

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

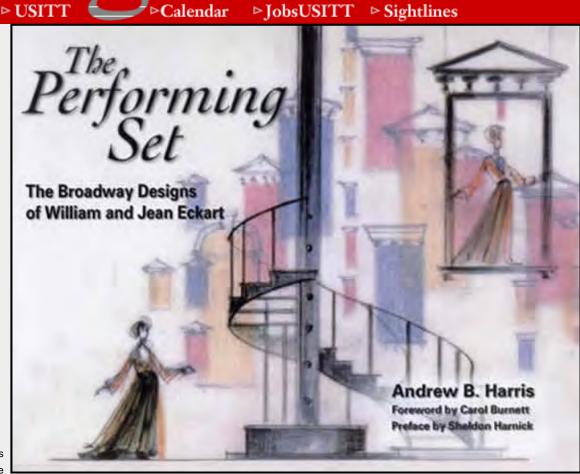
- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage
 Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue



Andrew B. Harris will receive the USITT 2007 Golden Pen Award for *The Performing Set: the Broadway Designs of William and Jean Eckart*. The award will be presented during the 2007 Annual Conference & Stage Expo, where Mr. Harris will be on hand to autograph copies of the book and discuss the Eckarts' renowned design work. For more, see the <u>story</u> inside this issue.

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12



□ USITT

▶ Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT ▷

Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
 - A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Harris Earns 2007 Golden Pen

Andrew B. Harris will receive the USITT 2007 Golden Pen award for *The Performing Set: the Broadway Designs of William and Jean Eckart*, published by University of North Texas Press in 2006. The USITT Publication Committee's Golden Pen subcommittee reviewed seven outstanding nominations for the 2007 award before recommending the Harris work. The recommendation was affirmed by USITT's Board of Directors.

Mr. Harris will be invited to the USITT Annual Conference in Phoenix, where a special book signing will be scheduled. *The Performing Set: the Broadway Designs of William and Jean Eckart* will also be the focus of a Conference session at 10 a.m. Friday, March 16, 2007.

USITT's Golden Pen Award is given annually to the author of an outstanding, major, recent publication judged to be significant in the field of design and production for the performing arts.

According to the nominator, the book is a loving tribute to William and Jean Eckart, written by Mr. Harris who chaired the theatre department at Southern Methodist University when the Eckarts taught there. Out of their initial acquaintance, a lasting friendship emerged and following Mr. Eckart's death, Mr. Harris began writing the book. Based upon his intimate knowledge of the Eckarts, his unrestricted access to the Eckart's archives, and upon many hours of interviews with William, the book is filled with detail and insights.

It covers only the Broadway designs of the Eckarts and takes as its thesis the premise that the Eckarts were, during their time, significant theatrical design innovators especially in musical theatre design. Their significant innovations in the movement of scenery, while quite modest by today's standards, did set a new standard for the flow of the Broadway musical and are amply documented in the book.

One of the most compelling sections of the book is the chapter "Disenchantment: Age of Aquarius." In this chapter, Mr. Harris confronts head-on the period from 1966 to 1971 as the Eckarts' careers tailed off. From the absolute pinnacle of success with *Mame* in 1966, they designed seven more Broadway shows until 1970, most of them very weak scripts and most of them flops. That was disappointing enough, but the real blow came when the





Andrew B. Harris, author of *The Performing Set: the Broadway Designs of William and Jean Eckart,* winner of the 2007 USITT Golden Pen Award.

Eckarts realized that their style of design had gone out of fashion. The end of a career is talked about with grace and humanity.

The book will be available for sale at the USITT Annual Conference, and will then be sold through the USITT bookstore.

To Top 👚

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page →



News & Notices

Next Story

▶ USITT

▶ Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT □

Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime
 Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



Larry Hill, Sandy Bonds, and David Will, take a moment to pose with the newly installed president of Baldwin-Wallace College, Richard Durst, second from right.

by **Alexandra Bonds** VP-International Activities

Dick Durst Inaugurated as President of Baldwin-Wallace College

On October 27, Baldwin-Wallace College celebrated the investiture of its eighth President, USITT Past President Dick Durst. Seventy-eight colleges, universities, and organizations sent representatives to the festivities and they were listed in in the program in the order of their founding, beginning with St. Andrews in Scotland in 1413.

Also in attendance were USITT members Larry Hill, Treasurer; Sandy Bonds, Vice President for International Activities; and David Will, a colleague of Mr. Durst's from Pennsylvania State University and a USITT Director at Large.

The event included a performance by the students in the BWC Music Theatre program, a sterling rendition of the finale from *Les Miserables*. Mr. Durst built on the inspirational lyrics to reflect on his mission for the college in his address, "Follow us to the Future."

"The lyrics of the song the music theatre students sang say, 'Who will be strong and stand with me...,' implying that we'll challenge old beliefs and bureaucracies, political and ideological structures. That line finishes with "Is there a world you long to see," asking if we desire a better place for the future... Those who know me know how important the focus on the future is to me, just as *Les Miserables* provided a stimulus that changed the world of musical theatre. I have said so many times that we must never forget what got us here, but a good leader must inspire us to walk to the edge of the world, to see what's out there and to explore how new



Richard Durst at his investiture wears the ceremonial chain of office representing the previous presidents of Baldwin-Wallace College. It was designed by the institution's fifth president, Alfred B. Bonds Jr., father of USITT VP Sandy Bonds.

Photos/Courtesy of Alexandra Bonds

discoveries could or should influence the legacies of our respective worlds."

Mr. Hill, USITT's official representative at the investiture, commented "long-time members of USITT would have recognized the call to a vision and the vitality of Dick's message to the Baldwin-Wallace community. The only missing element for his USITT colleagues was the "swag" of a New Products Showcase."

Mr. Durst has been an active member of USITT for many years, including serving as President from 1994 to 1996, and on the Executive Committee as Chair of the International Committee. He served as President of OISAT and headed the International Council of Fine Arts Deans. Prior to joining Baldwin-Wallace Mr. Durst was dean of the College of Arts and Architecture and executive director of University Arts Services at Pennsylvania State University.

For USITT, Mr. Durst has led several study tours and is heading the planned 2007 tour to Eastern Europe for the Prague Quadrennial. He has served as Master of Ceremonies of the New Products Showcase for USITT dressed in everything from a cape to beachwear.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -



□ Calendar

▶ JobsUSITT ▶ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



Puppets are just one of the attractions in the Old Town Market Square in Prague, Czech Republic.

Photos/Sandy Bonds

by Sandy Bonds Vice-President for International Activities

Traveling to Prague – With a Tour or Not

The USITT PO Study Tour has only a few spaces remaining. If necessary, a wait list will be created for members who would like to travel to Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro before going to Prague for the PQ 2007 Exposition of Theatre Design.

Dick Durst will lead the group and has included site visits to theatres of interest and opportunities to meet with theatre colleagues from the Balkan States. For details and a complete itinerary, click here. Applications for the Study Tour are still available here.

For those who are not able to join the official tour, the trip to Prague alone is an invaluable experience. The PQ Exposition will be June 14 to 24 with entries from 60 countries showing thousands of designs in three categories of exhibits – National, Student, and Architecture.

The National Exhibits display productions representing the best in professional and academic theatre from each of the participating countries. The Schools of Scenography exhibit features the work of students and the next generation of artists, and exhibits of Theatre Architecture present the latest developments in the buildings that house theatre art. Entranced by the inspiring designs exhibited in the WSD in Toronto? Then the PQ exhibits will multiply that stimulation of creativity.



The stained glass window, above, was designed by Alphonse Mucha in St. Vitus Cathedral on the grounds of Prague Castle. Below, are towers overlooking the Old Town Square.

Concurrent with the PQ exhibits, the organizers are preparing the Scenofest of workshops, seminars, learning opportunities, and performances. The Scenofest events are led by some of the world's finest theatre designers and artisans. Through these sessions, designers, educators, and students have the opportunity to meet with colleagues from dozens of other countries for a cross-cultural exchange of ideas expressed through the arts of the theatre.

The range of events is still being planned, and registration will be needed for some of the sessions. Although the admission policy has not yet been decided, in the past the exhibits have either been free or had a very nominal cost. Information on that process when it becomes available and updates to the schedule can be found here. With the PQ offered only once every four years, each experience is unique and not to be missed.

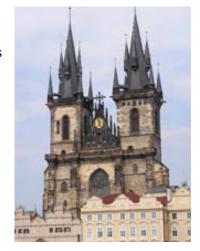
Students interested in attending the Prague Quadrennial and participating in the many Scenofest activities organized specifically for students may apply for support through the USITT Student International Travel Award. This award is offered biennially and encourages students to travel to the PQ. To apply, students must be current USITT members, enrolled full time and in good standing in either upper division or graduate program in theatre, and have demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in research or design. The application includes a 500 word proposal of the specific project or knowledge the students seeks to obtain through this experience. Applications are due January 3. For additional details and applications forms, click https://example.com/hem2.

Prague is now a major tourist destination, so travel and housing arrangements are readily available. Public transportation by tram is simple, with a trip from the picturesque Old Town in the center of the city to the exhibition halls at Vystaviste taking about 10 minutes. The city has abundant restaurants offering a wide range of cuisines.

