



Sightlines

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USITT's 46th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Louisville, Kentucky produced many entertaining and informative moments, and even some fireworks. The demonstration shown above concluded the *Indoor Pyrotechnics* Professional Development Workshop, held at the Kentucky Center. Additional photos and coverage, from Jon Jory's profound questions at the Keynote to the final recognition at the Awards Banquet, will be found in the May issue of *Sightlines*.

Photo/Casey Kearns

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 4

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The Woolly Mammoth Theatre, right, is one of two Honor Award winners in the 2006 USITT Architecture Awards competition.

Photo/Julia Heine/
McInturff Architects

by **Barbara E.R. Lucas**
Sightlines Editor

Outstanding Theatres Honored with 2006 Awards

USITT will present awards to five outstanding theatres which have been designated as winners in the 2006 Architecture Awards program.

Chosen for Honor Awards were the Woolly Mammoth Theatre in Washington, D.C. and the California Theatre in San Jose, California.

Woolly Mammoth Theatre

- Architect: McInturff Architects
- Theatre Consultant: Theatre Projects Consultants
- Acoustic Consultant: Acoustic Dimensions

California Theatre

- Architect: ELS Architecture and Urban Design
- Theatre Consultant: Auerbach: Pollock: Friedlander

The California Theatre, below, will be recognized with a USITT Honor Award as part of the Architecture Awards program.

- Acoustic Consultant: Charles M. Salter Associates, Inc.

Three additional projects will receive Merit Awards from USITT's Architecture Commission. Jazz at Lincoln Center, Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York, New York; Williams College '62 Center for Theatre and Dance in Williamstown, Massachusetts; and the KA Theatre in Las Vegas, Nevada will be acknowledged.

Jazz at Lincoln Center, Frederick P. Rose Hall

- Architect: Rafael Viñoly Architects PC
- Theater Consultant: Artec Consultants, Inc.
- Acoustic Consultant: Sound of Jazz

Williams College '62 Center for Theatre and Dance

- Architect: William Rawn Associates, Architects, Inc.
- Theatre Consultant: Theatre Projects Consultants
- Acoustic Consultant: Acoustic Dimensions

KA Theatre

- Architects of Design: Cirque du Soleil and Mark Fisher
- Architect of Record: Marnell Corrado Associates
- Theatre Consultant: Auerbach Pollock Friedlander
- Acoustic Consultant: Pelton Marsh Kinsella

The USITT Architecture Awards have been acknowledging excellence in new construction or creative reuse of space for performing arts facility since 1994.

Additoinal coverage of the Architecture Awards will be included in the upcoming Spring issue of *TD&T*.



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UK Costume Symposium Focuses on Future

Following the great success of the 2005 event, a special Costume Symposium 2006 will be held July 19 to 20 at the Arts Institute at Bournemouth, United Kingdom. It promises to bring together experts in the field of costume and performance and give delegates an opportunity to discuss their experiences and perspectives, and take an interesting look at recent developments in costume design.

Speakers are currently being confirmed, and organizers hope they will include Deborah Landis from the United States, a costume designer whose credits include *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Trading Places*, and *The Blues Brothers*.

Topics being considered include: examining the changing roles for costume for 21st century theatre; shapes in space - contemporary dance costume and the role of the costume designer; digital media and costume design - professional practice and teaching strategies; and others.

Final details will be ready in April. To be put on the mailing list please send your details to: Future of Costume Symposium, The Arts Institute at Bournemouth, Wallisdown, Poole, Dorset, BH12 5HH; e-mail: gcottenden@aib.ac.uk; or phone: 01202 363265.

The Arts Institute at Bournemouth is on the south coast of England only two hours from London Waterloo by train.

[To Top](#) **New Project on Luminaire Inspections**

At its meeting in January, the Electrical Power Working Group, part of ESTA's Technical Standards Program, approved the start of a project to write a standard to offer guidance on the inspection of stage and studio luminaires. The new project, BSR E1.32-200x, *Recommended Practice for the Inspection of Entertainment Industry Luminaires*, is designed to help electricians conduct regular inspections of lighting instruments. In working on the BSR E1.19 GFCI project, it became clear to the working group that one of the causes of ground-fault circuit interrupters tripping on stages, in studios, and on location shoots is faulty lighting equipment. Regular inspection would allow faults to be identified and corrected so they aren't risks to personnel or causes of production delays.

