It was when he invited himself to speak at NATEAC 2012. I didn't argue, of course and he was wonderful on the dais, a cup of Benedictine in his hand. He had planned to reprise that role at NATEAC this coming summer but, sadly, that won't happen.”



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USITT's Gateway Class of 2016

Twelve young artists from groups underrepresented in live entertainment production have been selected for USITT's Gateway mentorship program at USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City March 16 to 19.

The Gateway Program is part of USITT's Diversity and Inclusion Initiative to foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in the backstage arts. It pairs emerging artists with professional mentors from similar backgrounds and career paths to maximize each mentee's experience at the USITT Conference & Stage Expo and beyond.

Gateway supports students who are underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, disability, gender, and sexual orientation, among other aspects, said Gateway Chair Kasey Allee-Foreman.

"The Diversity Committee has selected our 2016 Gateway cohort, and now we are looking to find the right mentor for each of these participants," she said.

The Gateway 2016 mentees are:

- *Zack Fiudo*, Early Career, Troy, Illinois, Sound Design
- *Randy Wong-Westbrooke*, Ithaca College (New York), Scene Design
- *Anthony Boyd*, Western Illinois University, Costume Design
- *Shay Hopkins-Paine*, Elon University (North Carolina), Props
- *Luis Garcia*, Stetson University (Florida), Lighting Design
- *Frankie Charles*, DePaul



Anthony Boyd



Zack Fiudo

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University (Chicago), Technical Direction

- *Alexandra Cooper*, University of Louisville, Stage Management (Sound/LX)
- *Akeem Celestine*, SUNY Oneonta (New York), Costume Design & Technology
- *Shelby Choo*, Cornish College of the Arts (Seattle), Technical Direction
- *Stephanie Thompson*, Early Career, Houston, Texas, Sound/Technical Direction
- *Sharon Suh*, Calvin College (Michigan), Stage Management, Directing
- *Joseph Haskins*, Early Career, Madison, Wisconsin, Stage Manager

Gateway Coordinator Madilynn Garcia said two of the participants will receive Tayneshia Jefferson Scholarships to cover their conference, travel, and hotel costs. This funding, from donations made in memory of USITT Board member and mentor Tayneshia Jefferson, specifically brings African-American mentees to the Conference.

The 2016 Tayneshia Jefferson mentees are Boyd and Cooper.

In addition, four Gateway participants—Luis Garcia, Charles, Celestine, and Suh--received partnership funding from their institutions to support their travel and housing.

Madilynn Garcia is an alumna of the first Gateway class of 2014, which had three members. She said she is excited to welcome the 2016 Gateway cohort to USITT.

"These young professionals have an incredible experience coming their way," she wrote. "The challenges, the revelations, the mentorship, the hard work, and the relationships built by this program are career and life changing. I am proud to be part of this revolution, and I'm thrilled to see how it grows this year."

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Shelby Choo

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News & Notices

Q2Q's Steve to Play Larger Role in USITT 2016

Janet Gramza *Communications Associate*

Last year, Steve Younkens came to USITT 2015 in Cincinnati to sign prints of his hugely popular theatre tech comic strip, *Q2Q Comics*. His event drew hundreds of fans and solidified his idea to make a book.

This year, Steve is coming to USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City to sign the book, which he crowd-funded to the tune of \$40,000 and had printed just in time for the show.

"I had to do a rush order to print 100 copies for the Conference, so USITT 2016 will be the first place people can get their hands on the book," he said. "In fact, it likely will be the first time I get to see a full copy of the book!"

Q2Q Comics Vol. 1, which collects his first 220 strips plus some concept art and commentary, will be sold at the USITT bookstore at the Salt Palace Convention Center-- along with Steve's "Anatomy of" prints of his eight Q2Q characters (Anatomy of a Stage Manager, Sound Designer, Props Master, etc.) and black Q2Q T-shirts with his sayings, "It's Tech Week Somewhere," "Tech Week is Coming" and "Thank You Five."

As he did last year, Steve also will sell original Q2Q strips at his Saturday, March 19, signing event. And on Thursday, March 17, he'll be a featured speaker at USITT's Young Designers & Technicians (YD&T) Awards.

Younkens, resident sound designer for the Maryland Ensemble Theatre, said the past year has been an adventure.



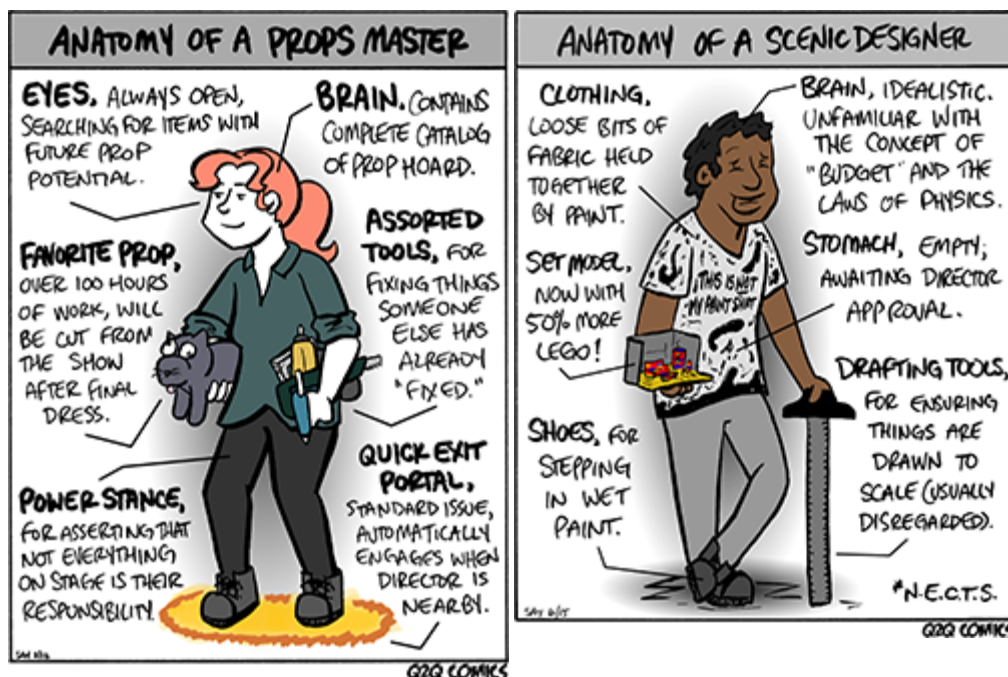
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For USITT 2015, he enlisted a props artisan from Seattle who he met through an online theatre tech blog to help him sell comics and sign prints. Liz Hastings, a veteran of several USITT Conferences, became his girlfriend and studio assistant.

At the show, Steve promised to unveil two new characters – a props master named Samantha and a scenic designer named Garvis. Garvis resembles Steve's former roommate, he said. Samantha is partly based on Liz.



