

home **USITT**

Sightlines

November 2008

Lead Story

▷ USITT

▷ Calendar

▷ JobsUSITT

▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Bill Sapsis, center, of Sapsis Rigging, Inc. was a featured presenter at the Upstate New York Regional Section's Fall Fling held at State University of New York at Fredonia. Mr. Sapsis' four-hour session concentrated on safety in performance settings and was made possible through the cooperative efforts of Stephen E. Rees, Chair of Theatre and Dance, and Anne Podolak, Director of Environmental Health & Safety at Fredonia. A number of environmental health & safety professionals from western New York colleges attended the session along with section members and guests.

Photo/Steve Rees



USITT

Current Events at USITT



**2009 Conference
Online Registration
Now Open**

Awards Now Open

Architecture

Student Architecture

YD&T Awards

Student Travel

Fellowships

Future of the Institute

Calendar

JobsUSITT

[Conference & Stage Expo](#)

[Special Interest Groups](#)

[Major Activities](#)

[Organizational Structure](#)

[Online Resources](#)

[Join & Support USITT](#)

[Membership Lists](#)

[Membership Forms](#)

[USITT Site Map & Search Page](#)

[DMX512](#) | [Sightlines](#) | [TD&T](#) | [Bookstore](#)

USITT
315 South Crouse Avenue
Suite 200
Syracuse, NY 13210

Phone: 800-938-7488 or 315-463-6463
FAX: 866-398-7488 or 315-463-6525
E-mail: info@office.usitt.org



home USITT

Commissions

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

'Ideal' Theatre Goal of Architecture Competition

Teams of theatre students and their architectural counterparts are being challenged to design the Ideal Theatre as part of the third annual design competition created by USITT's Architecture Commission, supported for 2009 by Serapid, Inc. and Boldt Construction, and managed by HGA Architects.

The competition requires teamwork, with theatre students serving as the client and teams which include architecture students as designers of the space. Rules allow the teams to decide who is best to help create the final project and encourage input from students with a wide range of expertise.

General information about the competition is available [here](#). To assist in the project, a detailed outline of what could and should be included in the space, budgeted at \$25 million with a construction cost of \$350 a square foot, is available [here](#). Final submissions for the competition will include documentation of the design and the design process, and will be discussed and displayed at the USITT 2009 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio in March.

Scott F. Georgeson, AIA, is chair of the competition and is available to answer questions at sgeorgeson@hga.com.

The goal of the competition is to encourage open communication between users and designers for a successful collaboration on "the most complex buildings that we design and construct." They are described as three dimensional puzzles with intricate building systems, rigid functional requirements, special acoustical needs, and strong architectural characteristics. Bringing together future theatre professionals and theatre designers will help all develop an understanding of the complex issues needed to ensure a successful building for users and audiences.

The adjudication process starts with a professional jury of architect John Prokos, FAIA, of Gund Partnership; acoustician Mark Holden of JaffeHolden; and theatre consultant Benton Delinger of Theatre Projects Consultants. The jury will select finalists who will be notified in early February. Those finalist teams will receive \$1,000 in financial support for travel and two paid registrations to help them attend the conference and present their designs at a special Architecture Commission session where



the winning entry will be determined.

The winning team will receive an additional \$500.

Those interested in participating for 2009 are urged to submit an intent to enter the competition e-mail to Mr. Georgeson by November 17, and all entries must be submitted by January 15, 2009.

A special feature of the competition is that all teams will receive feedback from the jury in April 2009 at the conclusion of the process.

[To Top](#) 

home **USITT**

News & Notices

[Next Story](#)
[▷ USITT](#)
[▷ Calendar](#)
[▷ JobsUSITT](#)
[▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Jennifer Tipton Honored With MacArthur Prize

The honors continue to pour in for celebrated lighting designer Jennifer Tipton. On September 23, she was named one of only 25 new MacArthur Fellows for 2008 by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Ms. Tipton was honored as a stage lighting designer who is “pushing the visible boundaries of her art form with painterly lighting that evokes mood and sculpts movement in dance, drama, and opera.” She will receive \$500,000 over the next five years, with “no strings attached.”