Interested parties - anybody who owns, rents, uses, inspects, or repairs stage and studio luminaire - -are invited to participate in

This month:

UK Symposium
Luminaire Project
Standards Review

the project by joining the Electrical Power Working Group or by participating in future public reviews of the draft document. Information about joining this working group and others is available at www.esta.org/tsp/working_groups/index.html.

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Standards Under Review

Three standards documents are available for public review from now through the end of the day April 11, 2006.

ANSI E1.3-2001, *Entertainment Technology-Lighting Control Systems-0 to 10V Analog Control Specification*, is being considered for reaffirmation without any changes.

ANSI E1.14-2001, *Entertainment Technology-Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals*, is being considered for reaffirmation without any changes.

BSR E1.9-200x, *Reporting Photometric Performance Data for Luminaires Used in Entertainment Lighting*, is a revised version of the existing ANSI E1.9-2001. The standard is approaching its fifth anniversary and action needs to be taken to keep the document active, but the existing standard has not been used widely because it has a great number of requirements.

The public review response forms (and the revised, free draft standard for luminaries) are available at www.esta.org/tsp/documents/public_review_docs.php.

For more information, contact: Karl G. Ruling, Technical Standards Manager, e-mail: standards@esta.org.

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Canadians Plan Conference

Monique Corbeil CITT/ICTS National Coordinator

With many people making summer plans, keep in mind CITT/ICTS Rendez-vous, a one-of-a-kind opportunity for professional development and networking for technical professionals in the performing arts in Canada

CITT-Ontario will host Rendez-vous from August 7 to 13, 2006 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The Conference will offer over 40 professional development sessions featuring lighting and sound technology, costumes, props, design, architecture, management, and theatre production. Hosted in a different Canadian city each year, the conference attracts over 200 attendees, presenters, and exhibitors from across Canada who will share their knowledge and expertise with one another.

Rendez-vous offers four full days of seminars, workshops, keynote speakers and social events. More intense courses, tours and workshops are planned for the three days prior to the conference. An industry trade show will be held where CITT/ICTS corporate members will present new products and technologies. The Annual Rendez-vous is also the occasion for the CITT/ICTS Annual General Meeting and Awards Banquet where CITT/ICTS honors individuals and organizations who have excelled in their field of live performance in Canada.

This year's Rendez-vous is titled *Enter: The Building More than Bricks and Mortar* and the conference theme is theatre architecture and how workspaces influence work. Several conference sessions, venue tours, the keynote address, and the all-delegate plenary session will explore this theme. Highlight events include Pre-Conference Workshops include *Structural Design for the Stage Part II*, *Intermediate Rigging* and *Venue Tours*, and the Keynote Address by theatre consultant and facilitator Janis Barlow from Toronto.

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Great Discounts on Training

Michelle L. Smith *Membership & Ad Sales Manager*

Live Design Master Classes

The Live Design Master Classes offer professional-level training focused on the best of Broadway and theatre design with sessions by the top designers in their respective fields. USITT members enjoy special Union/Association rates that are \$200 to \$300 off the Professional rates.

The 2006 Broadway Sound Master Classes will be held May 19 to 21 in Burrow's Theatre at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. The 2006 Broadway Lighting Master Classes will be held May 22 to 24 at NYU's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts. To register, click [here](#).

Information on all your member discounts can be found by clicking [here](#) and entering your user name and password. Once you have gained access, click the link for the selected item and follow the instructions provided.

If you have questions or suggestions for a new benefit, contact Membership & Ad Sales Manager Michelle L. Smith at 800-938-7488 or michelle@office.usitt.org.

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Midwest Section Awash in Tech Olympics

Tech Olympics has taken hold in the states of the Midwest Regional Section. For the past several years, high school students have competed in a Tech Olympics at the Wisconsin and Illinois High School Theatre Festivals. Two years ago, the Indiana Thespian Conference joined in and will hold its in March. This past January, the American College Theatre Festival, Region III, held at Illinois State University, added a Tech Olympics as well. All of these were sponsored in part by the Midwest Regional Section and ETC Lighting.

Now in its sixth year in Wisconsin, eight teams with a total of 43 students participated in this event designed to teach students new technical skills as well as working together as part of a team while having some fun. This year's events were hanging a light, tying knots, using a NICO press, shifting props, doing a costume change, and, a true team event, folding a pleated leg. Participants are judged based on time, safety, and correct performance. Events at the Wisconsin Festival were sponsored by Mainstage Theatrical Supply, Acme Productions Inc, John Hyatt & Associates, and Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc. (ETC).