"I had the character designed before I met Liz, but Liz has definitely helped me write her, and she's my sounding board," Steve said. "There's a lot of her in the character. However, the red hair is a complete coincidence!"

He and Liz have a lot to celebrate besides their one-year anniversary at USITT 2016. "Having the comic become so popular has allowed me to take the jobs I'm most interested in as a sound designer," he said. "The book is also helping pay for some improvements to my workshop."

He's also excited that USITT Executive Director David Grindle asked him to speak on "risk-taking in design and tech" at the 2016 YD&T Awards.

"I'm kind of an out-of-the-box sound designer, so I get asked to do a lot of weird or avant-garde shows, with soundscapes and noise-making. So risk-taking plays right into my design wheelhouse," he said. "And I'm honored to be asked to be there to help celebrate these young designers and technicians."



That's right, he'll be speaking as a sound designer ... and a cartoonist.

"I can't not talk about the comic," he said. "And the comic is, in fact, a theatrical

thing because it's not just about theatre tech, it's also about my own performance, my own art. Putting my art out there for everyone to look at is a huge risk. Every time I put pen to paper, that's a risk I'm taking, and I've just got to take it."

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USITT Member Authors to Sign Books in Salt Lake

Each year, new books by Institute members who have published in the previous year are featured at the USITT bookstore at the Annual Conference & Stage Expo – and by holding book-signings at the show.

This year, to make things more exciting, USITT is combining book-signings by several authors at a time, allowing fans to get several books signed at once, and lending a more festive atmosphere to these literary events.

On Thursday, Crystal Herman, costumer and millinery expert will be signing her book *Period Reproduction Buckram Hats – The Costumer's Guide* from the FocalPress Costume Topics Series.

She will be joined by Jeromy Hopgood, associate professor of entertainment design and technology at Eastern Michigan University, and his beautiful *Dance Production-Design & Technology* book; stage make-up artist Sharon Sobel and her new book *Theatrical Makeup*, an aid to performers who apply their own make-up; and renowned U.K. costumer Mandy Barrington and her book *Stays & Corsets – Historical Patterns Translated for the Modern Body*.

On Friday, the book-signings feature more technical books: rigging expert Delbert Hall's *The Arena Rigger's Handbook*; technical director and USITT Board Member Verda Beth Martell and physicist Eric Martell's much-anticipated *The Physics of Theatre*; and USITT President Mark Shanda's *Technical Management for the Performing Arts*.

On Saturday, Q2Q Comics artist Steve Younkens will unveil his first book of



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comics. ([Find more on Steve in this issue of *Sightlines*](#)).

Here is the schedule for the 2016 Member Author book-signing sessions:

Thursday, March 17 4pm	
Crystal Herman	<i>Period Reproduction Buckram Hats - The Costumer's Guide</i>
Jeromy Hopgood	<i>Dance Production - Design & Technology</i>
Sharon Sobel	<i>Theatrical Makeup - Basic Application Techniques</i>
Mandy Barrington	<i>Stays & Corsets – Historical Patterns Translated for the Modern Body</i>

Friday, March 18, 4pm	
Delbert L. Hall	<i>The Arena Rigger's Handbook</i>
Verda Beth Martell & Eric Martell	<i>The Physics of Theatre: Mechanics</i>
Mark Shanda	<i>Technical Management for the Performing Arts</i>

Saturday, March 19, 10am	
Steve Younkins	<i>Q2Q Comics Vol. 1 and individual comics</i>

NOTE – Peter Lawrence's book, *Production Stage Management for Broadway*, will be on sale at USITT 2016, but he is unable to attend the Conference.

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News & Notices

SoundLab 2016: A Slate of Creative Audio Experiences

Erik Alberg *VC Programming, Sound Design & Technology Commission*

USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City will host the third incarnation of the Sound Design & Technology Commission's SoundLab project.

While previous years were more focused on equipment and systems, this year's SoundLab is focused on the process and creative elements of sound design – with help from some sound names like Britain's John Leonard and Off-Broadway's Elisheba Ittoop. From the beginning, the intention was to create an atmosphere that resembled the theatre environment as much as possible.



Elisheba Ittoop

Inspired by the multi-channel design work of the late Stephen Brown of the Exchange Theatre, the idea behind SoundLab 2016 was born. The intention is to create a multichannel surround system which would be installed in a ballroom in Salt Lake City and would provide the participant with not only the opportunity to experience the design in a theatrical environment, but the ability to walk around that environment and see how the system was put together.

With these goals in mind, New York designer Jim van Bergen was recruited to design a system that was not only flexible enough to serve many purposes, but also used multiple manufacturers in its design. Van Bergen used loudspeakers from Meyer Sound, d&b Audiotechnik, and L-Acoustics to create a system that includes sub-systems for vocal reinforcement, music playback, and surround effects. With some infrastructure help from the folks at Clearwing, an environment in which unique programming could really shine was created. DiGiCo is providing digital consoles for the Lab.

On Tuesday, March 15, the SoundLab will host a Professional Development Workshop in Advanced QLab techniques for surround systems. This will be a great opportunity to learn techniques and solutions for using QLab in a surround setting. Taught by **Sam Kusnetz** and **Andy Lang** from Figure 53, participants can

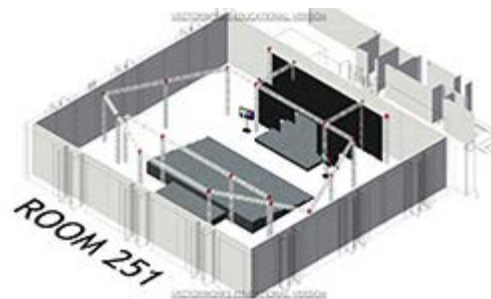
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learn these techniques in an actual surround environment.

One of the most ambitious projects associated with SoundLab is the Student Design Project. Since September, undergraduate and graduate students have been working on sound designs for the play *Fen* by Caryl Churchill. These students have been working with mentors from their universities or from within the Sound Commission. These young designers have submitted their designs, and several of them will be selected for installation in the SoundLab. They will install them during the day on Friday. Not only can visitors listen to their designs, they will also be able to observe the installation process.



On Wednesday, SoundLab visitors will have the opportunity to observe professional designers as they complete design challenges. This promises to be entertaining as well as educational as designers such as USITT 2008 Rising Star Award winner **Elisheba Ittoop** work in the Lab to create designs on the spot.

Wednesday also will afford an opportunity to experience the work of guest international designer **Junghoon Pi** from South Korea, and to attend David Smith and Ittoop's session on *Composition and Creation for the Surround Environment*.

On Friday, be sure to attend the session on *Location Recording of Sound effects* by this year's Distinguished Artist Award Winner in Sound Design & Technology, **John Leonard** – former head of sound for The Royal Shakespeare Company and curator of one of the world's largest sound effects library.

And of course, Friday evening culminates in the Sound Playback Reception in the SoundLab.

This year's SoundLab promises exciting and unique opportunities for both the beginner and the experienced designer, as well as the opportunity to truly delve into techniques and concepts of design and creation in an environment not available at any other conference.