Her use of white light in theatre and dance was especially noted, as was the range of her artistry for both small and large productions, and her influence as a teacher. “As a committed teacher, Ms. Tipton has influenced a generation of lighting designers, and her dramatic imagination continues to push the visual boundaries of lighting design in new and exciting directions.” She has been an adjunct professor of lighting design at the Yale University School of Drama since 1994.

Ms. Tipton has been part of USITT’s Annual Conference & Stage Expo several times, including presentations in Boston in 1991 and Pittsburgh in 1997 that are still remembered vividly by those who were present. She was the lighting designer for the United States exhibit at the 1987 Prague Quadrennial. That entry won the prestigious Golden Triga award, the highest honor for a PQ entry. As part of the USITT PQ 1987 Steering Committee, she received the USITT Award in 1990. She received the USITT Award in 2002 as an individual.

A list of Ms. Tipton’s honors also includes the 2001 Lillian and Dorothy Gish Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, two Tonys for *The Cherry Orchard* and Jerome Robbins’ *Broadway*, a Drama-Logue Award, two American Theatre Wing Awards, an Obie, and two Drama Desk Awards.

She received the Commonwealth Award in Dramatic Arts, a National Endowment for the Arts Theater Program Distinguished Artist Award, and a grant from the National Theatre Artist Residency Program funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Her lighting for dance has included many performances by the American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Twyla Tharp



Jennifer Tipton

Photo/Courtesy John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Dance, and the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

[To Top](#) 


[home](#) **USITT**

Announcements

[Next Story](#)
[▷ USITT](#) [▷ Calendar](#) [▷ JobsUSITT](#) [▷ Sightlines](#)
November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Costume Programs Survey Seeks Info

The Survey of Costume Design and Technology Programs again seeks updates. Information will be compiled during November, and the new edition should be online by December 1, 2008.

The survey consists of information from approximately 145 colleges and universities in eight regions of the country. Information concerning the faculty and staff, degrees offered, and focus and strength of the program is presented. Students interested in pursuing costuming at the undergraduate or graduate level may contact individuals for further information or go to the school's websites.

Take time to review listings [here](#). Click on online resources; and choose the Survey of Costume Programs. Programs that have not updated their information within the past two years have been dropped from the survey in an effort to keep the information as accurate as possible. If a school has been dropped, come back! Or, to join the survey for the first time, fill out the questionnaire within the survey. Questions may be directed to Judy Adamson, jadamson@email.unc.edu.

[To Top](#) ↑

ESTA Recommendation, Revision Available

Two draft control protocol documents are available for public review on the ESTA website through November 24. The draft documents and their supporting public review materials are [available here](#).

BSR E1.27-2, *Entertainment Technology - Recommended Practice for Permanently Installed Control Cables for Use with ANSI E1.11 (DMX512-A) and USITT DMX5121990 Products*, describes the recommended types of data cable to be used in permanent installations to interconnect lighting equipment that complies with ANSI E1.11-2004 (DMX512-A) or with USITT DMX5121990. It also makes recommendations for how the cable should be installed and connected. The recommended practice, when finally approved as an American National Standard, is expected to be useful in helping guide electrical contractors unfamiliar with entertainment lighting systems on the proper way to install a DMX512 data cable system.

BSR E1.20 - 200x, *Entertainment Technology--Remote Device Management over USITT DMX512*, is a project to revise the existing RDM standard, ANSI E1.20 - 2006. There are some

This month:

Costume Survey

Draft ANSI Standards

Contracts Require ETCP

CITT Honors ESTA

errors in the published document that need to be corrected; the project is only to correct those errors, not to add new functionality or to change existing functionality. The public review document is a two-part document that first lists all the proposed changes and then shows those changes as they would appear in a revised version of E1.20. Only those pages with changes are part of the review document. The other pages would not be changed from how they are in the existing ANSI E1.20 - 2006.