Now in its fourth year in Illinois, Tech Olympics has caught on with widespread enthusiasm. This year's event saw over 70 students from 13 high schools around the state participate in what has become an annual part of the festival. The competition was the same as in Wisconsin but building a mini window flat was the

Students work together to complete an event in the Tech Olympics held as part of the Illinois High School Theatre Fest. The Midwest Section sponsors the friendly competition.

Photo/R.J. "Mike" Nielsen

by **Steven Jacobs**, assisted by **Ellen White** and **Jim Ream**
Midwest Section

At KCACTF, students got into the spirit of the Tech Olympics competition, and into and out of clothing for the quick change event.

Photo/Linda Janosko

team event instead of folding a leg. All teams left with their 18- by 24-inch flat emblazoned with "USITT-Midwest Section." All participants received a certificate based on time. They were classified as Master Technician, Top Technician, Supporting Technician, or Aspiring Technician. In addition to certificates, those who were fastest in a category received USITT-Midwest Section shirts.

Representatives of theatrical companies and dealers served as judges along with high school teachers and Midwest Section members. Participating were were: Designlab Chicago, ETC, Grand Stage Co., Hall Flying Effects, and Intelligent Lighting Creations. Most of the companies also had swag for the students who competed.

At the first KCACTF Region III Tech Olympics, 19 teams of two students competed in five events: knots (clove, bowline around the waist), wardrobe (fast change from one suit into another), sound (set up and test a mixer, amp, speaker, microphone and CD), lighting (hang and focus a light onto a geometric shape), and carpentry (attach and remove two compression legs).

The fastest time was recorded by students from University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; second place was University of Michigan; and third place was University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Fourth place was earned by Ball State University.

There was a pleasant balance of fun and competitive spirit that made this late night event one which the organizers of ACTF intend to continue. Plans are already underway for the new, improved version in 2007.

The board of the Midwest Section sees Tech Olympics as the best method of recruiting high school students and teachers as well as college students. The Section's involvement also helps promote the Section and USITT in general. Other Sections interested in pursuing a Tech Olympics contact Steve Jacobs at sjacobs192@comcast.net for more information.



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Ingham Featured in *Dramatics*

Those reading the recent March issue of *Dramatics* were treated to an interview with **Rosemary Ingham**, winner of USITT's 2006 Distinguished Achievement Award in Costume Design.

"Dressing the Show" by Mike Lawler included several examples of Ms. Ingham's drawings and then realized work for *Pygmalion*.

Ms. Ingham's work was also featured at a Special Exhibit as part of the 2006 Stage Expo.

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Madonna Wears Period Corsets

When **Madonna** performed at the 2006 Grammy Awards, she was wearing a custom Lilly corset made by **Period Corsets** by Kaufman-Davis Studio. The corset, usually hidden from view, was front and center during the February Grammy show which was broadcast on CBS. Period Corsets, based in Seattle, continues its participation showing distinctive period silhouettes at Stage Expo in Louisville,

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Gorrell Feted as Safety Wizard

Jerry Gorrell retired recently from the City of Phoenix where he was the technical director and safety coordinator for Phoenix Stages. Rumor has it that he needed to retire to have enough time for his numerous other activities, including work as chair of USITT's Standards Committee, a member of several ANSI E1 Entertainment Technology working groups, and principal of Theatre Safety Programs, an entertainment industry safety consulting firm. Many members of USITT will see how his retirement is working out during the 2007 USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo which will be held in Phoenix next March.

Friends traveled from near and far to help celebrate with the "safety wizard" including Mary Montalvo, left, USITT's Engineering Commissioner; and Mitch Hefter, USITT Director at Large and DMX-512 guru. Mr. Gorrell is the gentleman on the right in the appropriate hat.

This month:

Rosemary Ingham
 Madonna
 Safety Wizard
 Conference Launch
 Amanda Sutt
 Long Reach Riders



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Sightlines Launches from Conference

Regular readers know that *Sightlines* is available by the first of each month, bringing members news about activities within USITT and the performing arts and entertainment industry. That is a bit of a challenge when the editor, USITT staff, Board of Directors, and much of our readership are all gathered for the Annual Conference & Stage Expo.