One of the most beautiful cities in the world, Prague is home to the Prague Castle, the Charles Bridge, distinctive Gothic towers, and Art Nouveau buildings among the narrow cobblestone streets. The rich selection of museums includes the Museum of Decorative Arts with fashion and textiles, and the Museum of Mucha, exhibiting the life and work of the Art Nouveau painter and graphic designer. Prague also is distinguished by having the world's oldest brew pub, Uflecku, complete with a large outside seating courtyard and strolling accordion players. Consider the appeal of both the city and the exposition when making arrangements, and plan to stay for the whole 10 days of the PQ.

Those with specific questions about Prague, PQ, or Scenofest may contact Sandy Bonds at abonds@uoregon.edu.

To Top 👚



This month:

Tech Expo Deadline

Extended

USITT Ballots Due

January 5

Student Travel Award

Analog Reaffirmed, ACN

Approved

Review Rigging Standard, Announce

New Project

Calendar

⊳ JobsUSITT

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Tech Expo Deadline Extended

Because of numerous requests, the deadline for submitting ideas to the 11th Biennial Tech Expo has been extended until Friday, December 1. Loren Schreiber, Chair of the Tech Expo Committee, urges all with interesting ideas to download instructions, and submit an application. Applications can also be called in to the USITT office at 800-938-7488.

To Top 👚

USITT Ballot Deadline January 5

USITT members will have additional time in the 2007 election cycle to return ballots. Ballots were mailed at the end of November, and must be received in the USITT office in Syracuse by Monday, January 5, 2007.

All current members receive ballot instructions, a ballot, a blank white envelope to ensure anonymity, and a postage-paid envelope for returning their marked ballots.

Members are urged to make their selections and return the ballot promptly.

To Top 1



Student Travel Award Deadline January 3

Students who want to see the world's largest exhibit of theatre design, would enjoy meeting colleagues in theatre from around the world, and have a passport which is up-to-date are ideal candidates for the USITT Student International Travel Award.

This award is offered biennially and is timed specifically to encourage students to travel to the Prague Quadrennial to experience this incomparable international opportunity for theatre designers and technicians. Those lucky enough to be a student when the PQ is on, will want to take advantage of this opportunity to be selected for a \$1,000 travel award. To apply, students must be current USITT members, enrolled full time and in good standing in either an upper division or graduate program in theatre, and have demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in research or design. The application includes a 500word proposal of the specific project or knowledge the students seeks to obtain through this experience. Applications are due January 3. For additional details and applications forms, click here.

To Top 👚

Analog Reaffirmed, ACN Approved

The ANSI Board of Standards Review approved the reaffirmation of ANSI E1.3-2001, *Entertainment Technology–Lighting Control Systems-0 to 10V Analog Control*, on October 13 making it the R2006 version of this control scheme. Six days later, the Board of Standards Review approved ANSI E1.17-2006, *Entertainment Technology – Multipurpose Network Control Protocol Suite*, better known as *ACN: Architecture for Control Networks*.

Both will be published in the next few weeks. The new ANSI E1.3, being a reaffirmation, has no substantive changes and will only differ from the 2001 version in its note that it is a reaffirmation and in the list of working group members. ANSI E1.17 is a new standard that is a suite of more than a score of documents, some of which are hyperlinked to each other. It will take more work to prepare for publication, but absolutely minimal formatting changes are expected. This should shorten the preparation time.

The biggest and most pervasive change to the E1.17 documents will be adding the approval date on to each document in the suite.

For more information, contact Karl G. Ruling, Technical Standards Manager, ESTA, 875 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1005, New York, NY 10001; 1-212-244-1505; fax 1-212-244-1502; or e-mail standards@esta.org.

To Top 1

Rigging Hoists Up For Review

The draft standard, BSR E1.6-1, *Entertainment Technology-Powered Winch Hoist Systems*, is available for public review from now through December 25, 2006. BSR E1.6-1 deals with powered winch systems that do not use serially manufactured electric chain hoists, and is intended to establish requirements for the design, manufacture, inspection, and maintenance of powered winch hoist systems for lifting and suspending loads in theatres and other places of public assembly. The public review materials are available on the ESTA website.

This is part of a larger E1.6 project to draft standards for powered rigging systems in theatrical venues.

At its meeting on October 18, the Rigging Working Group voted to start working on BSR E1.6-3, *Safe Use of Serial Manufactured Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry*. The scope of the project is the operation and safe use of electric link chain hoists having capacity of two tons or less and used in the entertainment industry. This standard is not intended to cover the design and maintenance of the hoists, since that would be covered by E1.6-2.

Anyone interested in working on the BSR E1.6-3 project is invited to join the Rigging Working Group or comment on the draft document when it is available for public review.

Membership in the working group is open to all who are affected by the work of the group. There is no fee, and membership in ESTA or any other organization is not required, but voting members must attend meetings regularly and vote on letter ballots. The Rigging Working Group is particularly interested in having representatives from dealer or rental companies as voting members.

Information about joining a working group is available on the ESTA website.

Public review of the draft standard, BSR E1.27-2, Entertainment Technology-Standard for Permanently Installed Control Cables for Use with ANSI E1.11 (DMX512-A) and USITT DMX512/1990 Products, has been extended through December 25, 2006. The draft standard describes the types of cable to be used to interconnect products that comply with ANSI E1.11-2004 (DMX512-A) or with USITT DMX512/1990 in permanent installations. The description includes definitions of acceptable cable and connector types and the ways in which they may be used. The draft standard and its supporting public review materials are available at www.esta.org/tsp/documents/ public review docs.php.

For more information, contact Mr. Ruling.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page

□ USITT

Calendar

⊳JobsUSITT ⊳ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Conference to Feature CPR – Training for Life

David Glowacki

Health & Safety Commission

As part of the 2007 Annual Conference, the Health & Safety Commission will offer a new event: *CPR – Training For Life*. This session will be led by Tom McCracken of the Phoenix Fire Department. The session will follow the American Heart Association's *Heartsaver* program for teaching Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Instruction will also include use of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) and other related topics. Upon successful completion of the CPR Skills Test, participants will receive an AHA *Heartsaver* AED Course Completion Card.

USITT and the Health & Safety Commission hope to make this an annual offering, enabling members to earn their CPR certifications and be able to maintain that credential by participating in periodic refresher sessions – all while attending the Annual Conferences.

This year's CPR Training session will be offered on Saturday March 17 at 1 p.m. Pre-registration for this training is strongly recommended, and registration details can be found on the USITT Conference website. As a benefit to USITT members, this training is being offered at the reduced rate of \$10 for members. Those who are not USITT members are eligible to take the course but the cost will be \$20 each.





Learn and Live_



Learn and Live...



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▶ Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



Two previous winners of the Frank Stewart Volunteer of the Year Award, Eddie Raymond, left, and Bill Sapsis, right, presented the 2006 honor to Ken Vannice, middle.

Photos/Courtesy of ESTA

ESTA Announces Award Winners

ESTA (the Entertainment Services and Technology Association) announced winners of several awards at its annual dinner on October 19 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The 2006 Eva Swan Award, ESTA's highest honor, was presented to Mike Wood for the profound impact he has had on every aspect of the association through his volunteer service.

Mr. Wood's service to ESTA includes the Technical Standards Committee, Fog & Smoke Working Group, ETCP Council, two terms as president of the Board of Directors, and currently as the association's treasurer. The award was presented by Lori Rubinstein, ESTA's executive director, who cited examples of Mr. Wood's depth and breadth of knowledge and diversified skills which benefit not only these groups but which he freely shares with other committees and working groups within ESTA.

The Eva Swan Award is presented to a member who has put forth exceptional efforts in time, expertise, and personal resources on behalf of ESTA; been instrumental in shaping and promoting the strategic direction of the Association; made major contributions to the realization of the mission, goals and objectives; and enhanced the value of membership for all.

Ken Vannice and the RDM Task Group were awarded the 2006 Frank Stewart Volunteer of the Year Award, which recognizes extraordinary effort by a volunteer or group of volunteers during the previous year. Mr. Vannice earned the award for his work on leading the development of the ETCP Entertainment Electrician

Mike Wood, below, winner of ESTA's 2006 Eva Swan Award.



Examination, and the RDM Task Group earned it for their work in developing ANSI E1.20, the Remote Device Management standard. Mr. Vannice was named a USITT Fellow in March 2004 in part for his work on standards.

Mr. Vannice's award was presented by two of last year's Stewart Award winners, Eddie Raymond and Bill Sapsis, who led a spirited acknowledgment of the enormous amount of work Mr. Vannice has put into creating the new ETCP credential and for whom it is the realization of a decades-long dream.

Steve Terry, Co-Chair of the TSP Control Protocols Working Group, presented the second award to Scott Blair, Javid Butler, Milton Davis, Gary Douglas, Doug Fleenor, Bob Goddard, Tom Grimes, Wayne Howell, Charles Reese, Tracy Underhill, and Peter Willis, the core members of the RDM Task Group. Mr. Perry spoke of the passion, technical expertise, and creativity required to accomplish standards work and commented, "Nowhere is this passion more evident than in the work of the E1.20 RDM task group. They have successfully created and published the first major functional extension to DMX512 in 20 years: ANSI E.20 Remote Device Management."