The review end date for the two documents is November 25. The review has ended when that day is reached. Comments should be submitted before that date.

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

[To Top](#) 

New Agreement Requires Certification

The IATSE and National Production Services Inc have modified their current collective bargaining agreement to call for journeyman riggers employed by National Production Services Inc. to pass either the Theater or Arena Rigging Entertainment Technician Certification Program (ETCP) exam by December.

National Production Services Inc. is a leading provider of rigging services at luxury hotels and resorts throughout Florida and northeast Texas.

Anyone interested in becoming a Certified Rigger-Arena, Rigger-Theatre, or Entertainment Electrician, can find the candidate handbooks, applications, and eligibility requirements at etcp.esta.org. For more information, send an e-mail to certification@esta.org, or call 212-244-1505.

[To Top](#) 

CITT/ICTS Honors ESTA

ESTA, the Entertainment Services and Technology Association, has been honored with the 2008 CITT/ICTS Honorary Membership Award. The award is bestowed on an individual or organization not actively involved in technical disciplines of the Canadian live performance industry, but who has contributed significantly to the development of technical disciplines within Canada. The contribution can be seen through the recipients' decision-making, influence, and philosophy within the community or by showing themselves to be a longstanding friend of the Institute.

CITT/ICTS recognized ESTA's contribution to the entertainment industry in North America and its ongoing collaboration with CITT/ICTS over the years, notably with the Entertainment Certification Program (ETCP) which was cited for raising

awareness about the need for better training and for ongoing professional development opportunities in Canada. ESTA also was recognized for providing the industry with valuable standards as well as research data and recommendations relative to stage technology.

The award was presented at the CITT/ICTS Rendez-vous Conference in Ottawa on August 16.

[To Top](#) 



News & Notices

[Next Story](#)

[▷ USITT](#)
[▷ Calendar](#)
[▷ JobsUSITT](#)
[▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008 News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



The USITT Art Auction has not made an appearance since 2006, so there has been plenty of time for the excitement to build. The 2009 auction will play a prominent role as part of Stage Expo.

Photo/R. Finkelstein

Cincinnati Art Auction Is On!

Tim Kelly
Art Auction Chair

March 2009 is but one election and six months away, and the USITT Grants & Fellowships Committee is hard at work soliciting artwork to be sold at its Tri-annual Kook Fund Art Auction. The Cincinnati 2009 Conference & Stage Expo will be the seventh time this exciting, surprising, and successful event has been held. All of the proceeds from the Art Auction will go to benefit the Edward F. Kook Fund which supports grants and fellowships awarded to Institute members. Since the inception of the fund by Eddie Kook, the Institute has provided approximately \$225,000 in funding for research projects and study fellowships.

The Art Auction provides an opportunity for everyone at the Conference to participate in the high spirited silent auction that will take place during Stage Expo. Prominently located at Stage Expo will be approximately 30 beautiful and creative works of theatre art to vie for. Back and forth bidding will continue throughout the week until 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 21 when the event culminates in a flurry of frantic finalists fighting for their favorites. In years past, the auction action has proven to be a highlight for the conference and one that takes a cool hand, tenacity, and precise timing to come away with the goods.

Another favorite at the Art Auction will be the ever popular Garage Sale tables on which theatre treasures of indescribable interest will be found. At previous sales there have been objects of theatre history that perhaps have not witnessed the light of day for

many years. Stored in dusty corners of garages, backstage in the unexplored rooms, and in attics spaces long forgotten are bits and pieces of memorabilia that will be unearthed and offered for sale.

Even if an unsuccessful bidder, the contribution of \$5 for an auction catalogue will assist in this fundraising effort. The G&F Committee looks forward to seeing everyone at this event and to providing an exciting and amusing way to assist in contributing to the Edward F. Kook Fund.

[To Top](#) 



home **USITT**

News & Notices

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Tim Kelly announces the winners of USITT Grants during the Awards Banquet at the 2008 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Houston, Texas.