In this issue, launched from Louisville, we bring you a small taste of the record-setting experience. If you are viewing this from a Cyber Cafe at Stage Expo, look around at very familiar sights. If you were not able to join us, you were missed. And if you are catching up on your reading after the event, we hope to have provided a few small glimpses of all that took place. More will be included in upcoming issues.

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Amanda Sutt Featured in Article

A former Appalachian State student, and USITT Student Chapter President, was featured in a March issue of *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. "Changing man into frog all in a day's work for costume design" describes **Amanda Sutt**'s work on both the costumes and marionettes for the Aurora Theatre's production of *A Year With Frog and Toad*. Ms. Sutt, a set and costume designer, has been a USITT member since 2002.

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Long Reach Long Riders Expand

For motorcycle riders who have limited time, but a desire to ride this July, the Long Reach Long Riders have a solution. "We've received a number of requests", Bill Sapsis of the LRLR explains, "from riders who wanted to join us on the trip but couldn't make the full time commitment. So, in addition to those who want to ride the full route, we're also opening up the ride to day trippers. This ride has been a lot of fun and we wanted as many people as possible to participate."

The Long Reach Long Riders third annual cross country charity motorcycle ride begins on July 9, 2006. The beneficiaries of this year's ride are the ESTA Foundation's Behind the Scenes and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

To join the ride, make a donation or sponsor a service along the route, visit www.LRLR.org for more information.

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Stage Research Launches LightFactory

LightFactory is the latest addition to **Stage Research's** line of theatrical software applications. LightFactory is a PC-based lighting control solution that Stage Research says offers all the features expected from a lighting control board and yet can be run from the smallest laptop.

"With our other software offerings in design, photometrics, and visualization, the product that really rounds out our lighting suite is a good control program -- we found that in LightFactory," said Stage Research's Minister of Lighting Bill Kirby.

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Changes at Rose Brand

Rose Brand has announced several personnel changes. Roger Claman, former National Sales Director, has been named Vice President - Outside Sales. Mr. Claman has been with Rose Brand for nine years and his chief responsibilities have included developing relationships with scenic and production designers as well as technical directors. He also led the company's efforts to grow in such areas as the cruise ship industry, feature films, and corporate/industrial tours.

Mary Katherine Vandiver has been promoted to Director of Marketing. She is a graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts, and is a member of IATSE Local 311. Nina Nikolic and Pete Sauber are the latest additions to the Rose Brand sales team. Mr. Sauber graduated from San Francisco State and has been working in California theater as a Technical Director. Ms. Nikolic is a graduate of the Academy of Applied Arts and Design (Belgrade) and received her MFA in costume/set design from Utah State University. Vera Shavers and Mercedes Betances are Rose Brand's new production managerial team. Ms. Shavers studied textile and apparel design at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and has past experience in both the fashion and design industry. Ms. Betances, a graduate of Fordham University, has worked with Rose Brand for over 10 years

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PRG Supports *Lestat*

This month:

Stage Research, Inc.

Rose Brand

PRG

Production Resource Group, LLC (PRG) is providing a large video system for the new musical, *Lestat*, which began previews at the Palace Theatre in March after out-of-town tryouts in San Francisco. The video system was specified by Howard Werner of Lightswitch New York, who selected PRG's Mbox Extreme media server for control and playback of all of the video content in the show. Expanding the media server's features for *Lestat's* requirements was the job of the Dallas- and UK-based R & D group at PRG.

Mr. Werner worked with the team, detailing his specific needs. "We developed the ability to soft edge blend imagery, to synchronize Mbox Extremes, and to play larger, higher definition files," comments the designer. In San Francisco, *Lestat* used a total of 13 video projectors: nine Digital Projection Dsx+ 12000, three Digital Projection Lightning 35HD and one Christie LX 100.

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Brilliant Results For Wybron

Wybron, in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is celebrating the successful launch of its monthly on-line market research surveys. The ongoing research program will be used to influence product development and help Wybron better understand the needs and desires of lighting professionals. Some key innovations over the years have been a direct result of listening to suggestions from customers. The monthly surveys are another way for Wybron to be responsive to thse industry.

In January, 147 people completed the survey, and the numbers are expected to grow each month as the word gets out. A wide range of the lighting industry was represented with people involved in everything from television, art installations and outdoor environments to worship services and even "extreme environments." Bill Brinsley and Bill Ebeling were the lucky recipients of new iPods. The research is being conducted by Acromatics Marketing Research. The surveys are short, generally 10 minutes or less, and can be completed from any computer at any time during the month. To take the survey and be eligible for a chance to win an iPod, log on to www.wybron.com/research/.