The award was created to honor Frank Stewart's incomparable service to the association during the 18 years he served as treasurer.

ESTA also announced the winners of the 2006 Dealers' and Manufacturers' Choice Awards.

The Dealers' Choice Customer Service Awards offer ESTA's Dealer Members the opportunity to recognize manufacturers that provide consistently good customer service. Dealers vote for manufacturers in categories based on the number of employees: one to six, seven to 25, and over 25. The winners for 2006 are Doug Fleenor Design, Inc., Pathway Connectivity Inc., and Apollo Design Technology, Inc.

The Manufacturers' Choice Dealers of the Year Awards offer ESTA's Manufacturer Members the opportunity to recognize dealers that "just do it right." Manufacturers vote in the same three categories. The winners for 2006 are Indianapolis Stage Sales & Rentals, Inc., Production Advantage, Inc., and Stage Equipment & Lighting, Inc.

The Dealers' Choice Product Awards recognize outstanding entertainment technology products in three categories, and were established to recognize the enormous impact dealers have on the success of a new product, as well as a unique perspective on its merits. The 2006 winners are:

Expendable Category – Faux Snow from SnowMasters Evaporative Snow Systems, Inc; Widget Category – Lex Eectrol Plug-in Splitter from Lex Products Corp. and Equipment Category – Power Assist from J.R. Clancy, Inc.

The Customer Service and Dealer of the Year Awards were

presented in conjunction with the LDI 2006 show on October 19 and the Product Awards were presented during the LDI 2006 awards ceremony on October 21.

To Top 🔨

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page →



▶ USITT

□ Calendar

⊳JobsUSITT

Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Save on Rigging Training

Michelle L. Smith

Membership & Ad Sales Manager

Rigging Seminars

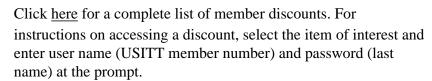
Save \$50 off the regular registration rate for these informative and instructional seminars. Learn important rigging principles taught by the best in the business! For information about future seminars, visit www.riggingseminars.com or call 888-248-8491. Members must identify themselves when they register.



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Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.

Save \$75 off the regular price for hosting a day-long seminar. You negotiate the contract and provide the facility so seminars can be scheduled at your convenience. For more information or to arrange a seminar call 800-727-7471, e-mail sales@sapsis-rigging.com, or visit sapsis-rigging.com/seminars.html.



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.



SAPSIS RIGGING²

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -



Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Still Time for Tech Expo

Loren Schreiber, Chair of the Tech Expo Committee, has given all those procrastinating members a break. He and his committee are extending the entry deadline until December 1 for people who have interesting and innovative solutions to technical problems. Selected participants will have their projects included in the exhibit at Stage Expo and in the catalog, To be part of the 2007 version, or for more information, see the Tech Expo page as part of www.usitt.org/phoenix.

To Top 1

And on the Cover. . .

We were remiss in not identifying Jessica Wade, of the State University of New York at Geneseo, as the student shown on the front cover of the November issue of Sightlines. She was a participant in the Upstate New York Regional Section's fall workshops and meetings

To Top 1

Mail Back USITT Ballots by January 5

This may be considered an "off year" for some elections, with lower voter turnout, but that's not the case for USITT's election process.

All USITT members are urged to participate in the 2007 leadership selection process by returning ballots as soon as possible. All ballots must reach the USITT Office by January 5, 2007. To make the task easier, an addressed postage-paid envelope is included with each ballot.

To Top 👚

Season Greetings

We wish all our readers the best possible holiday season. Whatever the tradition, or no tradition at all, we hope there is a break in the schedule that allows a moment of relaxation.

To Top 👚

LDI was Hopping

This month:

Tech Expo

November Cover

Mail Back Ballots

Season's Greetings

LDI 2006

There was very little relaxation at LDI2006 in Las Vegas, Nevada in October. USITT officers, volunteers, and staff were pleased to be able to spend a few moments talking to members, potential members, and even folks for whom USITT was a new idea. We hope to see all those, and more when USITT's Annual Conference convenes in nearby Phoenix, Arizona next March.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -



News from:

Next Story

This month:

Creative Stage Lighting

PRG

□ Calendar

▶ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Koehler Joins Creative Stage Lighting

Bill Koehler has accepted the position of western dealer sales manager at Creative Stage Lighting in North Creek, New York.

Mr. Koehler brings over 26 years of lighting and sound experience to Creative Stage Lighting. He joins CSL from TCS Audio of San Diego, California where he served as general sales manager. He was also the president of High Tech International Consignment Services of Center Valley, Pennsylvania where he was responsible for selling and advising customers about lighting and sound equipment.

"I'm excited to be joining an industry leader and look forward to representing the Creative Stage Lighting family as they continue to grow," said Mr. Koehler.

To Top 👚



PRG Introduces Video Division

Production Resource Group, LLC, a leading supplier of entertainment technology, has launched PRG Video, a new division complementing its audio, scenic, and lighting operations. The new division was introduced to the industry at a two-day demonstration event in October at New York's Manhattan Center.

Tim Wiley heads the new division as vice president of PRG Video. Mr. Wiley went to PRG from Florida-based LMG, where he earned a national reputation as a technological innovator for the corporate staging industry. He also will serve as general manager of PRG's Orlando office. Bob Murdock, an Emmyaward-winning producer and journalist, is general manager of PRG Video operation in Orlando.

Tim Kuschel, formerly a master show technician with LMG, has been named general manager of PRG Video's Las Vegas operation, and Art Lavis, PRG's longtime specialist in largeformat projection solutions, heads PRG Video's New York operation from its office in Mount Vernon.

PRG has stocked its three PRG Video locations with a full inventory of state-of-the art equipment, including native high definition (HD) cameras and projectors as well as switchers that perform seamless transitions between standard and HD formats.

Top-of-the-line equipment available from PRG Video includes the Snell & Wilcox Kahuna switching system, Di-VentiX highresolution switcher, Grass Valley LDK cameras, Panasonic PT-7700U and Digital Projection, Inc., 12000DSX, 35 HD and 22K 40HD video projectors, and the new Element Labs Versa Tube HD.

In addition to big-event technology, PRG Video also offers products and services custom tailored to help small-to-medium corporate meetings and events achieve professional results while minimizing costs.

To Top 1

101



News from:

Next Story

Calendar

> JobsUSITT → Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

TMB Shows off at LDI

TMB was again at LDI 2006 with its renowned hospitality and some of its best products from around the world. In addition to all the TMB staple products, some new and interesting items included Falcon high-power, compact fixtures from Alpha One; FinnLight Film/TV lighting products: the new V3 software for the Hippotizer media server; Interactive Technologies' new CueServer playback processor; Kinesys object-based 3-D graphical rigging and motion control products; W-DMX; reliable and cost effective wireless DMX connectivity; DecoPAR PAR 16 and PAR 20 models; high and low resolution modules of the ColourPix range of LED display systems; ProPower RPD Rack Panel Distribution systems; ProPlex Arnold DMX Terminator; and the new ProTester compact DMX signal and cable tester and the new VMCT tester for video cables.

To Top 1

TOMCAT Graduates 25 in Vegas

TOMCAT USA announced the "graduating class" of its Hoist and Truss Workshop at the 2006 LDInstitute. More than 25 participants from more than 10 states, as well as Hong Kong, received top notch training from industry experts.

The annual TOMCAT Hoist and Rigging Workshop will be held in Midland, Texas February 21 to 24, 2007. The ETCPrecognized workshop has a reputation as the most comprehensive training course of its kind. The Hoist and Rigging Workshop is a unique learning opportunity for those new to the entertainment industry as well as veterans of the business. In addition, TOMCAT also will offer the Advanced Hoist and Truss Workshop on February 23 and 24. For more information regarding either workshop or to register, contact Lisa Jebsen at 432-694-7070.

To Top 👚

Sapsis Rigging Silver Anniversary

This month:

TMB

TOMCAT

Sapsis Rigging, Inc.

Auerbach Pollack Friedlander

Leviton Manufacturing Company

Wybron, Inc.

Altman Lighting, Inc.

James Thomas Engineering, Ltd. Sapsis Rigging, Inc. celebrated 25 years of business in October. Since 1981, Sapsis has installed stage equipment in hundreds of performance venues around the world including Lincoln Center, the White House, and a hay field on the outskirts of London. Bill Sapsis has conducted over 125 rigging seminars here and abroad, and the company's safety division has inspected over 1,000 rigging systems. The SRI production department has provided rigging for many special events like the televised Victoria Secret fashion shows and the opening of the Smithsonian's National Air & Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center.

"I started the company on Friday the 13th and have been petting black cats and stepping on cracks ever since," says Bill Sapsis, president and owner of Sapsis Rigging. "We've come a long way since the early days of rolling reels of aircraft cable out of my basement and I'm looking forward to many years to come. I still won't walk under ladders, though. That's just plain stupid."