Photo/R. Finkelstein

Accepting Applications for Fellowships

Tim Kelly

Chair, Grants & Fellowships Committee

The Grants & Fellowships Committee encourages USITT members to submit proposals for funding through a Fellowship. In the funding year 2009, *only* Fellowship proposals will be accepted; *no* Project Grant proposals will be considered. This cycle of alternating Fellowships and Project Grants provides each area of interest with equal opportunities. Deadline is January 12, 2009.

Fellowships are awarded for excellence in scholarship or creative activities in the areas of performing arts design and technology. Research or creative activities proposed for Fellowships must have a coherent theme and result in important scholarly or creative activity in anticipation of a significant result. Proposals will be judged in competition with each other. The applicant's record of excellence in previous work and longevity of membership will be a significant factor in judging applications.

All Fellowship proposals *must* include the following items in the order listed. Proposals that do not follow this outline will not be considered for funding.

Include ten complete copies of all materials.

- Application form (available online)
- Proposal description (500 words maximum)
- Résumé
- Three current letters of reference in support of the specific proposal

The deadline to receive Fellowship applications at USITT's Syracuse office is no later than January 11. Application forms are available online [here](#) from the USITT website. The Grants & Fellowships Committee will meet via e-mail to discuss the merits of each proposal and then have a face to face meeting at the 2009 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati to determine if a Fellowship will be awarded.

[To Top](#) 



Member Benefits

[Next Story](#)

[▷ USITT](#)
[▷ Calendar](#)
[▷ JobsUSITT](#)
[▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Free or Discounted Magazines & Periodicals

Michelle L. Smith

Membership & Ad Sales Manager

LIVE DESIGN

Free subscription - new or renewal - to qualifying members (United States residents only)! To subscribe, complete the online form [here](#), call 866-505-7173, or e-mail ldcs@pbsub.com.

Special discounts for students and international members are available at the USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo.

TECHNICAL BRIEF

Discounts on Individual and Institutional one- and three-year subscriptions. To subscribe, visit technicalbrief.org and enter member number on the printable order form. For more information or questions, call 203-432-8188 or e-mail laraine.sammler@yale.edu.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of member discounts. For instructions on accessing a discount, select the item of interest and enter user name (USITT member number) and password (last name) at the prompt.

If you have questions or suggestions for a new benefit, contact Membership & Ad Sales Manager Michelle L. Smith at 800-938-7488, ext. 102 or michelle@office.usitt.org.

[To Top](#)



News from:



Around the Institute

[Next Story](#)[▷ USITT](#) [▷ Calendar](#) [▷ JobsUSITT](#) [▷ Sightlines](#)**November 2008****News & Notices**

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Green Trends at USITT

USITT's office in Syracuse, New York always has been extremely vigilant about recycling and reuse, as any of our visitors who have tried to deposit a piece of paper in the "wrong" refuse bin can attest.

Many member companies are making increasing efforts to go "green" as noted in the Contributing and Sustaining member news items this month. USITT is part of that trend as well, since the most recent postcard sent to all members about the availability of online registration for the 2009 Annual Conference was printed with environmentally-friendly ink using wind power-generated electricity.

[To Top](#) ↑**Future Dates Announced For Conferences**

The directors of the Theatre Engineering and Architecture (TEA) conference and the North American Theatre Engineering and Architecture Conference (NATEAC) announced the dates and locations of future conferences. Continuing the cycle started by Richard Brett, the TEA director, and incorporating NATEAC into the schedule, the next TEA conference will take place in London in 2010 followed by NATEAC in New York City in 2012.

The TEA conferences, which were held in London in 2002 and 2006, showed that not only was there a desire for such an event but all that it is possible to bring divergent interest groups together and hold a meaningful conversation on a myriad of topics.

The conferences will remain under the overall management of their respective directors; a strategic alliance will help facilitate the administration of these events.