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Thern Catalogue Features Refinements

Thern Inc., a major designer and manufacturer of products for lifting, moving, pulling, and other load handling functions, recently released a new catalogue for its complete line of davit cranes and winches. The new catalogue outlines full product descriptions and specifications to assist industry professionals needing lifting and pulling equipment. The catalogue serves as a quick reference guide to Thern's extensive product offerings and lists features and performance ratings for Thern's complete product line.

New sections featuring Thern hand winches, portable and stationary davits, and heavy-duty air winches have been added to the catalogue, which is available for download in PDF format at www.thern.com/news.php?loc=lit.

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Cast Launches Release 16

This month:

Wybron

Thern

Cast Software

Stage Technology

Gone are the days of static objects. In March, the launch of WYSIWYG Production Design Suite Release 16 will breathe life into productions by giving users the ability to pre-visualize shows with moving scenery! Objects are simply attached to movement axes (either linear or rotational) and moved along them with the Moving Scenery tool.

For greater realism, designers can patch control of the movement axes (and their attached objects) and use a console device or a motion control system to manage the progress of the objects along the axes. To see how this new feature can assist productions visit www.cast-soft.com and click the Preview Moving Scenery icon.

Cast Software, creators of WYSIWYG, is working with multiple motion control system manufacturers to allow them to connect directly to WYSIWYG and visualize motion controls. These exciting new advancements complement Cast's mission to deliver software tools that give users the ability to Show and Sell.

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Stage Technology Offers Scholarship

Stage Technology is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a lighting design student based on a combination of quality and appeal of submitted photographs. The winner and additional students may have their work included on the company website and in its 2006-07 catalog. The winner will be chosen from those submitting high resolution production photos not larger than seven megabites to info@stagetechnology.com.

Entries are being accepted until May 31, 2006 and should include permission to use the photos in the upcoming Stage Technology catalog, along with credit information for the photographer, lighting designer, producing organization, scenic design, and costume designer, if applicable, along with complete contact information for the student designer. A subject line of "Scholarship" is suggested. Students must also obtain permission from the show's director to submit the photos. Those unable to provide digital submissions may enter by mail.

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Participants work from a model, left, during the *Costume Drawing & Rendering Techniques* two-day session held prior to the official start of the 46th Annual Conference.

Photo/Tom Thatcher

by **John S. Uthoff** *USITT President*

Off to Louisville!

As I write this paragraph we are only two weeks from the start of our Conference in Louisville. By the time you see this, the week will be almost complete. For the first time, we will deploy *Sightlines* while we are still at the Conference. This issue contains current information from a Conference that is still unfolding.

As I write, however, everything is still in process to finish all the last minute preparations necessary to make this Conference a success. Final purchases are being made, final agendas are being drafted, finishing touches are in progress for all the programming sessions and the awards, and the office is madly packing to move operations to Louisville. The display boards are being prepared and assembled. The indicators are we will have another blockbuster year. More people have pre-registered this year than ever before, and Stage Expo is surpassing previous records.

What this means to me is that the Louisville Conference is another chance to visit with friends and catch up with the activities of the last year. I am looking forward to another Opening Night party, another Keynote, another time to present well earned awards, and another chance to work with friends. I hope all of you who are enjoying or have enjoyed the Conference had the chance to talk to friends in the business and get recharged and refreshed. I hope you all have had another wonderful year at USITT.

If I missed you at the Conference, I want to give you all a big USITT "HELLO." I hope you were one who stopped me in the halls of the convention center, just to talk. Or look for me next year in Phoenix, if you missed me this year.

If you are ever in Manhattan, Kansas stop by and say "hello!" I'd enjoy the visit. That is one of the main things that USITT is all about.

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Plan Day in Dayton

The **Ohio Valley Regional Section** is planning a tour event at the National Museum of the United States Air Force on May 13, 2006 from 10 a.m. to noon. Members and their families will be given a tour of the displays by resident curators and designers. The exhibits should be of interest to costume and scenic designers. Lighting designers will have an opportunity to talk with resident designers who have installed the extensive display lighting for the exhibits.