To Top 🔨

Auerbach Assists at Observatory

Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles, California, reopened to the public on November 3 after **Auerbach Pollock Friedlander**, performing arts/media facilities planning and design, and **Auerbach Glasow**, architectural lighting design and consulting, collaborated with the design team of **Pfeiffer Partners Architecture** on the Samuel Oschin Planetarium. The firm provided theatre consulting, planetarium lighting, audio systems design, and projection coordination elements for the project.

Since 1935, the landmark Griffith Observatory has been one of Los Angeles' top attractions.

To Top 1

Mitchell Promoted at Leviton

Leviton Manufacturing Company announced the promotion of Keith Mitchell to the position of technical sales specialist for the company's Lighting Management System Division. Mr. Mitchell joined Leviton in 2000 as a business development/specification specialist covering the Mid West's Great Lakes territory. He was promoted in 2004 to the position of lighting controls specialist for the company's Leviton Integrated Networks and Controls Division, where he covered the Saint Louis, Missouri area.

To Top 1

Wybron Wins at LDI

Wybron, Inc., a leader of entertainment and architectural lighting technology, received the Best Debuting Product of the Year Award in the lighting category from Lighting Dimensions International (LDI) 2006 for the InfoTrace Control and Management System.

InfoTrace (IT) is a new lighting design system that uses Remote Device Management (RDM) to control and manage Digital Multiplex (DMX)-controlled devices such as color changers, moving lights, fog machines and dowsers.

"We are delighted to have been selected for the LDI 2006 Best Debuting Product of the Year Award," said Keny Whitright, Chairman and Founder of Wybron. "We are excited to have received both the LDI award and the PLASA innovation award in the same year for the second time."

In September, Wybron won the coveted PLASA 2006 Award for Innovation for the quality of design, concept and development of the InfoTrace System.

To Top 1

Altman Expands Sales Team

Altman Lighting, Inc. announced that Victor Wittmann has joined the company as vice president of sales and marketing.

"We are very pleased to welcome Victor to the company," says Robert Altman, president of Altman Lighting. "I believe he will be a great asset to us; he brings with him a strong background in the architectural lighting market as well as a wealth of industry experience to our company. Victor's appointment is a key step forward as our company continues to grow both in our traditional theatrical market and our quickly expanding architectural market. I know all of our dealers, distributors, and customers will join us in welcoming him aboard."

Mr. Wittmann will oversee both national and international sales as well as help to develop Altman Lighting in new markets. Most recently, he was VP of sales and marketing for Heyco Products, Inc. He previously held the same position with JJI Lighting Group and was national sales and marketing manager with Genlyte.

To Top 1

James Thomas Spins off PixelRANGE

James Thomas Engineering, Ltd, in conjunction with James Thomas Engineering, Inc., announced the spin-off of the sales and distribution of the Pixel range of LED products in the United States.

PixelRANGE Inc. has been created to deal with the sales, distribution, and support of the complete range of Pixel products throughout the United States, Canada, and South America. The new company will be headed up by industry veterans Dave Thomas and Blaine Engle.

With Mr. Engle as head of sales, PixelRANGE Inc. maintains the key personnel who have been instrumental in introducing and building the brand in the States.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -->



News from:

USITT's President

Next Story

⊳ USITT

▶ Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

. ...

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime
 Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



Board members and others gather for a light-hearted moment before the Board of Directors Retreat in Las Vegas, Nevada in October. From left are Lance Brockman, Lea Asbell-Swanger, and Gregory Horton.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

Board Retreat Explores the Future

Sylvia Hillyard Pannell USITT President

USITT's Board of Directors only meets twice each year, but those meetings are packed with intense discussion, interesting ideas, and, of course, laughter and imagination.

This fall USITT chose Las Vegas, Nevada, site of LDI 2006, as a location for its Board of Directors Retreat and meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Publications Committee, and USITT@50 Committee. That timing, October 20 to 22, allowed many who attended to also participate in LDI and related activities.

Perhaps the liveliest of all these sessions was the Board of Directors Retreat, centered on the topic: **USITT in the 21st Century: Vital, Visible, Sustainable, Marketable, and Innovative.** This brought together the Board of Directors, staff, contractors, and guests to concentrate on five different areas of interest. The topics evolved during discussions of the Institute's two newly re-defined USITT Vice-Presidencies (Promotion & Development and Members, Sections & Chapters) and the impact those changes will have on the jobs of the other officers and the Institute as a whole.

Each group was charged with examining ways for USITT to

position itself in this new century. Participants began their discussions even before the actual retreat on Saturday, October 21. After an hour of important in-person conversation, and the consumption of welcome refreshments, each panel's chair provided an abstract of the discussions with the reassembled group.

Each group concentrated on one central word from the topic.

- **Vital:** an examination of USITT's core, its indispensable and essential parts
- **Visible**: putting USITT constantly or frequently in the public view
- **Sustainable:** planning ways to ensuring USITT's financial future
- Marketable: exploring different strategies USITT might use, and how they should be implemented
- **Innovative:** finding new challenges and frontiers for our unique, well-established, and well-respected arts organization

As a follow-up to the good work done prior to and during the retreat, the panels continue to explore these topics through e-mail conversations throughout November. On December 1, 2006 each panel will submit a document detailing its ideas and concerns and including a call or calls for action.

The retreat was a spirited and interesting forum, and the retreat topics will prompt further appraisal and provide direction and forward momentum for the immediate and long-range prospects for USITT.

We look forward to the suggestions, ideas, and strategies from this Board of Directors retreat to continue propelling USITT into the future as a bright and vigorous 21st century institution.

Thanks are due to Panel Chairs John S. Uthoff, Carl Lefko, Larry Hill, William J. Byrnes, and Bobbi Owen for their work in guiding the discussions. Assisting were Co-Chairs Holly Monsos, Michelle Smith, Lisa Westkaemper, Barbara Lucas, Joe Aldridge, Brian Petranchuk, Kim Williamson, Carrie Boyce, Tim Kelly, and Carol Carrigan.

Wishing you a happy and safe holiday season!

To Top 🔨

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -



News from:

Next Story

USITT

Calendar

▷ IobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

USITT VP to Speak at Desert State

The Desert State Regional Section will hold its Annual Membership meeting on Saturday, January 13 at Paradise Valley Community College. Kim Williamson, USITT VP-Commissions, will be the keynote speaker.

Information on the workshops will be available on the section website.

Howard S. Wright and Inverse Lighting have generously offered to underwrite the expense of breakfast at the section meeting during the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo. The section will host a Tech Olympics competition at the state Thespian Conference November 17 and 18, 2006.

NE Plans for KC/ACTF, REPA

To Top 👚



There are two big events coming soon to the New England Regional Section: The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF), Region I and the seventh annual Regional Entertainment, Production and Administration Job Expo (REPA '07).

KC/ACTF, in Fitchburg/Leominster, Massachusetts from January 31 to February 3, 2007 is shaping up to include a wealth of design and technology events. In addition to seeing the quality shows from the region and visiting the design expo to see student and faculty work, there will be outstanding workshops.

Among those of special interest are Rafael Jaen's workshop and book signing for Developing and Maintaining a Design-Tech Portfolio: A Guide for Theatre, Film & TV; creative and technical sound workshops with Vincent Olivieri and Michael Maynard; production management workshops by Michael Cottom (University of Massachusetts) and Bridget Sullivan (North Shore Music Theatre); moving lights with David Empey and ETC; plus a lighting competition in the Lightbox model environment with Charles Kirby and Ben Tevelow. Also planned are model construction with Mr. Kirby; lighting technologies and scenic textures with Bryan Steele from Rosco; scenic automation with Gareth Conners and Chase Rozelle; PRG Scenic Technologies with Orestes Mihaly; Getting the Figure on the Page with Elinor Parker; silk fabric painting with Gretel Geist and Jodi Ozimek; The Designer as Entrepreneur with Scott Pinkney; and a design and tech dinner for faculty, sponsored by

Desert State

New England

Southern California

Heart of America

Southwest

the Boston Illumination Group.

The event includes a Design Expo, Educational Expo, and many workshops. Students should be sure to participate in the Tech Olympics on Friday and enter Technical Innovations and Craftsmanship projects for awards. Classroom designs may be entered as Regional design projects. For more information on categories, awards, criteria, registration and schedules, go to www.kcactfl.org.

PRG, North Shore Music Theater and U-Mass, Amherst will interview for technical/administration positions on Saturday. Job candidates are urged to bring resumes and portfolios. Other companies wishing to interview students for design or tech opportunities can e-mail tiala@bc.edu.

There is still room available for faculty and staff to display recent design and technical work in the Design Expo. Contact John Devlin at jdevlin@smcvt.edu.

REPA '07 will be held at 88 Tremont St., Boston, Massachussets on Saturday, February 24, 2007. Students should be prepared with portfolios and resumes. Each year 30 to 40 employers from across the region gather to interview applicants for full- and part-time positions, internships, and other opportunities. There is no fee for applicants.