[To Top](#) ↑**Owen Honored by UNC****This month:**
USITT Goes Green

TEA to Continue

Bobbi Owen

Bill Byrnes

LDI

Fire in Prague

Bobbi Owen, USITT VP for Communications, was named the Michael R. McVaugh Distinguished Professor in Dramatic Art by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In October, she was honored at a reception and ceremony at the Chapel Hill campus. The title recognizes Ms. Owen for her distinguished scholarship and dedication to the University of North Carolina and the Department of Dramatic Art and the College of Arts and Sciences.

[To Top](#) ↑

Byrnes Book Links to Blog

Past President **William J. Byrnes** recently released the fourth edition of his widely-used text *Management and the Arts*. Mr. Byrnes has revised the book to reflect the latest thinking and trends in managing organization and people. A new website has been created with resources for instructors, arts managers, and students at www.managementandthearts.com. The site includes a blog link for discussions, updates, additional materials, and current resources.

[To Top](#) ↑

Meetings and More at Las Vegas

Many members of USITT's volunteer leadership spent four days in Las Vegas, Nevada participating in meetings and enjoying **LDI**. As at all USITT meetings and events, there seemed to be more than enough topics, opinions, and lively discussions to fill the schedule.



Photo/Monica L. Merritt

A more complete report on the leadership meetings and LDI will be included in the December issue of *Sightlines*.

One highlight was the introduction of a new booth which gives a new look to USITT's presence at trade shows.

[To Top](#) ↑

Fire in Prague's Industrial Palace

The Left Wing of the Industrial Palace of the Exhibition Grounds Prague, where the Prague Quadrennial traditionally takes place, has burned down. Reports from PQ organizers note the ceiling of the wing has fallen in due to a serious fire on October 16, 2008.

The Right Wing as well as the Central Hall were not on fire, but damage in these two spaces is not yet known. However, the damage may be quite serious because of the steel construction that was connecting all of the three main spaces.

At this point organizers are not sure what this will mean for the Prague Quadrennial 2011 but the call for applications is still planned to be issued in February 2009.

To see photos, visit www.pq.cz or view video on www.ct24.cz.

[To Top](#) 


[home](#) **USITT**

News from:

Contributing Members

[Next Story](#)
[▷ USITT](#) [▷ Calendar](#) [▷ JobsUSITT](#) [▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Musson New Contributing Member

We thank **Musson Theatrical, Inc.** for their increased level of support to that of a Contributing member.

Musson Theatrical, based in Santa Clara, California, has been a USITT member for almost 30 years. The company provides rentals, sales, and production services for the entertainment industry. Customers can “count on Musson for all your lighting, audio, rigging, drapery, scenic, and special effects needs.”

To learn more, visit www.musson.com.

[To Top](#) ↑

Electronics Diversified Upgrades

We appreciated the added support of USITT from **Electronics Diversified, LLC**, which is now a Contributing member of USITT. Electronics Diversified joined USITT in May of 1968, and is celebrating its 40th year of membership in 2008.

EDI is a manufacturer of performance and architectural lighting control systems including providing controls for incandescent, fluorescent, HID, cold cathode, neon, and inductive loads via dimmers, relays, and non-dims. Systems are available for permanent or portable applications in theatre, television, theme parks, touring shows, hotels, churches, and museums.

EDI will again exhibit at Stage Expo in 2009. To learn more about the organization, visit www.edionline.com.

[To Top](#) ↑

Two New Hires for Vortek

Vortek, a division of Daktronics, hired two new employees who bring over 35 years of experience to the company. Robin Allen and Gerry Fryzowski plan to focus their energy towards reducing Vortek's costs and production lead time while continuing to ensure quality theatre rigging products.

Mr. Allen, hired as a buyer/scheduler, brings seven years of work experience from Gorbels, Inc. – a world class lifting device manufacturer. His duties at Vortek include sourcing products from different suppliers for the best price and delivery, creating purchase orders, qualifying new suppliers, and scheduling product delivery to the factory. He intends to decrease the cost of Vortek's products without compromising quality.