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News & Notices

USITT Offers Accessibility & Diversity Sessions for 2016

"The arts can be truly transformative and they need to be accessible to everyone, regardless of any real or perceived barriers."

-- **Cameron Jackson**, Executive Director, Florida State University School of Theatre; USITT Vice-Commissioner for Management; leader in USITT's Stage Management Mentor Project.

The Arts are for Everyone is both a USITT 2016 session to be chaired by Cameron Jackson, and a goal of USITT's service to the arts production community.

Scheduled for 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, March 17, the session's full title is *The Arts are for Everyone: ABILITY, ACCESS, and THEATRE: EFFECTING SUCCESS*. It's one of several new sessions on accessibility, diversity, and inclusion being offered at USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City.

The three-hour session features a panel of six arts managers, including Jackson, who are leading the movement to involve people of all abilities and backgrounds in their arts productions.

Jackson's fellow presenters include Bryce Alexander, artistic director of Denver's Phamaly Theatre Company, formerly known as the Physically Handicapped Actors & Musical Artists League, and Stephanie Barton-Farcas, artistic & development director of Nicu's Spoon Theatre Company, New York City's first all-inclusive theatre group.

Phamaly provides theatrical opportunities for people with disabilities, including several levels of free performance classes. Bryce Alexander also has been a pioneer in originating sensory-friendly



Cameron Jackson

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performances for audiences with sensory disabilities.

Barton-Farcas named her theatre company Nicu's Spoon after adopting a child from a Romanian orphanage who overcame "impossible" physical and mental challenges – including learning to feed himself at age 5 –before his death in 1996. "We are completely committed to involving the full spectrum of diverse and multi-abled in everything we do," she wrote on the group's website.

With help from these and other panelists, Jackson said he is excited to "engage in both a deep and practical discussion on how we as theatre-makers can see with different eyes, broaden, and protect accessibility to the arts."

That means *"Backstage, onstage, and in the audience,"* Jackson wrote in the session description. *"Amputees in the costume shop. Wheelers onstage. Audio describers in the booth. Numerous organizations have devised creative ways of adapting the arts-place for the unique needs of company members and patrons: from catwalks to dressing rooms, ticketing to casting. Nearly 1 in 5 Americans has a disability; with creativity and intention, organizations have extensive opportunities to utilize their diverse talents. What about hiring a lighting designer who uses a wheelchair? An intern who is deaf? Or making all performances accessible to all patrons?"*

"Hear from those at the forefront of disability arts inclusion about successful strategies to jumpstart the conversation and move forward into practical application. Engage with peers to identify barriers in your own organization, and devise options for making change. As theatre makers, we have the opportunity to spark universal conversations about the human condition - let's include people of all abilities in the mix!"

This and several other sessions are part of USITT's Diversity & Inclusion Initiative, challenging the Institute and the entertainment design and technology industry to find ways to better nurture accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Following is a list of USITT "diversity track" sessions for 2016:

www.usittshow.org/sessions.

Wednesday, March 16

- **Women in Theatre Roundtable** – 11:15 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
- **People of Color Network** -- 2:30-4 p.m.
- **Finding an Accessible Path to Technical Theatre** – 4:30-5:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 17

- ***The Arts are for Everyone*** – 1-4 p.m.
- ***Queer Nation Roundtable*** – 5:30-6:45 p.m.
- ***Women in Leadership Roles: Training and Mentoring*** – 5:30-6:45 p.m.
- ***Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting*** – 4-5:30 p.m.

Friday, March 18

- ***A Discussion on Diversity in Sound and Audio*** – 1-2:30 p.m.
- ***Human Issues Working Session*** – 2:45-4 p.m.
- ***Gateway Program Roundtable*** – 4-5:30 p.m.
- ***Building Diverse and Inclusive Environments into Our Programs*** – 5:30-6:45 p.m.

Saturday, March 19

- ***It's Not the Years, It's the Mileage*** – 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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Watch Out for USITT Presents in Salt Lake

Watch out for some great hands-on training at USITT 2016, including a one-day accelerated session on Dataton WATCHOUT software!

USITT Presents training and Show Sage will hold a session on the multi-display design and production software 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 16 at the Salt Palace Convention Center. This highly interactive session will explore the capabilities of WATCHOUT with plenty of idea-sharing. Attendees who bring a laptop can work with the software during class; all participants will get a copy to take with them.

The WATCHOUT session is among several *USITT Presents* training events offered in Salt Lake during the Conference.

Columbus McKinnon will hold a beginner session of its popular motor school, *CM-ET Motor School for the Novice Technician* 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 19.

CM Trainer Dave Carmack also will teach his popular two-day CM-ET Road Tech Training on maintaining its Lodestar hoist motor on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 15-16, at the Salt Palace. The class carries 12 ETCP renewal credits.



Miles Dudgeon, System Electrician at Syracuse Stage, at a recent CM-ET Road Tech class.

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ETC also will offer three days of ETC Ion Console and EOS Family training – Levels 1, 2, and 3 – on Tuesday-Thursday, March 15-17, at the nearby Hilton Granite Conference Center.

USITT members get half-price rates. Learn more at www.usitt.org/presents.

March 28 Deadline to Register for 2016 Elite Training

USITT's 2016 Elite Training takes place May 19-21 in Las Vegas. The deadline to apply to be one of eight participants per class in Rigging, Automation, Sound, Projection, and Stage Management is March 28. [Students and early career professionals, apply here.](#)

Training at the Cirque du Soleil Training Center with industry pros is free – accepted students pay for their own transportation and housing.

USITT Elite Training has been called “life-changing” by past participants. Learn from USITT's industry partners Cirque du Soleil, Meyer Sound, CM Entertainment Technology, Silver State Wire Rope & Rigging, Tait Stage Technologies, and Nicopress, with hands-on training on their equipment.

For more info or to register, go to www.usitt.org/elite.

2016 USITT Architecture and Theatre Student Design Competition

Student architecture and theatre teams from France and Spain are finalists for 2016 Honor Awards in USITT's 2016 Architecture and Theatre Student Design Competition.

The contest, sponsored by American Seating, asked teams of architecture students and at least one theatre student to collaborate to design an “ideal” performance space for their college campus.

The three Honor Team finalists from the two colleges will travel to USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City to present their designs, and one will be named the winner.

The École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Malaquais in France has two teams in the Honor Team category and one selected for a Merit Award. The Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático Castillo y León has one team competing for Honor Team and one on the Merit Team.

The student presentations will take place 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 19.

Honor Team – Finalists: Theatre Club, École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Malaquais: Cyrindella, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture du Paris-Malaquais; and MABRAM Studio, Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático Castilla y León, Universidad de Valladolid.

Merit Award: Anthill Team, École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Malaquais, and Arq-scenica, Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático Castillo y

León, Universidad de Valladolid.

March is Theatre in Our Schools Month!