To Top 1

Get Active with SoCal Section

A job fair, portfolio review, and Expo, sponsored by the Southern California Regional Section will be held Saturday, January 20, 2007 at Center State Theatre, Paseo Nuevo Center in Santa Barbara, California.

A panel discussion will be held 10 to 11:30 a.m. Registration for portfolio reviews will be held noon to 2:45 p.m. with portfolio reviews taking place 3 to 6 p.m..

A Stage Expo will be held noon to 3 p.m.

Students, designers, and other professionals interested in attending this event can e-mail Sue Brandt at chair@socalusitt. org.

Watch for other Southern California Regional Section events coming up at www.socalusitt.org.

To Top 1

HOA to Host Conference, Workshops

The fourth annual Heart of America Regional Section Conference and Workshops will take place on December 16 and 17 at the Johnson County Community College campus in Overland Park, Kansas.

Workshops will include two presentations from Steven Louis Shelley, author of the popular *A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting*, inventor of the Field Template, and a 30 year veteran of professional touring and lighting design. Mr. Shelley will present Paperwork and Survival Techniques for Domestic and International Tours and Lighting in Large Urban Environments or Working with the Unknown Venue, Crew and Rental House. Other sessions will include Innovation in Sound - The Beatles in Production by Tom Mardikes, nationally recognized sound designer, member of USITT Sound Commission, founding member of the Kansas City Actors Theatre, and chair of the theatre department at UMKC; and Automated Cueing Systems for Live/Recorded Performances by Ben C. Roose, an active lighting designer in the United Kingdom and currently artist-inresidence in Wichita, Kansas.

For more information on the HOA conference, go to: <u>www.unl.</u> edu/prodmgr/HOA/main.htm.

All Heart of America Regional Section full-time student and young professional members are eligible for one of two \$250 Travel Grants to attend the 2007 USITT Conference and Stage Expo in Phoenix. Contact Patrick Immel at pimmel@nwmissouri. edu for more information and to apply. Application deadline is January 19.

To Top 1

Southwest Recaps Fall Symposium, Exhibit

The USITT-Southwest Regional Section held its Fall Symposium September 9 and 10 at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. For the first time, the section also had an adjudicated exhibit of designs by working professionals and educators in the region.

The theme for the symposium was "Is There Life After College?" and featured sessions on portfolios, resumes, alternative employment, and dressing for success. Over 50 section members attended the symposium and exhibit. Claremarie Verheyen, costume designer at the University of Houston, led a session on the dos and don'ts of resumes. She then followed up with another session on the classic portfolio model. Amy Jackson, sales manager of AV Pro, and Steve Surratt, vice president of Texas Scenic, spoke about available jobs in sales and installation as an alternative to traditional theatre and entertainment employment.

The first day concluded with a reception and time to peruse the design exhibit at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art. The exhibit featured the scenery, lighting, and costume designs of several working professional and academic designers from the states of

Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas that comprise the section.

The exhibit was on view from September 9 to 25. It was adjudicated by Arden Weaver, associate dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Minnesota at Duluth. Mr. Weaver serves USITT as Chair of the Design Expo Committee and as the Vice-Chair for Heritage of the Scene Design Commission.

The second day began with Elizabeth Lewandowski, costume designer and professor at Midwestern State University, leading a session on dressing for a successful interview. Attendees critiqued live models for their appearance and fashion sense. Michael Skinner, lighting designer at Texas Christian University, demonstrated electronic portfolio presentation techniques highlighting CDs versus traditional materials. The sessions finished with students presenting their portfolios for interactive reviews with the various designers attending.

After the sessions, the membership meeting was led by Section Chair James Cunningham to discuss future events including the next two national conferences and the upcoming Winter Symposium. Ms. Verheyen volunteered the University of Houston to host the next symposium in January over the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. The symposium is slated to include design rendering sessions and possibly tours of the downtown Houston theatre district. Kris Hanssen of Sam Houston State University is Regional Programming Chair for the USITT 2008 Conference & Stage Expo in Houston and presented several ideas for regional attractions. These ideas will be discussed further at the Winter Symposium on January 13 and 14, 2007 at the University of Houston.

Registration and housing information for the Winter Symposium will be e-mailed to current members and will be available at www.usitt-sw.org several weeks prior to the symposium. Also featured at the symposium is Design Southwest, the section's annual student design exhibit and competition. Prizes are awarded for the best designs in the categories of scenery, lighting, and costume design. The exhibit is also open to professional and academic designers, but they are not eligible for the awards or prizes. Students are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to receive feedback before the KC/ACTF Region VI student design exhibit.

James Cunningham concluded his last membership meeting as Chair and thanked the members for their support during his two years leading the section. Don J. Childs is the incoming Section Chair and will lead the January meeting.

To Top 1



Commissions

Next Story

▶ USITT

Commissioners

Poster Sessions

Portfolio Reviews

Session Assistants

Propose a Session

Show & Tell

Conferences Commission Morrage ⊳ Calendar

· JobsUSITT - ▷ Sightline:

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage
 Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime
 Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Costume Design & Technology Commission

LOCATION SERVICE FOR PROBLEM COSTUMES

The USITT Costume Locator Service a service for members of the USITT Costume Commission that helps to locate costume rentals within the membership of the commission. Members may post requests for costume rentals, post costumes available for rent, or search the archive of postings for rental sources. While most all of the rental requests are for show specific or

The Costume Locator Service, left, is offered as a part of the Costume Design & Technology Commission website.

by **Kristina Tollefson**Costume Design & Technology

Co-Commissioner

Costumers Have Choices for Electronic Communication

The Costume Design & Technology Commission has three exciting ways to stay in touch and involved with Commission members and Commission activities online. Our first line of contact is the Commission website which can be found by going to www.usitt.org, clicking on special interest groups, and then clicking on Costume Design & Technology in the left hand column. The Commissioners are working on a redesign of the web page and will send an announcement soon when the new format is available.

In addition to the sections on the Costume Commission website concerning conference activities and summer symposia, members will find information on the various projects supported by the Commission including the Program Survey and the Commercial Pattern Archive. If members have an idea for a Conference Session, a new Commission Project, or a Summer Symposium, all the information needed can easily be found on the website.

The Costume Design & Technology Commission also has an active costuming dialog on the Costumer's Info list and the Costume Locator Service. They bring together hundreds of costuming professionals world-wide. On the Costumer's Info list, subscribers can exchange sources, ideas, techniques, and products used in any area of theatrical costuming. Subscribers post questions ranging from machinery recommendations, to dye techniques, to textbooks and web sources, to internships and job openings. In the past, topics and discussions on the list have developed into panel sessions presented at the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo. With a membership of over 500, there is someone out there who has faced the same challenges and would be excited to share experiences. To join the Costumer's Info list send a blank e-mail to costumeinfo-subscribe@yahoogroups.

com.

For renting costumes, members will find the Costume Locator Service an invaluable resource. This community of people operating rental programs and those looking to rent costumes connect them quickly. The list is not responsible for setting up or monitoring transactions, but for getting people in touch with one another. To subscribe to the Costume Locator Service, send a blank e-mail to costumelocator-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Both lists have a searchable archive so those who join now can benefit from the discussions of the past. Searching the archives before posting a request may be all new subscribers may need to do in order to find an answer to a question. Entering "dye vats" into the Costumer's Info archive, for example, will bring up all posts that contained any discussion of dye vats. Rental sources are stored in the Costume Locator archive. Entering the term "witch" will bring up multiple sources for *Into the Woods* or any other show where witches were discussed.

Both services are moderated, meaning the list moderator must approve each request or post. This insures the integrity of postings, allows the moderator to edit/combine duplicate messages as well as edit for clarity, and ensures that members are posting to the correct list for their inquiry.

The main features of both lists can be accessed through e-mail alone, but both lists have web pages to access additional resources. Both lists allow the choice to receive either the individual message format (which may result in as many as 20 e-mails a day on the info list) or the digest format which compiles all of the day's messages into one e-mail. New subscribers are automatically enrolled in the individual message format and can switch to digest by sending an e-mail to costumeinfo-digest@yahoogroups.com or costumelocator-digest@yahoogroups.com. Guidelines for use can be found in the "files" section on the Costumer's Info web site and will be e-mailed immediately upon subscribing.

Any member may belong to either or both lists, and the Costume Commission encourages the use of both lists. Spend some time looking around the websites, which have very detailed help sections. If questions arise that cannot be answered by visiting the web, contact the list moderators – Kristina Tolleflson, kristina@tollefsondesigns.com, for the Consumer's Info List, and Kevin McCluskey, kmcclusk@mwc.edu, for the Costume Locator list.

To Top 👚



Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Shelley's Guide to **Technical Theatre Résumés: Part Three**

Steven Shelley

The first two installments of this essay examined rules and layout structures for résumés. This installment will analyze the presentation and delivery of a technical theatre résumé.

E-mail Rules:

- Don't include your résumé in the body of an e-mail. All formatting is lost, and it looks amateurish.
- When attaching a résumé to an e-mail, convert it to a PDF file. That way it can't easily be changed. As important, the "look" of the special font, which may be unique to the candidate's hard drive, will be included.
- Title the document with your name, not just "resume. PDF." On the average, I receive five e-mailed résumés a week. When they are all titled "resume. PDF," I then have to open them, read each name, and re-title.
- Get an e-mail address that looks and sounds professional like your name, *not* something like FluffyBunny@cutsiepooh.org.