Mr. Fryzowski boasts over 30 years of experience from a variety

This month:

Musson Theatrical, Inc.

Electronics Diversified,
LLC

Vortek

Creative Stage Lighting

ETC

Rose Brand

Rosco

J.R. Clancy, Inc.

of companies. He has worked as a line supervisor, manufacturing manager and engineer, and product line manager. Mr. Fryzowski's skills encompass a broad technical and management background with a proven track record for improving on-time delivery, cost control, and factory operation improvement.

[To Top](#) ↑

Fushion Represents CSL in Canada

Creative Stage Lighting now is represented in Canada by Fushion, Inc of St. Lazare, Quebec, Canada. Fushion now offers the CSL product line to Quebec, Ontario, and the Canadian Maritime markets.

CSL is a leading manufacturer, wholesale supplier, and distributor of a broad range of products for the stage and theatrical lighting professional. It also provides rental and production services to the entertainment industry.

[To Top](#) ↑

Products Help Las Vegas Complex Go Green

Thanks in part to **ETC** lighting products, the Palazzo Las Vegas is not only the newest, tallest and most luxurious hotel and resort complex on the Strip in Nevada, it is the greenest.

The \$1.9 billion, 50-story Palazzo Las Vegas complex opened in December 2007 and now holds a Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the United States Green Building Council. ETC lighting products were one element that enabled it to meet the LEED compliance standard. An ETC Unison lighting control system and ETC Sensor+ dimming were part of the installed lighting package and included more than 100 ETC Source Four luminaires, which are an energy-frugal standard of the industry.



[To Top](#) ↑

Two Join Rose Brand

Susan Byron and John Nicastro recently joined **Rose Brand**.

Ms. Byron, a costume and fabric expert, has joined the creative sewing division in the Los Angeles, California facility. She will develop existing inventory and work with the stretch shape team. Rose Brand is the premier supplier of custom sewn creations and production supplies in the theatrical, live entertainment and design markets.

Ms. Byron is a native Californian and has lived and worked in the greater Los Angeles area all her life. Graduating from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles with a focus on costume construction, her career has been a creative journey. Her most recent projects included working with

designer Mia Gyzander producing costumes.

Mr. Nicastro, a sales professional, has joined Rose Brand as outside sales for events and visual merchandisers in the retail and fashion industries.

After graduating from Fordham University with a BS in marketing and finance, his first sales job was with Lorillard Tobacco Co. selling cigarettes in Manhattan. He quickly moved into consumer research, demographic profiling, and sales in the publishing industry. His background includes working in the technology sector, retail fashion, home furnishings, and décor/textiles markets. Mr. Nicastro can be reached at Rose Brand at e-mail john.nicastro@rosebrand.com or call 201-809-1730 extension 140.

[To Top](#) ↑

Supergel Color Sales Benefit Charity

In 2003, **Rosco** introduced a new color to its Supergel range to raise funds for the United Kingdom charity Light Relief. Gratifyingly, #313 Light Relief Yellow has proved a popular color, and at PLASA 2008 Light Relief Trustee and PLASA Managing Director Matthew Griffiths accepted a check for almost \$3,700.

Making the presentation, Mark Engel, president of Rosco, said: “This is the fourth year we’ve been able to support Light Relief with a check at PLASA. Our contribution to date now exceeds \$15,000 and has been funded by purchases of #313 Supergel.”



Developed with the help of Rick Fisher, co-founder (along with the late Tony Gottelier) of the industry charity which supports lighting designers in difficult times, Light Relief Yellow is the vibrant, sunshine color of the charity’s logo.

[To Top](#) ↑

J. R. Clancy Accepted for PLASA Membership


J.R. Clancy, Inc., a design, manufacturing and installation company for theatrical rigging equipment, was accepted for membership in the Professional Lighting and Sound Association (PLASA). Clancy also hired Charles B. Shatzkin as international sales manager, Shannon Sullivan as a technical designer, and Micah Ascano as mechanical designer.