The American Alliance for Theatre & Education and the Educational Theatre Association are partnering to promote our March public awareness campaign, Theatre in Our Schools (TIOS). You can help by serving as TIOS Champions for Theatre Education!

Just share a brief quote about the value of your theatre education experiences and why it's important for students to have theatre in their lives. Possible prompts include:

- My first theatre experience was....
- My theatre teacher taught me....
- Theatre education matters because...

Post your quote (and photos/videos) on Twitter or Facebook with hashtags #TheatreInOurSchools and #TIOS16. You can also [download videos and images here](#).

Awards Recognize Technical Standards Program Volunteers

ESTA's Technical Standards Council announced the recipients of the third annual Above & Beyond Awards designed to recognize outstanding Technical Standards Program volunteers.

The 2015 awards were presented to Tyrone Mellon Jr., the E1.43 "Flying Performer" Task Group, and Peter Scheu and Duane Wilson.

The awards celebrate volunteers who have made a significant contribution or effort that advances the Technical Standards Program. The TSP exists because hundreds of individuals from across the industry volunteer their expertise and significant amounts of time throughout the year to write standards that increase safety, solve problems, and make life easier. The nominations are made by peers within the Technical Standards Program.

To learn more about ESTA's Technical Standards Program visit www.tsp.esta.org.

NATEAC Announces Sessions List

The North American Theatre Engineering and Architecture Conference (NATEAC) recently announced the some of the sessions for its upcoming conference.

NATEAC 2016, to be held in New York City on July 17 and 18, will offer sessions on a variety of topics including, *LED Power Requirements, Gender Issues In Public Assembly Place Bathrooms, Immersive Environments and the 21st*

Century Audience and Greening Initiatives in Theatres. Over the two days NATEAC will present 26 sessions led by more than 60 top industry professionals. The panels, presented by many industry leaders—including Steve Terry, Steve Tomkins, Mark Ager, Mark Holden, and Jeffrey Horowitz—will set the stage for discussions that will carry on long after the conference closes.

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USITT Fellows Honor Wally Lifetime Winner Gordon Pearlman at Nexus

USITT Fellow Gordon Pearlman is the winner of the Wally Russell Foundation's 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award – and he'll receive it at USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City.

Besides receiving this honor, Pearlman, an inventor of the computerized light board, also will participate in the Fellows' *Overheard in the Network Nexus* sessions on the Stage Expo floor.

Pearlman will receive his Wally Lifetime award in a private ceremony on Friday, March 18. Read about him and the award [here](#).

Pearlman has graciously agreed to join what promise to be lively conversations with awesome interviewers and interviewees at the Nexus during Stage Expo. His interview will be on Friday.

The Fellows' latest schedule for *Overheard* is as follows:

Thursday, March 17, 4 p.m. – Richard Durst, former president of OISTAT and USITT, will be interviewed by University of Minnesota colleague **Jean “Gino” Montgomery**, former USITT Secretary and winner, with Durst, of USITT's 1997 Joel E. Rubin Founder's Award.

Friday, March 18, 4 p.m. – Gordon Pearlman, renowned inventor and innovator of lighting control for entertainment and architectural lighting – and 2016 Wally Achievement winner! – will be interviewed by **Steve Terry**, vice president of research & development at Electronic Theatre Controls.

USITT attendees are invited to come to the Nexus to hear these seasoned pros talk about their careers in the backstage industry!

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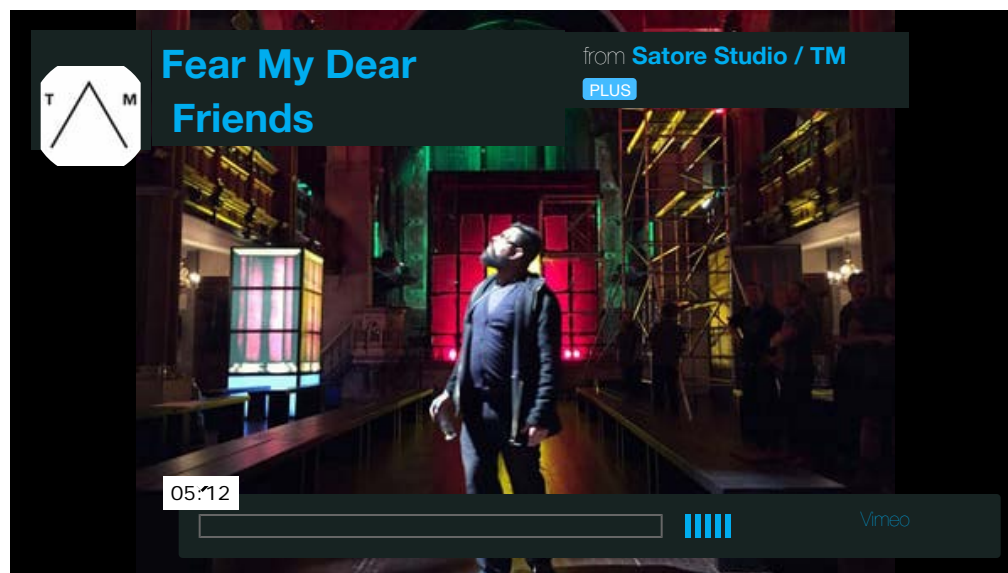
The Last Word:

Meet Our 2016 Keynote Presenter, Tupac Martir!

A new video spotlighting the work of USITT 2016 Keynote Presenter Tupac Martir shows how the artist uses technologies to create multidisciplinary productions and experiences.

Martir will open USITT 2016 in Salt Lake on Wednesday, March 16, as Keynote "Presenter" – not just "Speaker." He plans to include lighting, video, and perhaps even live performers as "characters" in his address.

Check out his new video for a glimpse into the world of a design visionary whose work has spanned Pop concerts, London Fashion Week, sculpture, dance, improvisational music, and environmental art, among other areas.



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News From Around the Institute

USITT Names in the News

Renowned lighting designer, author, and USITT Fellow **Richard Pilbrow** has established a scholarship at his alma mater, the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. The scholarship will support a young lighting designer at the school while training for a professional career.

"I'm thrilled to be able to make a scholarship contribution to The Royal Central School. Central started me off in the right direction on a career as a lighting designer, producer and theatre design consultant," Pilbrow said. Read the story [here](#).

Broadway producer **Ken Davenport** recently interviewed USITT's first (2015) Wally Russell Mentor Award Winner, Broadway lighting designer **Ken Billington**, for Davenport's *The Producer's Perspective* podcast.

"All I ever wanted to be was a lighting designer," Billington said. Listen to the podcast [here](#).

USITT member **Kathy A. Perkins**, theatre professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, is organizing an arts festival, *Telling Our Stories of Home: Exploring and Celebrating Changing African-Diaspora Communities*, March 28 to April 8 on the UNC campus.