Cover Letter:

- Address the letter to the person who is doing the hiring. If the name is unknown, do the research. It is much better than "To Whom It May Concern." Check their title (Mr., Ms., Mrs., etc.) and the spelling of their name.
- Write in original words; don't copy and paste from a form. Potential employers are looking for knowledge, enthusiasm, focus, and commitment.
- Check the spelling for the hiring organization. Research the organization to make a statement that shows the letter is not just a response to an ad.
- The cover letter should be one page of three or four brief paragraphs:
- First Paragraph: Answer the reader's question, "Why am I reading this?" Note any connection such as, "Patrick suggested

"Get an e-mail address that is professional, not something like FluffyBunny @cutsiepooh.org."

"Don't include your résumé in the body of an e-mail. All formatting is lost, and it looks amateurish."

"Write in original words: don't copy and paste from a form. Potential employers are looking for knowledge, enthusiasm, focus, and commitment."

that I contact you regarding..." Note the job applied for.

- Second and Third Paragraphs: Describe strengths and skills and how they apply to the position sought. Highlight a relevant job or an experience that tested these abilities and describe how the challenge was met.
- Rather than "I will wait for your call," indicate that a call or email will follow to check on the status of the application. Arrange a meeting if that's appropriate.

Observations:

Sometimes it seems like résumé writing and updating never ends. Update one, create a new one, and so on. Résumé-writing in itself is a skill that is developed and refined over an entire career.

Remember, too, that the résumé is not only a representational tool; it can often be used as a conversation starter. When it's appropriate, talk to potential employers and ask them to critique the résumé. This tactic may reveal other methods and opinions about résumés that may be more suited to you. In addition, speaking to potential employers in this more relaxed atmosphere may be just as beneficial as a formal interview.

At the beginning of a career, there's never enough text to fill the page. There will always be the temptation to include everything possible in order to visually fill the space on the page. Don't give in to this inclination. Just present the information in a clear, concise layout. The fact that the résumé isn't filled with unnecessary bulk may help it stand out from the rest of the crowd.

Finally, though it's frustrating to constantly rewrite a résumé while looking for jobs, keep in mind that no one is irreplaceable. We all have to rewrite our résumés and keep them current because, eventually, we all need them again.

Steven L. Shelley has designed lights, managed productions, and toured for over 35 years. In the last year, he has worked for Patti LuPone, Paul Winter, and the Spoleto Festival USA. He is the designer of the plastic Field Templates and the VectorWorks toolkit SoftSymbols, available at www.fieldtemplate.com. He is author of A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting. He can be reached by e-mail at shelley @fieldtemplate.com.



United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -



▶ Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
 - A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



The costume poster session, like the example from the 2006 version at right, is a well-recognized way to present ideas to a diverse audience. Poster ideas for the 2007 Costume Poster Session are now being accepted.

Photo/Tom Thatcher

Call for Costuming Posters

Donna Meester

Costume Poster Session Chair

Now that fall productions are well underway, many commission members have discovered new and innovative solutions to various costume problems. Why not share those solutions with others who may encounter them? How? By submitting a proposal to display your genius at the annual Costume Poster Session!

What exactly is the Costume Poster Session? This is a time when costume designers and technicians are able to share information that may not be well known, or perhaps of their own invention, with colleagues. This includes, but is not limited to: a new solution to an old problem, a new problem and its solution, a classroom or management technique, the results of research, or other ideas, discoveries, or developments in the field of costuming. If any Commission member has a poster session idea and is not sure if it's "good enough" or "significant enough," send it in! What may be "old hat" to some may be a new treasure to others.

An average of 200 to 250 people attend this session, and it is an exciting event for the Costume Design & Technology Commission each year. As an added benefit, poster presentations are widely accepted as meeting the requirements for scholarly publication. If employed by an educational institution, travel funds may be available from academic programs for those members chosen to present at the 2007 USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Phoenix. Poster presenters also may have the opportunity

to publish their ideas in TD&T.

All submissions are juried by the Costume Poster Selection Committee. Ideas need to be presented in the form of an abstract – a brief, concise summary of the information to be presented in the poster – no more than 200 words typewritten. Mail, e-mail, or fax an abstract by January 29, 2007 to Donna Meester, University of Alabama, Dept. of Theatre & Dance, Box 870239, 235 Rowand-Johnson Hall, Tuscaloosa, AL 25487-0239; 205-348-9032; fax 205-348-9048; e-mail dmeester@bama.ua.edu.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page →



Conference & Stage Expo

Next Story

⊳ USITT

▶ Calendar

|⊳JobsUSITT | ⊳ Sightlii

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



New costume session offerings hope to be as successful as the *Hat's Entertainment*Professional Development Workshop, left, at the 2006 Conference & Stage Expo in Louisville, Kentucky. Shown is Kate Wulle, one of the PDW participants.

Photo/Casey Kearns

Costume Commission Offers Something New

Kerry Packard

Costume Design & Technology Commission

"Something old, something new..." In the November issue of *Sightlines*, the Costume Design & Technology Commission shared the "something old" part of the Commission's programming for the 2007 Conference & Stage Expo in Phoenix.

Now for "something new." Computer Printing for Fabric Modification will cover the techniques used in printing on a wide variety of fabrics for the theatre. Panelists will discuss and show examples of their work. Creating Gelatin Prosthetics, a double session, will include demonstrations of the methods used to create gelatin prosthetics. Management Strategies for Dealing with Difficult People and Situations will offer a panel of major costume shop managers discussing their approach to these personnel concerns. Come find out why Men's Unmentionables aren't just for dandies. How to Justify Technical Training and Support in Academic Theatre and Costume Shop as Classroom are two sessions that offer strategies for academic training programs. The Ideal Portfolio will present useful information to all experience levels, both professional and academic. "The annual dance

concert;" -- if these words send shivers down a costumer's spine, come to *Stretching Yourself: Modern Dance Costume Construction* and find ways to cope.

Finally, while in the heart of the Southwest, why not learn about traditional and contemporary dress of the Southwestern Native Americans in *Native American Dress?* Whether it is "something new" or "something tried and true," there are many interesting sessions in Phoenix.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page ->



Conference & Stage Expo

Next Story

⊳ USITT

▶ Calendar

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



In downtown Heritage Square you can treat yourself to unique Italian cuisine by dining at Pizzeria Bianco. Owner and Brooklyn native Chris Bianco is popular for making his own mozzarella and baking his own specialty pies in a wood-fired oven imported from Italy.

Photo/GPCVB

by **Jeff Brown**Phoenix Promotions
Coordinator

Phoenix Offers Many Cuisines

When attending the 2007 USITT Conference & Stage Expo in March, be sure to check out some of the fantastic food options available in the Downtown Phoenix area.

One of the benefits of the Phoenix Convention Center and host hotel location is its proximity to such a wide variety of cuisines. Here is a selection of restaurants that are all within walking distance (or a very short cab ride) from the convention facilities and hotels.

Arizona Center – 455 North 3rd St.

The Arizona Center offers a wide range of dining options – everything from a fast food court to sports bars and clubs to more upscale offerings. Some of the offerings are:

- Café Roma, 602-281-6120; Italian cuisine, pizza, subs & salads
- My Big Fat Greek Restaurant, 602-254-5730; Greek cuisine
- Mi Amigo's, 602-256-7355; Mexican cuisine
- Sam's Café, 602-252-3545; Southwestern cuisine
- Subway, 602-258-7560
- Uno's Chicago Grill, 602-253-3355; Steaks, burgers, sandwiches, pasta, salads

Steve's Grill – 139 East Adams St.

Phone: 602-252-2742; burgers, seafood, steaks, salads

Baja Fresh Mexican Grill – 50 North Central Ave.

China Inn Chinese Restaurant – 3 South 2nd St. (Bank of

America tower) Phone: 602-255-0811

Alice Cooper'stown – 101 East Jackson St.

Phone: 602-253-7337; Legendary rock star and restaurant proprietor Alice Cooper serves up classic American home-style fare. Featuring award-winning BBQ and live music.

Hard Rock Café – 3 South 2nd St., Ste. 117

Phone: 602-261-7625; Retail store, restaurant/bar, live music, dance club

La Mesa Pit BBQ – 20 West Adams St.

Phone: 480-214-0048; Smoked ribs/brisket and Mexican food

Majerle's – 24 North 2nd St.

Phone: 602-253-0118; Sports grill owned by former Phoenix Suns star Dan Majerle. Serves sandwiches, salads, wraps and burgers.

Stoudemire's Downtown – 3 South 2nd St., Ste. 113 Phone: 602-307-5825; Restaurant owned by Phoenix Suns

superstar Amare Stoudemire with celebrity chef Eddie Matney. Upscale lunch and dinner dining with offerings from burgers to steaks.

The Chop Shop/Brickhouse Theatre – 1 East Jackson St.