PLASA has more than 500 members, including the leading specialists in professional audio, lighting, staging, rigging, AV, communications, and related disciplines. J.R. Clancy chose to apply for membership as the company expands its sales and marketing operations beyond North America.

Mr. Shatzkin brings more than 25 years' experience in marketing, sales, and public relations to Clancy, as well as his vast expertise in all facets of technical theatre. A working lighting designer with credits including Syracuse Civic Theater and Syracuse Children's Theater, Mr. Shatzkin served as team leader on the renovation of the J.H. Mulroy Civic Center in Syracuse, New York.

Ms. Sullivan's responsibilities at J.R. Clancy include manual and motorized rigging projects. She formerly worked at Syracuse Stage, where she served as a scenic carpentry apprentice. She attended the State University of New York at Albany majoring in theatre, with a focus in technical direction.

Mr. Ascano received his education at South Dakota State University in Brookings. He will work on standard production lines at Clancy with the goal of making products and parts more efficient and easier to use. He has a degree in industrial management and a second degree in manufacturing, engineering, and technology with a minor in communications studies and theatre.

[To Top](#) 


[home](#) **USITT**

News from:

Sustaining Members

[Next Story](#)
[▷ USITT](#) [▷ Calendar](#) [▷ JobsUSITT](#) [▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Malaysian Company Welcomed

Orange Events in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia is a new Sustaining member of USITT. Blurr Wong is managing director of the company which provides, consulting, management, outsourcing, design, event production, and equipment rental.

Orange Events was established in 2000 and has been involved in event production. It stresses excellence and management professionalism in its business. To learn more about the company, visit www.orangeevents.com.my.

[To Top](#) ↑

Company Offers Green Products

In an effort to demonstrate a commitment to join the “green” movement, **Staging Concepts, Inc.** has begun offering products that can be built using “eco-friendly” materials. The materials range from wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to steel with a recycled content value as high as 100 percent. These products can contribute towards satisfying several LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) credits.

In addition, Staging Concepts, Inc. has become a member of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC), a non-profit composed of leaders from every sector of the building industry working to promote buildings and communities that are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy.

[To Top](#) ↑

Stage Lifts Showcased at LDI

Serapid, Inc., a leader in customized stage lifts and scenery wagons, exhibited its patented, award-winning LinkLift at the 2008 LDI Show in Las Vegas October 24 to 26 as well as its stage wagon systems and telescopic seating module (TSM).

LinkLift lifts stages, platforms, pianos and orchestra pits all over the world. There is a wide range of sizes capable of lifting loads from one to 10 tons. The LinkLift can be as compact as seven inches and extend to lengths of up to 23 feet.

Stage wagon systems feature high transfer speeds and low noise levels. Their silent chain technology, which incorporates effectively sound-proof materials for the chain rollers and guides, allows it to glide along at a whisper.

The TSM is used in telescopic seating and retractable bleacher

This month:
Orange Events

Staging Concepts, Inc.

Serapid, Inc.

Shuler Shook

Protech Theatrical
Service

Kirkegaard Associates

Hall Stage North America

systems.

For more information about Serapid solutions for stage engineering, call 586-274-0774, e-mail info-us@serapid.com, or visit www.serapid.com.

[To Top](#) ↑

Schuler Shook Names New Principal

Schuler Shook announced the promotion of Giulio Pedota, IALD, IESNA, LC, to principal from senior lighting designer in the firm's Chicago office.

Mr. Pedota joined Schuler Shook as a lighting designer in 1999, bringing years of experience in technical theatre and electrical engineering. In his new role as principal, he will continue to lead significant lighting design projects and provide leadership and mentoring for new designers.

His current and recent projects include the Chicago Board of Trade Building; Loyola University Madonna della Strada Chapel, Chicago, Illinois; Houston Baptist University; and The Palmolive Building Exterior Lighting, Chicago. He is actively involved in the regional and national lighting design communities and works to promote the field among college students and provide mentoring to designers and interns at Schuler Shook. He is an active member of the International Association of Lighting Designers and is the immediate past president of the Chicago Section of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. He is an adjunct faculty member in the College of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology and has served as guest lecturer at Columbia College and The Art Institute of Chicago. He is a graduate of North Carolina School of the Arts.