"This conference festival provides a platform for women in Africa and in its diaspora to share stories across national boundaries." Learn about the festival at www.tellingourstories.web.unc.edu

New York sound designer, 2008 USITT Rising Star Award winner and USITT 2016 presenter **Elisheba Ittoop** is featured in a great story on the website of her grad school, the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.



Richard Pilbrow



Ken Billington

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“It was amazing that I could put on headphones and make my own little world,” she said. Read the story [here](#).

USITT Contributing member **ZFX Flying Effects** was featured on WFPL News, Louisville.



“No production of a show like *Peter Pan* or *Mary Poppins* would be complete without the actors magically flying through the air.

“But the system that makes this possible is anything but magical. You have to do more than ‘think lovely thoughts’ to get off the ground.”

Read more and listen to the story [here](#).

USITT Board Member and acclaimed scenic and lighting designer **Kevin Rigdon** is featured on the Philips Strand Lighting blog for his work at Houston’s Alley Theatre.



Rigdon with Jane Greenwood at USITT 2015.

Rigdon was principal designer for the company’s \$46.5 million renovation of its Hubbard Theatre. “We were committed to using LED lighting technology for the power consumption and heat advantages, but also because a lot of these fixtures would now be at heights that would make them inaccessible for changing bulbs.” Read more [here](#).

Members: Have News to Share?

Please submit your article, 200 words or less, to janet@usitt.org.

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- **Chauvet:** Stunning Visuals for Mardi Gras
- **GLP:** X4 Lights Historic Apollo Theater for Soul Legends' Series
- **Columbus McKinnon:** Becomes TSP Visionary

Meyer Sound: Systems Support Super Bowl, Earn NAMM TEC Award

The beginning of 2016 has been a busy time for **Contributing Member** Meyer Sound, which provided sound reinforcement systems for Super Bowl 50 festivities and whose LEOPARD system won a NAMM TEC award.

For the biggest Super Bowl week ever celebrated and one that the Super Bowl 50 host committee called "uniquely Bay Area," right in Meyer Sound's back yard, the company's technical team worked with ATK Audiotek of Valencia, CA, to rig SB-1 parabolic long-throw sound beams and SB-3F sound field synthesis loudspeakers at Levi's Stadium, ensuring that the full house in the upper deck could enjoy game day.



ETC: From Robot Chicken to *Castle*

Whether production is on a small scale, like lighting Robot Chicken, or large scale, like lighting sets for *Castle*, **Contributing Member** ETC has just the right equipment.

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Despite its quirky title, Stoopid Buddy Stoodios in Burbank, CA is a 21-stage lot that is the largest studio specializing in stop-motion animation in California, best known for the adult animated character Robot Chicken. With each stage the size of a spare bedroom, the studio takes full advantage of ETC's Source Four Mini fixtures. The equipment provides small, focusable and dimmable fixtures providing much sharper optics for a lower wattage, just like the grown-up Source Fours.



Sapsis Rigging: Trains Crew for The Boss's River Tour

When Morpheus Lights, long-term lighting contractor for Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, wanted safety training for The River Tour 2016's road crew, they put in a call to Bill Sapsis, president of **Contributing Member** Sapsis Rigging.

Sapsis flew in to tour rehearsals at the Consol Energy Center in Pittsburgh to conduct fall arrest and rescue training for everyone who works at height—including riggers, follow spot operators, and lighting and video technicians.

"We prefer to train on the actual tour rig," explained Paul Weller, of Morpheus "It's a way to ensure that we address the specific fall hazard locations the crew might encounter, and it lets the crew work out clear procedures that can be followed cooperatively among the various departments and vendors."

PRG: Completes Acquisition of DPS, Inc. Assets

Contributing Member Production Resource Group LLC, (PRG) has completed acquiring assets from DigitalSound Production Services, Inc. (DPS). PRG will use these assets to strengthen and expand its inventory across a variety of its locations including its Los Angeles and PRG Paskal Lighting facilities.

After filing for Chapter 11 protection in November, DPS sought court approval to sell its assets. PRG successfully secured the bulk of DPS' lighting and film equipment assets. The purchase of DPS' well maintained, quality equipment will enable PRG to fulfill its ever expanding client demand in the Los Angeles markets.

Chauvet: Stunning Visuals for Mardi Gras

Sustaining Member Chauvet Professionals played an integral part in two Southern traditions.

Celebrating 50 years of Mardi Gras celebration with 80 brightly decked out floats, New Orleans's Endymion

Parade proceeded through the streets. Leading the way was the Title Float outfitted with 24 MVP 12 LED Video Panels supplied by Chauvet Professionals. This year's theme, "Endymion through the Years," celebrated the rich history of this Mardi Gras tradition.



GLP: X4 Lights Historic Apollo Theater for Soul Legends' Series

More than 50 impression X4 LED moving heads from **Sustaining Member** GLP made a recent TV appearance on *Legends: OWN at the Apollo*, a four-part, prime-time special featuring icons such as Gladys Knight, Smokey Robinson, The Isley Brothers, and Earth, Wind & Fire.



Created and produced by Ron Weisner Entertainment for the Oprah Winfrey Network, the programs transported viewers to the Apollo Theater in Harlem for four nights of classic soul music as well as personal thoughts on how this historic and world famous theater has helped nurture and develop their careers.

Columbus McKinnon: Becomes TSP Visionary

Sustaining Member Columbus McKinnon Corporation became a Visionary level "Investor in Innovation" to support ESTA's Technical Standards Program." By making a five-year pledge of \$10,000 per year, Columbus McKinnon is helping to ensure the survival of a program it has long championed.

Ken Tilson, Vertical Market Specialist - Entertainment, said, "Columbus McKinnon is excited about the opportunity to support ESTA's TSP, which is vitally important for the entertainment industry. The TSP members are entertainment subject matter experts who develop and create industry specific technical standards and recommended best practices.



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Transitions

Treanor, Rooney Join Rose Brand Sales, Tech Teams

Jeff Treanor and Evan Rooney recently joined Rose Brand in the sales and technical departments, respectively.

Treanor came on board as an outside sales representative and knows the film and television industry well. He comes to Rose Brand with a diverse background, which includes work with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Warner Hollywood Studios, TMB, and Rosco Laboratories.



Treanor



Rooney

Rooney is no stranger to the theatre and production world. He comes on board as a project manager for the technical department at Rose Brand. While studying technical direction at University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Rooney completed an internship with Rose Brand in 2010. Most recently, he spent three years managing and touring with domestic and international tours of Broadway musicals.

Dornfeld Named LynTec National Sales Manager

LynTec recently announced that Martin Dornfeld has joined the company as its new national sales manager. Dornfeld will work directly with new and existing LynTec customers to ensure the best possible power distribution and control solution for any installation.

Dornfeld brings 30 years of systems development and implementation, project management, technical sales, training, and customer service to his role at LynTec. Immediately before joining LynTec, Dornfeld spent more than 11 years at AC power-conditioning manufacturer, SurgeX, rising to the head of the commercial sales organization during his tenure.