Phone: 602-258-7880; Contemporary menu with a vintage ambience

Tom's Tavern – 2 North Central Ave.

Phone: 602-257-1688; Since 1929 Tom's Restaurant and Tavern has proudly served delicious meals in Copper Square and has been fertile meeting grounds for politicians and the local community.

Seamus McCaffrey's – 18 West Monroe

Phone: 602-253-6081; Downtown Phoenix's original Irish pub and restaurant. A full menu of traditional Irish delicacies including corned beef and cabbage, Mother's Irish stew, and fish and chips. Live entertainment on the weekends.

Pizzeria Bianco – 623 East Adams St.

Phone: 602-258-8300; Award-winning gourmet pizza. *USA Today* recently voted it as one of the top 10 pizzerias in the U.S.

Portland's Restaurant & Wine Bar – 105 West Portland Phone: 602-795-7480; American dining, boutique wines, fine spirits, craft beers, and seasonal specials; 100+ boutique wines; 20 + wines by the glass.

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page -



Conference & Stage Expo

Next Story

□ USITT

▶ Calendar

⊳JobsUSITT

Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime
 Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf



Participants in the 2006 USITT Stage Management Mentor Project, left, were a vital part of the event's success. Applications are now being accepted for 2007.

Photo/Tom Thatcher

Student Mentor Program Deadline December 31

Jack Feivou

SMMP Coordinator

Apply now for the Stage Management Mentor Project (SMMP), a special program designed for stage management students and young professionals at the 2007 Conference & Stage Expo in Phoenix.

Under the guidance of professional stage management mentors, SMMP participants will have private roundtables led by the mentors and enjoy plenty of one-on-one time with each mentor in addition to the programs presented by the Management Commission. Each student will have the opportunity to be part of a stage management team running major conference events such as the Tech Olympics, New Products Showcase, Fellows Reception, and Awards Banquet.

About 10 to 12 SMMP student positions are available. The time commitment is from 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 13 through 10 p.m. Saturday, March 17. All applicants must be registered for the conference at the time the application is submitted. Participants also must purchase a ticket to the banquet. The conference registration fee will be refunded to those students selected for the SMMP.

The application deadline is December 31, 2006 so don't delay.

SMMP Deadline

Apply online through the USITT website or contact SMMP Coordinator Jack Feivou, producer, Walt Disney Entertainment, at 407-397-3797 or jack.feivou@disney.com

To Top 1

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page →



Conference & Stage Expo

Next Story

▶ USITT

▶ Calendar

DobsUSITT De Sightline

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Stage Expo 2007 Phoenix in Great Shape

Helen Willard

Stage Expo Sales Manager

If you have seen the Stage Expo map on the Conference website (click for map) you may have noticed that Stage Expo 2007 will be shaped much like Stage Expo 2005 in Toronto. Exhibit Halls D/E and the Ballroom in the Phoenix Convention Center's South Building stretch 500 feet from one side to the other, and 230 feet from the front of the hall to the back, creating a space that is more than twice as wide as it is deep. With 16 aisles running from front-to-back and just six aisles running from sideto-side, it seems that all of our exhibitors will be close to the front of the exhibit. halls.



Already Booked for Stage Expo 2007 as of November 10, 2006

- A.C. Lighting Inc.
- A.C.T Lighting, Inc.
- The University of Alabama
- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- American Harlequin Corporation
- Apollo Design Technology, Inc.
- University of Arizona
- Arizona State University
- ASL-USA
- Bad Dog Tools
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- Ben Nye Makeup
- Boston University Theatre
- Brandeis University
- California Institute of the Arts
- California State University -Fullerton
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Cirque du Soleil
- City Theatrical Inc.
- J.R. Clancy, Inc.
- Clear-Com Communication

- Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc. / LCS Series
- Minnesota State University, Mankato
- University of Minnesota -Twin Cities
- Mongol Global Tour Company, Inc.
- University of Nevada Las Vegas
- · Norcostco, Inc.
- North Carolina School of the Arts
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- The Painter's Journal
- PatternMaker Software
- PCPA Theaterfest
- Period Corsets by Kaufman-Davis Studio Inc.
- Production Intercom, Inc.
- RC4 Wireless/ Soundsculpture Inc.

Another unusual feature about the exhibit halls we will be using in Phoenix is that one section, the Ballroom, includes a large stage. That stage will be the home for Cover the Walls 2007, as well as some of the other special exhibits planned for Phoenix. Look for more details on those special exhibits in an upcoming issue of Sightlines.

Our exhibit halls in the Phoenix Convention Center are conveniently located immediately adjacent to the registration area and meeting rooms. In most convention centers the exhibit halls and meeting rooms are on different levels, separated by escalator rides up and down. In the South Building of the PCC, everything is on one level. The conference registration area will be in Lobby Two, just inside the 3rd Street entrance of the PCC, with the Tucson and Yuma meeting rooms flanking the registration lobby on either side.

The South Building

Systems

- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
- Comfor Tek Seating Inc.
- Conductix, Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Dazian Fabrics, LLC
- University of Delaware
- Dye Pro Distributors Inc.
- Educational Theatre Association (EdTA)
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Electronics Diversified Inc.
- Entertainment Services & Technology Association (ESTA)
- The ESTA Foundation/ Behind the Scenes
- Entertainment Technology
- Farthingales
- Florida State University
- Future Light
- GALA Systems, Inc.
- GAMPRODUCTS, INC.
- University of Georgia
- Glimmerglass Opera
- GoboMan
- Grosh Scenic Rentals
- H & H Specialties Inc.
- HCamburn Associates
- heatshrink.com
- HM Electronics, Inc.
- I.A.T.S.E. Local #336
- IATSE Local 1
- University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Illinois State University
- Indiana University
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE)
- Irwin Seating Company
- · Kenmark, Inc.
- Kreinik Mfg. Co Inc
- Kryolan Corporation
- Le Maitre Special Effects Inc.
- LEE Filters
- Lehigh Electric Products Co.
- Leprecon
- Lex Products Corp.
- Lighting & Electronics, Inc.
- Limelight Productions, Inc.
- Live Design Magazine/LDI Show
- Look Solutions USA, Ltd.
- Make-Up Designory
- Martin Professional, Inc.
- MDG Fog Generators
- Mehron, Inc.
- University of Memphis

- Robert Juliat
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.
- Rose Brand Theatrical Fabrics, Fabrications & Supplies
- Rutgers, The State
 University of New Jersey
- Santa Fe Opera
- Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.
- Savannah College of Art & Design
- Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc.
- SeaChanger by Ocean Optics
- SECOA
- Selecon
- Serapid, Inc.
- The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey
- Show Distribution Group Inc.
- Smooth-On, Inc.
- University of South Dakota
- Stage Directions Magazine
- Stage Research, Inc.
- Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
- StageRight Corporation
- Stagestep
- Staging Concepts, Inc.
- Steeldeck Inc.
- Strand Lighting
- Strong Entertainment Lighting
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- Texas Scenic Company
- Texas Tech University
- Thematics
- Thern Inc.
- James Thomas Engineering
- Tiffin Scenic Studios, Inc.
- Tulane University
- Union Connector Co., Inc.
- United Scenic Artists Local USA 829
- Utah Festival Opera
- Utah Shakespearean Festival
- VectorWorks SPOTLIGHT by Nemetschek North America
- Walt Disney Entertainment
- Wayne State University Dept of Theatre
- Wenger Corporation
- Wybron, Inc.
- Yale School of Drama/ Repertory Theatre
- ZFX, Inc.
- Zucker Feather Products

of the Convention Center is just a couple blocks from the Hyatt Regency and Wyndham hotels, as well as the Orpheum Theatre, putting all of our conference venues within easy walking distance. With Phoenix's mild March weather, getting from the hotels to the convention center will be a breeze.

At the right is a preliminary list of exhibitors for Stage Expo 2007.

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page →



Next Story

▶ Calendar

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Sponsors Support Conference

Michelle L. Smith

Membership & Ad Sales Manager

USITT extends thanks AV Pro which is again sponsoring Opening Night in 2007 and GAMPRODUCTS which has again decided to support Tech Expo at the 47th Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Phoenix, Arizona.

Members interested in also lending their support to Tech Expo, or one of the events or services listed below, can contact Michelle L. Smith in the USITT office at 800-938-7488 or michelle@office. usitt.org.

2007 Sponsors

Opening Night

Texas Scenic Company

AV Pro, Inc.

Four spaces remaining at \$2,000 each

Cyber Cafés

California Institute of the Arts Live Design Magazine/LDI Show Three cafés remaining at \$2,000 each

Tech Expo

GAMPRODUCTS, Inc.

James Thomas Engineering

6 spaces available at \$500 each

Stage Expo Nosh

3 spaces available at \$750 each



Sponsors such as GAMPRODUCTS, Inc. and James Thomas Engineering are already signed up to help support the 2007 Tech Expo display and catalog, as they did in 2005. An entry from the 2005 exhibition is shown above.