The matinee performance at Human Race (Victoria Theatre) of Alone Together or a visit to the most unusual salvage store in all of Ohio, Mendelssohn's Salvage, are alternate activities planned for the afternoon.

Watch the section website for details of dates and times at www.usittohiovalley.org.

[To Top](#) ↑**To Attend Section Retreat**

Three members of **Chesapeake Regional Section's** Board - Bill Price, Kacey Fisher, and Mark Mallett - attended the Section Officers Retreat on March 28, just before the start of the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Louisville.

The Section invited everyone attending the Conference to stop by for continental breakfast or just to say, "Hi!" during the Section meeting on Thursday, March 30.

[To Top](#) ↑**Southwest Holds Winter Symposium**

The Southwest Regional Section held its Winter Symposium January 13 to 15 at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. The symposium was hosted and organized by the students, staff, and faculty of the SHSU Theatre Department, particularly Don and Jane Childs, Greg Buck, Kris Hanssen, Megan Erskine, and Holly Flannery.

The highlight of the symposium was a presentation by Luc Lafortune, lighting designer for Cirque de Soleil, who exhibited slides of productions such as "O" and "Ka" and shared the production process Cirque de Soleil uses to develop the concept for each production.

The featured designer for the symposium was Jim Kemmerling, long-time designer for West Texas A & M University. His scene

This month:

Ohio Valley
Chesapeake
Southwest

and lighting designs were exhibited with models, sketches, and photographs. In a walk-through of his exhibit, he discussed his approaches to the various productions.

Other workshops presented during the weekend including: Fiber Arts by Tamarra Chasteen; Painting and Surface Treatments by Jenn Knott of Rosco Labs; Rigging Safety by Bill Sapsis of Sapsis Rigging; Color in Lighting demonstration by Joe Tawil from GAM Products; Congo control board from ETC demonstration by Heidi Stewart; and Le Maitre's latest foggers and atmospheric effects demonstrated by Ian Forester.

Software was also demonstrated. Jody Lane led a demonstration of Sketch-up, a rendering software from @last. Chris Judd presented various animation software.

As part of the symposium, the Design Southwest exhibit and competition was held. Adjudicators for were Mr. Lafortune, Mr. Kemmerling, and Barbara Alkofer from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The Scene Design winner was Travis Eason, who received a full suite of Vectorworks 12.0 software. The Costume Design winner was April Keith, who won two tickets to *Spamalot*, lunch with the wardrobe mistress, and a backstage tour of the theatre. The Lighting Design winner was Richard Chamblin who received a complete package of WYSIWYG software. In Sound Design, Megan Erskine and Jack Coughlin tied for first place and will receive a tour of the Meyer Sound factory in Berkeley, California.

Other winners included Lindsey Custer in Props Design and Daniel Colosky in Technical Production. Other prizes awarded were a set of Rosco scenic fitches, LD Assistant software, Sketch-up software, costume and make-up books including mint condition Lucy Barton and Richard Corson texts, Set Wear gloves and The Photometrics Book.

The overall winner for the exhibit with the best presentation was Michael McGehee, who received a registration to the Louisville 2006 Conference & Stage Expo and round-trip airfare. Prizes were donated by several of the companies listed as well as Lee Filters, Norcostco, Schuler-Shook, SECOA, Stagelight, and TheatreJobs.com. For those students in the region who missed out, there will be another Design Southwest in the near future.

At a membership meeting, led by Section Chair James G. Cunningham, vacancies on the board of directors were filled by: Judd Vermillion of Texas Christian University and Kris Hanssen, Directors-at-Large I and III, respectively, two-year terms; and Holey Flannery, Director-at-Large V and student representative, one-year term. Planning began for the next two symposia. T

he next Fall Symposium is scheduled for the Labor Day weekend and will be hosted by the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. The next Winter Symposium will be hosted by Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, over the Martin Luther King weekend in 2007. Topics to be covered tentatively include Sound

Design, Portfolio Construction, Design Presentation, Recording a Show, Alternative Employment, and Digital Rendering.

At the USITT-Southwest Regional Section membership meeting on March 30 during the Annual USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Louisville the Glenn Martin Jr. Service Award for recent outstanding service to the section, and the Forrest A. Newlin USITT-SW Founders Award for outstanding service and achievements as a leader of the section were scheduled to be presented.