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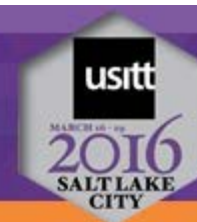


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New Products News from USITT Members

- **Vectorworks:** Offers 3D Printing Plugin by 3YOURMIND
- **ETC:** Introduces MCX Node for Foundation **Controllers**

Vectorworks: Offers 3D Printing Plugin by 3YOURMIND

Users of **Sustaining member** Vectorworks' software now have expanded 3D file capabilities with a new, free plugin developed by Berlin-based 3YOURMIND.

With this new plugin, **Vectorworks 2016** users can check, analyze, and repair 3D files to optimize them for 3D printing. With one click on the 3D printing extension inside Vectorworks, the file is uploaded to the 3YOURMIND comparison tool, where it can be scaled and previewed in different 3D printing materials available. Finally, users can instantly compare prices for their 3D model and order it online.

ETC: Introduces MCX Node for Foundation Controllers

Contributing member ETC's rigging division recently added the MCX Node to its portfolio.

The MCX Node is an Ethernet-based I/O accessory for ETC's Foundation controller that facilitates communication between Foundation and connected hoists, increasing the standard 48-axis capacity to 96 axes of control to be used with motorized hoists and curtain motors.

Each Node supports 48 axes of control. When using a 1RU rack-mount kit, two MCX Nodes can be installed per system, totaling 96 axes of control.

The Node uses the same topology as all preexisting Foundation, QuickTouch and QuickTouch+ controllers.

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News From **Mark Shanda**, *USITT President*

Of Change and Vice-Presidencies

Mark Shanda *USITT President*

Part of the excitement of working with a volunteer organization the size and scope of USITT is our organization's continual evolution intersecting with the regular career changes of our members. I often joke that our Policies and Procedures Compendium is much like the Gaudi Cathedral which was begun in 1882 in Barcelona and has been a work in progress since. Many doubt whether the full structure will ever be completed.

A recent career change has caused one of our Vice-Presidents to submit her resignation. VP International Activities Markéta Fantová informed me early in January of her desire to resign effective March 15. Her decision is not based on her recent relocation from the United States to the Czech Republic, for the Institute has historic precedent for an officer to live outside the U.S. Rather, Markéta made this hard choice because of her remarkable opportunity to serve as the head of the 2019 Prague Quadrennial (PQ)!

Recognizing that USITT's involvement in the U.S. exhibit to the PQ could result in a conflict of interest, Markéta felt the Institute would be best served with a new Vice-President for International Activities. Markéta has been an outstanding colleague, providing significant leadership for the USITT PQ USA '15 entry and continuing to build strong links with many international partners. Her VP service will be missed, but she plans to stay active with the International Activities Committee and will remain a valued member of the Institute.

Our by-laws provide a very clear method to address a vacancy of any officer or board member, and our Nominating Committee is currently seeking input to make a recommendation to the Board for someone to serve out the final year



Markéta Fantová

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and three months of Markéta's term. The Board looks forward to receiving that recommendation and taking action at our meeting on March 15, and we hope to be able to announce the new Vice-President to our members at the Institute's general meeting the next day.

The Board recently took action to formally change the titles of two other Vice-Presidential positions. The Vice-President for Special Operations has been renamed Vice-President of Exhibitions. This change more accurately describes the primary focus of that role, given that much of the contract and logistical work is now covered by staff. Vice-President for Exhibitions Eric Rouse is hard at work bringing to life this new vision for this important position.

The other VP title change is shifting the Vice-President of Programming, who historically coordinated National Conference & Stage Expo scheduling, to a more accurate title of Vice-President for Education & Training. With the Institute's expanded commitment to year-round and lifelong learning for all of our members, this new title is much more accurate. Vice-President for Education & Training Kasey Allee-Foreman is fully committed to seeing the Institute be a valuable 12-month resource for all.

Change is constant in all we do, but be assured that the one thing that won't change during these transitions is our commitment as a Board to bring our very best to each and every one of you.

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

Please e-mail Mark at Shanda.1@osu.edu.



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Spotlight on Giving A Monthly Mission Carolyn Satter

I choose to support USITT monthly with a recurring gift. I believe in USITT's mission of inclusion, excellence, and education—and the vision that's making USITT the "go-to" source for technical expertise.

Carolyn Satter, USITT Vice-President for Commissions
Director of Production and Facilities, San Diego Theatres



Donors from January 15 to February 14:

Kook Fund

- Bruce Auerbach *In Honor of Bernard Works*
- Alexandra Bonds
- Dennis Dorn
- Randy Earle *In Memory of Jan Musson*
- Andi Lyons
- Sylvia Pannell
- Rebecca Perrenod
- Charles Williams

New Century Fund

- Sara Glerum
- Andi Lyons
- Steen Mitchell *In Honor of Janet Rose*
- Rebecca Perrenod
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New Century Fund - Diversity

- Kasey Allee-Foreman
- Nan Arceneaux *In Memory of Tayneshia Jefferson*

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- Leslie Marqua
- Sylvia Pannell
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- Loren Schreiber
- Sherry Wagner-Henry
- Kimb Williamson

Fellows Fund

- Alexandra B. Bonds
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- David Will

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

Sarah's Gift: Three Questions That Make All the Difference

David Grindle *Executive Director*

Sarah Nash Gates, Past President of USITT, was someone I was just getting to know in my role as Executive Director. When we created LiNK, I knew that, if I could get Sarah to be part of the team, it would be a success. That wasn't just my opinion; many people gave me that counsel. When I approached her about it, her response was, "Well, shoot! I wanted to tell you no, I was too busy, but this is too good to pass up." And her work, along with others, made it a success.

Sarah died in December. Sorrowful, I felt I had missed out on learning much from this person who was, frankly, very highly revered in our Institute. As I write this, I'm on a plane leaving Seattle and her memorial service. Many of her colleagues from her years of service were there, including many USITT Fellows and friends, and everyone had stories to share. This person I had just gotten to know a little in the past two years, I felt I knew a little better after hearing those stories.

It was one speaker, her University of Washington School of Drama colleague, Andrew Tsao, who brought tears to my eyes. They came because he put into words the important life lesson that was solidified for me through working with Sarah. Andrew said that Sarah, as executive director of the school, would challenge everyone, "If we do this, how do we do it well?" Then, when they were doing it well, "How can we make this better?" Finally, he said, Sarah would ask, "How can we make it the best?" While these weren't new questions for me, his telling made me see them in a new light.

Those weren't questions that were answered all at once. Those questions had to be asked over the life cycle of a project or event. They weren't one-time questions – rather, they were continual assessments of our work and ourselves.



USITT Fellows, staff, and friends at the Memorial Service for Sarah Nash Gates.

Front row l to r: Randy Earle, Ralph Pine, Pat MacKay, Christine Kaiser, Roberta Brauner.