Photo/William Browning

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12

Next Page



> USITT - ▶ Calendar - ▶ JobsUSITT - ▶ Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Executive Committee

- Sylvia Hillyard Pannell, President
- Patricia Dennis, Secretary
- Lawrence J. Hill, *Treasurer*
- Kim Williamson, Vice-President for Commissions
- Bobbi Owen, Vice-President for Communications
- Joe Aldridge, Vice-President for Conferences
- Alexandra Bonds, Vice-President for International Activities
- Carl Lefko, Vice-President for Programming
- Lisa Westkaemper, Acting Vice-President for Promotion & Development
- Holly Monsos, Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters
- Daniel Denhart, Vice-President for Special Operations
- John Uthoff, Immediate Past President

To Top 🕆

Directors at Large

2004-2007

- Lea Asbell-Swanger
- C. Lance Brockman
- Normand Bouchard
- Gregory Horton
- Dave Will
- Stephanie Young

2005-2008

- Ann Archbold
- Bill Browning
- Dan Culhane
- David Krajec
- Martha Marking
- Brian Reed

2006-2009

- Leon Brauner
- Richard Dunham
- Debra Krajec
- Mike Murphy

- Donna Ruzika
- Bill Teague

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.: © 2006 Volume XLVI, Number 12



> USITT → Calendar → JobsUSITT → Sightlines

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- Durst Installed
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- ESTA Gives Awards
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- USITT's President
- Regional Sections

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- New Costume Sessions
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

Honorary Lifetime Members

Richard L. Arnold

Willard F. Bellman

Joy Spanabel Emery

Ted W. Jones

Christine L. Kaiser

Joel E. Rubin

Samuel H. Scripps

Tom Watson

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Honorary Lifetime Members

Contributing Members

Sustaining Members

To Top 🕆

Contributing Members

- American Harlequin Corporation
- Apollo Design Technology, Inc.
- Automatic Devices Company
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- Cirque du Soleil
- City Theatrical Inc.
- J.R. Clancy, Inc.
- Clear-Com Communication Systems
- Creative Handbook
- Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- Disney Entertainment Productions
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Entertainment Services & Technology Association (ESTA)
- Entertainment Technology
- Future Light
- GAMPRODUCTS, INC.
- H & H Specialties Inc.
- heatshrink.com
- InterAmerica Stage, Inc.
- KM Fabrics, Inc.
- Kryolan Corporation
- Live Design Magazine/LDI Show
- Martin Professional, Inc.

- Masterstage Mfg. Inc.
- MDG Fog Generators
- Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.
- Norcostco, Inc
- PRG
- Production Advantage, Inc.
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.
- Rose Brand Theatrical Fabrics, Fabrications & Supplies
- Schuler Shook
- SeaChanger by Ocean Optics
- SECOA
- Stage Decoration & Supplies, Inc.
- Stage Directions Magazine
- Stage Research, Inc.
- StageRight Corporation
- Steeldeck Inc.
- Strand Lighting
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- Texas Scenic Company
- Vari*Lite
- Vincent Lighting Systems
- Walt Disney Entertainment
- Wenger Corporation

To Top 1

Sustaining Members

- A.C. Lighting Inc.
- AC Power Distribution, Inc.
- A.C.T Lighting, Inc.
- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- Altman Rentals, Inc.
- Auerbach·Pollock·Friedlander
- A V Pro, Inc.
- B.N. Productions, Inc.
- Baer Fabrics
- Bandit Lites, Inc.
- Ben Nye Makeup
- Brawner & Associates LLC
- California Institute of the Arts
- Cast Software
- Center Theatre Group
- Checkers Industrial Products Inc.
- Chicago Spotlight, Inc.
- Cobalt Studios
- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
- Comfor Tek Seating Inc.
- The Crosby Group, Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Dazian Fabrics, LLC
- Designlab Chicago
- Dove Systems Inc.
- Electronics Diversified Inc.

- Entertainment Lighting Services
- Fisher Theatrical, LLC
- Foy Inventerprises, Inc.
- GALA Systems, Inc.
- Gerriets International Inc.
- Grand Stage Company, Inc.
- Grosh Scenic Rentals
- Haussmann Theaterbedarf GmbH
- High End Systems, Inc.
- Hollywood Lighting Services, Inc.
- I. Weiss
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees
- Irwin Seating Company
- Johnson Systems Inc.
- Kansas City Costume Co.
- · Kenmark, Inc.
- Kirkegaard Associates
- KUPO Industrial Corp.
- LCS Series (Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.)
- LEE Filters
- Lehigh Electric Products Co.
- Leprecon
- Leviton/NSI/Colortran
- Lex Products Corp.
- Lighting & Electronics, Inc.
- Limelight Productions, Inc.
- Lite-Trol Service Company, Inc.
- Look Solutions USA, Ltd.
- LVH Entertainment Systems
- Lycian Stage Lighting
- The MAGNUM Companies, Ltd.
- Mainstage Theatrical Supply, Inc.
- Make-Up Designory
- Musson Theatrical, Inc.
- Mutual Hardware
- Niscon Inc.
- North Carolina School of the Arts
- Northwest High School
- Ontario Staging Limited
- Performance Solutions
- Premier Lighting & Production Co.
- Production Intercom, Inc.
- Prolyte Products Group
- Queen Creek Performing Arts Center
- RC4 Wireless/Sound Sculpture Inc.
- Robert Juliat
- Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.
- Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc.
- Selecon
- Serapid, Inc.
- Show Distribution Group Inc.
- Smooth-On, Inc.
- South Dakota State University

- Spotlight S.R.L.
- Stage Equipment and Lighting, Inc.
- Stage Technologies
- Stage Technology
- Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
- StageLight, Inc.
- STAGEWORKS
- Staging Concepts, Inc.
- Strong Entertainment Lighting
- Theatre Arts Video Library
- Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC
- Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.
- Thematics
- Thern Inc.
- James Thomas Engineering
- Tiffin Scenic Studios, Inc.
- TMB
- Tobins Lake Sales
- TOMCAT USA, Inc.
- Union Connector Co, Inc.
- VectorWorks SPOTLIGHT by NNA
- Wayne State University Dept. of Theatre
- Wybron, Inc.
- ZFX, Inc.

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To Top 👚

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Cover

Those seeking jobs have

often turned to Sightlines,

online Classified ads. right

from the more recent

Calendar

December 2006

News & Notices

- Golden Pen Winner
- **Durst Installed**
- Prague Travel
- Announcements
- Offer CPR in Phoenix
- **ESTA Gives Awards**
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

- Around The Institute
- **Contributing Members**
- **Sustaining Members**
- **USITT's President**
- **Regional Sections**

Commissions

- Costume Help on Web
- RÉsumÉ Assistance
- Posters Needed

Conference & Stage Expo

- **New Costume Sessions**
- A Phoenix Dining Guide
- Seeking Student Stage Managers
- Stage Expo Growing
- Sponsors Needed

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- December 2006 issue pdf

SUMMARY of ADS November, 2006

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR. Fredonia

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COSTUME DESIGN:

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: DESIGN/TECH: Outlands Addiphus College ASSISTANT TECHNICAL **DIRECTOR:** Portland Opera

ASSIST ANT PROFESSOR - SCENE DESIGN SUNY Predonta

The Department of Theatre and Dance at SUNY at Fredonia announces a tenure-track, full-time assistant professor faculty position with a primary emphasis in Scenic Design for Fall 2007. Responsible for scene design of at least one Mainstage production per season. Mentor all student scene designs for other Mainstage and Performing Arts Co. productions. Teach multiple levels of scene design, scene painting, rendering techniques, design drafting and other related coursework to be determined or developed for undergraduate BFA-Production Design majors. Collaborate effectively with resident TD, LD, CD, Shop Supervisors, as well as student designers, technicians

and crews. Student advisement and service on department and

For information about placing an ad on this page please visit ... Advertising with US/TT Contact Michelle Smith at 800-93USITT or michele@offce.ustf.org for more information and deadlines.

If you missed the October.

2006 Classifed Ads, they

to the 1980s printed version, below. Now job offerings can be found in the new JobsUSITT searchable online forum.

by Barbara E.R. Lucas Sightlines Editor

Traditional Ads Make Way For New JobsUSITT

For more than 20 years, those who had employment opportunities have relied on USITT to help find the most qualified applicants. In the 1980s, this took the form of announcements or job vacancy listings. In the 1990s and early part of the 21st century, these listings increased and became a bigger part of Sightlines.

Now, a more sophisticated and timely method of seeking positions or finding people to fill those positions has evolved. Readers have had the opportunity to "test drive" JobsUSITT over the past several months. Starting with this issue, it is fully functioning and takes over the spot traditionally occupied by our "Classified" listings.

Whether they are advertising a job or internship, reviewing career options, or just looking over what changes are occurring nearby or nationally, JobsUSITT readers have a new tool designed for easy use. Search by key words or location with a few keystrokes, and enjoy the next stage as USITT transitions the resources it provides advertisers and readers.

To Top 1

New Job Vacancy

QUALIFICATIONS.

Distinguished reports D. D., M.F.A., or

DEADLINE January 1, 1960

Job Opportunity Announced

The James A. Little Theatre of Deaf has announced the open Director/Theatre Manager effor is filled. Standard trachers' sel-

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Next Page 🤫