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Strategic Planning High Priority for Costume Commission

Following the prevailing trend among many institutions and organizations, the Costume Design & Technology Commission spent time looking to the future during the Louisville 2006 Conference & Stage Expo. The Commission devotes two sessions to strategic planning in order to ensure continued success. Titled *Shaping the Future of the Costume Commission*, the first is scheduled for Thursday, March 30 from 2:30 to 3:50 p.m., and the second on Saturday, April 1 from 2:30 to 3:50 p.m. Sessions were open to all parties with an interest in the Costume Design & Technology Commission.

A preliminary strategic plan outline was created by the Strategic Planning Committee to facilitate the sessions. On the committee are Pat Martin, Deb Krajec, Kristina Tollefson, Bob Haven, Gweneth West, Pamela Knourek, with Joel Ebarb as chair. Topics covered in the outline include: an analysis of the values of the Costume Commission; the current mission statement; and goals, strategies, and benchmark measures.

The preliminary outline was presented at the first session, after which members were to break into smaller discussion groups moderated by a committee member. The information gathered from the first session is designed to be integrated into the outline and re-presented at the second session, held using a "town hall" format. The overall goal is to receive as much input as possible

The Costume Design & Technology Commission has used many tools to prepare for two sessions at the 2006 Annual Conference & Stage Expo which will explore the Commission's future.

by **Joel Ebarb** Chair,
Louisville Costume
Programming, Costume Design
& Technology Commission

from Commission members in order to make the strategic plan truly representative.

All members of the Costume Design & Technology Commission were strongly encouraged to participate and a variety of opinions are extremely welcomed. To investigate all of the offerings by the Costume Design & Technology Commission for the Louisville 2006 Conference and Stage Expo, click [here](#).

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Volunteers Make Sessions, Light Lab, PDW Successful

Did you have a great time in at the 2006 Conference & Stage Expo in Louisville? With 15 sessions from the Lighting Commission on a variety of topics, plus a two-day PDW, conference attendees had many choices. There was great attendance at these sessions especially in the Lighting Commission I and II meetings where many ideas for programming for the 2007 conference in Phoenix were discussed. One highlight from this year's conference was the Distinguished Lighting Designer 2006 session with this year's recipient, James L. Moody. Everyone should have tried to catch a session or two at the Light Lab at the Kentucky Center.

It takes many people to present all of these sessions. The Lighting Commission would like to thank its leadership who helped make the programming for Louisville happen including: Buddy Combs, Rich Dunham, Robin Schraft, Todd Studebaker, Vicki Scott, Steve Shelley, Sabrina Hamilton, Mike Ingraham, Ann Archbold, James L. Moody, Rob Rowlands, and Judy Staicer.

There were many people working in the Light Lab this year, and they all deserve a round of applause. The commission wants to thank their Light Lab committee - David Borron, Tracy Fitch, Rob Rowlands, Todd Proffitt, Steve Holliday, and Ann Archbold - who worked all year making preparations for the conference. They helped arrange labor, gather site information, find equipment to use in the lab, and provide the session chairs with their technical needs. There was a large number of adult and student volunteers to help load in, load out, and staff all the sessions in the Light Lab.

The Lighting Commission's offering for the 2006 Annual Conference & Stage Expo included the two-day Indoor Pyrotechnics Professional Development Workshop held at the Kentucky Center for the Arts.

Photo/Tom Thatcher

by **Anthony R. Phelps** VC
Programming, Lighting Commission

Their help was integral to making the Light Lab run.

A special thank you goes to LeMaitre for presenting the PDW on Indoor Pyrotechnics. This two-day workshop involved about 20 participants, which combined demonstration and hands-on training of the appropriate use of pyrotechnics indoors.

The session chairs dedicate many hours developing a session, submitting information, and finding panelists. Few people realize how much research, planning, and thought goes into each session. A big thank you also goes out to the many individuals who came to Louisville to be panelists and presenters. You cannot measure the value of the information these individuals impart.

Thanks go to all who came to the sessions. Your enthusiasm and participation inspire the Commission to continue presenting quality programming.

There are a few more people that the Lighting Commission would like to thank. A big round of applause goes to ESTA for its support providing meeting rooms to the commission leadership. Rosco deserves a big thank you for helping sponsor the Master Class on Lighting with Color and Gobos with Mark Stanley. Finally, thank you to the Gilbert Hemsley, Jr. Internship Program which co-sponsored the travel of several panelists for the session, "Making a Start in Regional Theatre for Lighting Designers."