Back row l to r: David Grindle, Leon Brauner, Bob Scales

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The questions don’t live in isolation; they build upon one another and function as a triune assessment. This struck me because I heard Sarah’s voice in my head asking those very questions during our phone meetings over LiNK. I heard those questions coming from our staff, our volunteers, and our elected leaders. While I’ve always asked those questions, hearing them presented this way made me realize that Sarah, among many, brought that approach to USITT, and we have embraced it as an organization.

USITT lives and breathes Sarah’s words. We strive to do things well, we seek to better ourselves, and over the long course, we want to make things the best they can be. We don’t shy away from projects and activities; rather we embrace the challenge and work to push through. This is the spirit of who we are as an Institute and as individuals. It was who we were before Sarah became the first woman elected President. Yet, just as I came to hear those questions in a new light at her memorial, I think the Institute heard them in a new light as well after her leadership.

I didn’t get to know Sarah very well. But I discovered that she had impacted me through her leadership. As we move forward as an Institute, her three questions will affect our organization for many years to come. Sarah left a generous bequest to USITT. That money will also impact us. I truly believe that, while that gift was generous and helpful, her real gift to me and the Institute will be the result of her leadership:

“If we do this, how do we do it well?”

“How can we make it better?”

“How can we be the best?”

Thank you Sarah. I’ll keep asking.

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News From Regional Sections

- **Southwest:** [USITT-Southwest Regional Section Holds Annual Symposium](#)

Southwest: USITT-Southwest Regional Section Holds Annual Symposium

Kristina Hanssen *USITT-SW President*

On January 15, 2016, approximately 200 members of USITT-SW from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas and their guests began to convene for a full weekend of workshops, a design/tech/management student competition, two keynote speeches and our annual membership meeting at the University of Texas at Arlington's Department of Theatre Arts. Friday night provided a time for the setup of our annual design/tech/management student competition and member registration.

On Saturday and Sunday the participants had to choose from 36 workshops that covered a wide range of design, technology, management and life skills. Most of the workshops were, as in past years, hands-on explorations into techniques that show new solutions to old problems or new technology that will benefit theatre practitioners.

Paul Copenhaver of Texas Scenic was Saturday evening's keynote speaker.

Bob Lavalee, whose set designs for PBS's 150 episodes of Barney and Friends graced the minds of many a small child, was featured on Sunday.



Jennings Johnson won the Don Childs & Schular Shook Award at USITT-SW. Presenting the award was Alex Robertson of Schuler Shook.

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Commissions

Count the Miles, Make the Miles Count

Bryan L. Huneycutt *VC Programming, Safety & Health Commission*

Everyone knows that the USITT Conference and Stage Expo means lots of walking, but did you know you can turn those miles into dollars for charity?



This year in Salt Lake City, the Safety & Health Commission would like to invite all attendees to join us in promoting health while also doing good. Through the use of the "Charity Miles" app, you can turn each mile into a 25 cent donation for many charities like ASPCA, Feeding America, Stand Up to Cancer, and Habitat for Humanity. During the conference, the Commission will tweet daily the impact the group has made.

To join in the fun, just download "Charity Miles" at <http://www.charitymiles.org/> and join Team #USITT2016.

Join the effort to turn aching feet into donations that can make a difference!

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Commissions

Costumers Get Set for Olympian Rumble!

Jenny Kenyon *CD&T Commissioner*

For the first time, students will go head to head on the Stage Expo floor in *Clash of the Costumers: Gods of Wear* at USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City March 16 to 19.

The event, sponsored by the Costume Design & Technology Commission will see eight teams go into the ring, but only one will come out the winner!

The competition is open to eight teams consisting of three student members of USITT. Undergraduate and graduate students are all eligible, as is a mix of student levels and students from differing schools. Students do not need to be only costume design and technology students, although that is the skillset that will be most needed during the competition. Entrants must have attended an institute of higher learning in the fall of 2015 or be currently enrolled.

Those intrepid enough to follow the quest for costume domination should email Misti Bradford, VC-Experience at bradford@uwp.edu.

Non-students, don't feel left out. Your help is needed as judges or sources of any wacky supplies you may have lying around. A donation box will be set up during the Costume Commission meeting on Wednesday evening.

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Scene D&T Commission Seeks Slides for Show

Jan Chambers *VC Programming, Scene D&T*

The Scene Design & Technology Commission will highlight its members' work in its second annual slideshow during the Commission's reception 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 16 during USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City.

Slides should be submitted to Jan Chambers at janc@email.unc.edu by March 5. Work may include renderings, production photos, models, 3D models, projection design, technological marvels, drafting, properties, and painting.

Submit no more than three total digital image files. Images should be no larger than 8x10, 150dpi. The title of show or project, design credits, photo credits, etc. must be clearly noted within the image. Save files as: lastname.abbreviatedshowtitle.jpg (for example kearns.streetcar.jpg) Send one message containing all three images, if possible.

Sharing these images assumes all requisite permission has been granted and proper credit given where appropriate. USITT assumes no liability for images used without consent.

The success of this project depends largely on Commission members' participation. We appreciate your interest and continued support. Email Chambers with any questions.

Don't forget to sign up online with the Scene Design & Technology Commission at www.usitt.org/scene and click the Community button to log in with your USITT email and password. This is where important messages will be posted and information shared. It takes the place of the Commission's listserv.

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Conference & Stage Expo

Rose Brand's Flowers to Emcee eSET Quiz Bowl

A new Jeopardy!-style quiz show, using information from the Essential Skills for the Entertainment Technician program, will be held at Stage Expo's Innovation Stage, sponsored by Rose Brand and hosted by Jeff Flowers.

The eSET Quiz Bowl celebrates the creation of the first four eSET exams in Rigging, Lighting and Electrics, Costuming, and Basic Terms and Safety. Quiz Bowl questions will include some multiple choice challenges from the online tests.

Visit www.usitt.org/eSET to learn more about the eSET program.

The Quiz Bowl will have three, half-hour preliminary rounds divided into 10-minute sections for each discipline. Round 1 is at noon Thursday, March 17; Round 2 is at 4 p.m. the same day; and Round 3 will be at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, March 18.

Winners of each section will return for the finals at 10:15 a.m. Saturday, March 19, to battle for the championships and prizes from Rose Brand.

Sign up [here](#) for this fun and educational competition.

Here are some sample test questions to get your brain in gear. Find these and other sample questions at www.usitt.org/eSET.

From the 'Basic Terms and Safety' pre-test to qualify for other eSET exams.

What is the type of safety curtain that uses water to create a barrier between the stage and the audience?"

A. Water Screen



Jeff Flowers

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- B. Water Deluge Curtain
- C. Fire Safety Curtain
- D. Rain Curtain

Unobstructed route to an outside designated safe space:

- A. Front of House
- B. Back Door
- C. Stage Door
- D. Center Aisle
- E. Emergency Exit

From the eSET Lighting & Electrics exam:

512 channels of DMX comprise one _____.

- A. Galaxy
- B. Cluster
- C. Node
- D. Universe

From the eSET Rigging exam:

The load rating stamped on a shackle is the:

- A. Safe working load
- B. Ultimate load
- C. Design load
- D. Working load limit

From the eSET Costuming exam:

In wardrobe, a cookie refers to:

- A. Bust pads
- B. Post show treat
- C. Heel grip
- D. Pit pads

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Conference & Stage Expo

Raffle Prizes, Live Auction, and the BTS Boutique Benefit Behind the Scenes at USITT

The Long Reach Long Riders and Behind the Scenes will host their annual fundraising raffle at the USITT Conference in Salt Lake City March 17-19. This year's raffle will celebrate the 13th Anniversary of the Long Reach Long Riders annual charity motorcycle ride. The Riders have raised over half a million dollars for charity in their years of touring some of the country's most beautiful areas.

The Behind the Scenes Boutique will also be open for business during the show featuring an assortment of great Behind the Scenes swag and the famous Long Reach Long Rider T-shirts and kazoos.

Tickets for the raffle are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and can be purchased at the Behind the Scenes booth throughout the show. Winning tickets for nine regular prizes and one grand prize will be drawn at 1pm on Saturday, the final day of Stage Expo.

The prizes provided by generous donors are: Grand Prize, Spotlight with Renderworks from Nemetschek Vectorworks, Ghostlight from Altman Rentals, ETC Source 4 Mini Portable from BMI Supply, 360 Degree Spherical Panorama Camera from InterAmerica Stage, LDI 2016 Conference Registration from LDI, \$250 Gift Certificate from Oasis Stage Werks, Electrician's Tool Kit from Production Advantage, \$250 Gift Certificate from Sapsis Rigging, PK Grill & Smoker from Stageworks, and a USITT 2017 Full Conference Registration from USITT.

Pre-drawing activities will include the ever popular kazoo parade, some swag giveaways, and a live auction Saturday on the Stage Expo floor.

All proceeds from the raffle, auction and boutique sales benefit Behind the Scenes, which provides financial assistance to entertainment technology professionals who are seriously ill or injured.

For more info on Behind the Scenes, visit www.behindthescenescharity.org or call 212-244-1421. For more on the Long Reach Long Riders, visit www.lrlr.org.





Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

March 2016

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For the Record:

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- Jimmie Byrd, *Secretary*
- Daniel Culhane, *Treasurer*
- Carolyn Satter, *Vice-President for Commissions*
- Michael Mehler, *Vice-President for Communications*
- Jack Feivou, *Vice-President for Conferences*
- Kasey Allee-Foreman, *Vice-President for Education & Training*
- Andi Lyons, *Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters*
- Eric Rouse, *Vice-President for Exhibitions*
- Lea Asbell-Swanger, *Immediate Past President*

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

2014-2017

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

2015-2018

- Tammy Honesty

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- Verda Beth Martell
- Linda Pisano
- Kevin Rigdon
- Loren Schreiber

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- Debra Sherrer

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- **Carol Carrigan**, Director of Finance & Human Resources
- **Lynne Dundas**, Director of Marketing & Public Relations
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- **Gabrielle Chiddy**, Marketing Strategist
- **Lori Furcinito**, Finance Assistant
- **Janet Gramza**, Communications Associate
- **Shannan Hoerger**, Member Services Associate
- **Jim Lucas**, Marketing Sales & Services Associate
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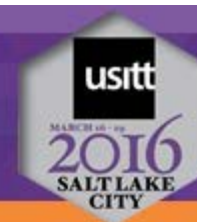


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For the Record:

Members

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

- [Contributing Members »](#)
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Contributing Members

- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- Apollo Design Technology, Inc.
- Automatic Devices Company
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- University of California
- Cirque du Soleil
- City Theatrical, Inc.
- J.R. Clancy, Inc.
- Creative Conners, Inc.
- Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Disney Parks Creative Entertainment
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Feld Entertainment
- Foy Invention Enterprises, Inc.
- Future Light
- Gantom Lighting & Controls
- H & H Specialties Inc.
- Hall Associates Flying Effects
- Harlequin Floors
- InterAmerica Stage, Inc.
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees
-

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- KM Fabrics, Inc.
- Kryolan Corporation
- The Light Source
- MDG Fog Generators
- Mega Systems
- Musson Theatrical, Inc.
- Norcostco, Inc.
- Philips Group
- PRG
- Production Advantage, Inc.
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.
- Rose Brand Theatrical Fabrics, Fabrications & Supplies
- SECOA
- StageSpot
- Staging Concepts
- Steeldeck Inc.
- Sustainable Technologies Group
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- Texas Scenic Company
- TheatreWorld Backdrops
- Vincent Lighting Systems
- Wenger Corporation
- Yale School of Drama/Repertory Theatre
- ZFX , Inc. – Flying Effects

Sustaining Members

- A.C. Lighting Inc.
- A.C.T. Lighting
- Acme Corp. Production Resource
- The University of Alabama
- Alcons Audio USA
- Atlanta Rigging Systems
- Auerbach Pollock Friedlander
- A V Pro, Inc.
- Baby Lock
- Backdrops Beautiful
- Batts Audio, Video and Lighting
- BellaTEX, Inc.

- Ben Nye Makeup
- Bernina of America
- BMI Supply
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- California Institute of the Arts
- Celebrity Cruises
- Center Theatre Group
- University of Central Arkansas
- Chauvet
- Chicago Flyhouse Inc.
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- Clear-Com Communication Systems
- Clearwing Productions
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- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
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- Dazian Fabrics, LLC
- Designlab Chicago
- Diablo Sound
- Doug Fleenor Design, Inc.
- EK Lights
- Elation Lighting
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- Entertainment Lighting Services
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- Florida State University
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- GALA Systems, Inc.
- GLP German Lighting Products, Inc.
- Gerriets International Inc.
- Grand Stage Company, Inc.
- Herbert L. Camburn Associates
- IALD-International Association of Lighting Designers
- InLight Gobos
- Irwin Seating Company
-

- iWeiss Theatrical Solutions
- 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.
- Little Giant Ladder Systems
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- The MAGNUM Companies Ltd.
- Mainstage Theatrical Supply
- Mehron, Inc.
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- University of Missouri-Kansas City
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- Morpheus Lights
- Niscon Inc.
- University of North Carolina School of the Arts
- Northern Sound & Light, Inc.
- Nova Lume
- Ontario Staging Limited
- OSRAM SYLVANIA
- Pathway Connectivity
- Penn State University
- Period Corsets
- Peter Albrecht Company
- Pointwright Entertainment Rigging Specialists
- Rational Acoustics, LLC
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- RC4 Wireless/Soundscape Inc.
- Rockford University
- Saginaw Valley State University
- Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.
- Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc.
- Serapid, Inc.
- Show Sage
- Siong Ann Engineering Pte Ltd
- Smooth-On, Inc.
- Stage Decoration & Supplies, Inc.
- Stage Equipment and Lighting, Inc.
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- Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
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As of 2/10/2016

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