Those interested in getting involved as a panelist next year can contact one of the Commission leaders. Let them know your interest and expertise, and they can pass your name on to the session chairs. The Lighting Commission works because so many people bring their talent and energy to these sessions. So get involved; we'll see you in Phoenix!

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Stage Expo 2006: Another Record-Breaking Show

Helen Willard *Stage Expo Sales Manager*

With 184 exhibitors in 26,850 square feet of exhibit space, Stage Expo 2006 will be listed in the record books as USITT's largest show. This tops the record of 26,000 square feet of exhibit space set last year in Toronto. The number of exhibitors has also reached an all-time high, besting last year's total of 177 exhibitors. Thanks to all of our exhibitors who made Stage Expo 2006 such a great success.



Getting ready for Stage Expo 2006 in Louisville, Kentucky is an exciting and visually stimulating experience, as this Cirque du Soleil booth shows. Photo/Tom Thatcher

"Final" list of exhibitors for Stage Expo 2006

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A.C. Lighting Inc. ● A.C.T Lighting, Inc. ● University of Alabama ● Altman Lighting, Inc. ● American Harlequin Corporation ● Apollo Design Technology, Inc ● University of Arizona ● Arizona State University ● ASL-USA ● Automatic Devices Company ● Barbizon Lighting Company ● Ben Nye Company ● BMI Supply, Inc. ● Boston University ● Brandeis University ● Brooklyn College ● California Institute of the Arts ● California State University-Fullerton ● California Repertory Company/CSULB Theatre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mehron Inc. ● The University of Memphis ● Meyer Sound ● Minnesota State University-Mankato ● University of Minnesota-Twin Cities ● Mongol Global Tour Company, Inc. ● MSR Mobile Stage Rentals/Stageline ● University of Nevada - Las Vegas ● Norcostco Inc ● North Carolina School of the Arts ● The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ● Ocean Optics, Inc. ● Ohio University School of Theatre ● University of Oklahoma ● On Location Lighting Systems ● Oregon Shakespeare Festival |
|---|---|

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- City Theatrical, Inc.
- J.R. Clancy
- Clark Transfer, Inc.
- Clear-Com
- Communication Systems
- Cobalt Studios
- CoCoAct
- Columbia University School of the Arts
- Columbus McKinnon
- Comfor Tek Seating, Inc.
- Conductix/Insul-8
- The Costume Bible
- Costume Gallery
- Costume World Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Dazian LLC
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- University of Texas, Austin
- Texas Tech University
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- Thern
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- Tulane University
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- ZFX, Inc.
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Opening Night 2006 at the Kentucky Center for the Arts will give attendees the same networking opportunities USITT has provided for the past several years.

Photo/R. Finkelstein

Sponsors Make Conference & Stage Expo Special

Michelle L. Smith *Membership & Ad Sales Manager*

The beautiful Kentucky Center played host to another successful **Opening Night** party at the Annual Conference. Many attendees gathered at the Center for Wednesday night's informal reception and were treated to scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and sparkling conversation. The generous sponsors who made this evening possible are:

- AV Pro, Inc.
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- SECOA
- Texas Scenic Company
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas, College of Fine Arts and Engineering's Entertainment Engineering Design Program

Back for 2006 were the all-important **Cyber Cafés** as part of Stage Expo. These computer kiosks with internet access allowed attendees to stay in touch with e-mail and surf the web for information. This valuable service was made possible by the following sponsors:

- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- California Institute of the Arts
- *Live Design Magazine*
- Stage Research, Inc.

Please join us in thanking all our sponsors for the many ways they enhance the Conference experience. When you do business with these companies, tell them you appreciate their support.

USITT's Conference sponsorship program is coordinated by Michelle L. Smith, Membership & Ad Sales Manager. To learn about 2007 opportunities contact her at the USITT office at 800-938-7488 or michelle@office.usitt.org.

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As the April issue of *Sightlines* makes its debut on the web, thousands of people are still attending sessions, visiting Stage Expo, and enjoying all that the 2006 Annual Conference & Stage Expo has to offer. Participants in the *Hat's Entertainment* session are at left.

Photos/Casey Kearns & Tom Thatcher

A Few Glimpses of USITT's 2006 Annual Conference

More information will appear in future issues, but we bring you a few snapshots of the setup and start of the event. Some look remarkably similar as the setup of Stage Expo, and the Rigging Workshop, below.