[To Top](#) ↑

Unveils GreenScene Products

Protech Theatrical Services, designer of theatrical rigging equipment in Las Vegas, Nevada, announces plans to re-direct its product lines to manufacture "green" products using recycled, organic, and natural materials and methods to create a new line of products. Its first GreenScene products were unveiled at LDI in Las Vegas.

Protech has been a leading designer and manufacturer of theatrical stage equipment for over 20 years. With award winning product designs, Protech leads the industry in its commitment to environmental sustainability and stewardship. With GreenScene, Protech will continue to research and design innovative products that substantially reduce and eventually eliminate their carbon footprint. For more information, go to GreenScene.net or call 702-639-0290.

[To Top](#) ↑

Kirkegaard Helps Create Experimental Center

Overlooking the Hudson River and the glorious countryside of upstate New York, the new Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, held its grand opening October 3 to 19. Located in Troy, New York, this new, state-of-the-art venue will provide the quintessential stage for future melding and exploration of the arts, science, technology, virtual reality, research, and multi-media technologies.

Chicago-based acoustics consulting firm **Kirkegaard Associates** (KA) had a lead role extensively planning the audio/video infrastructure enabling the connection of a wide range of equipment. In addition, acoustic recommendations were made concerning surfaces and materials to be used in the computer driven environments, some of which will be capable of delivering presentations utilizing 3-D video installations, immersive activities using 360 degree screens, and interactive video game engines, robotics and more.



Kirkegaard Associates is one of the world's leading acoustics design firms providing comprehensive consulting services for clients seeking the highest quality listening environments. For more information, visit www.kirkegaard.com.

[To Top](#) 

Supplier Now Provides Winch System Kits

Hall Stage North America (HSNA), a single-source theatre and entertainment venue rigging equipment supplier, announced the availability of complete winch system kits.

Perfect for new theatres and renovations of existing venues, HSNA winch system kits supply customers with all the necessary components for complete multi-line systems. Theatre operators can custom build winch systems to meet their exact project specifications in the convenience of a single package. Built around **Thern** clew winches, kits come complete with universal clew plates, guide wires, haul lines and high quality head and loft blocks from Hall Stage. Customers have the added option of choosing between a manual clew winch or powered clew winch system.



Combining Hall Stage's century of tradition in the European theatre market with Thern, Inc.'s 60 year reputation of manufacturing excellence in the United States, Hall Stage North America is a premiere theatre and entertainment venue rigging supplier. For more information, call 800-843-7648.



News from:

USITT's President

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008 News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Architecture's Student Competition Builds Connections

Carl Lefko
USITT President

Student members have always played a vital role in USITT. From undergraduates through masters and doctoral candidates, they are almost a third of our individual members and are extremely visible during our Annual Conference & Stage Expo. Connecting students solidly to the professional management, design, and production worlds has always been part of our mission. We also connect students to people in other professions with whom they will interact throughout their professional lives.

Building and solidifying these multi-level connections always has been a part of USITT's Architecture Commission. For the past several years, members of the Commission have been at work creating and enhancing the Architectural & Theatre Student Design Competition, a program whose results were visible at the 2008 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Houston, Texas in March.

This competition, to create an "Ideal Theatre," is a team effort in several ways. Entries must come from teams made up of at least one theater student, who serves as the client, and at least one architecture student, serving as the designer. Teams can be expanded on either side of the equation, further enlarging the conversations. The client might call in students from different areas of study, while the designer might include others, such as those studying engineering, acoustics, or building technology.

Through this collaborative design process, architecture students learn the technical and artistic requirements of designing a performance space, and theater students learn how to present their programming needs to an architect as they gain insight into the design process.

By the 2008 program deadline, international submissions had been received from Poland, Italy, Greece, Germany, and Indonesia. Organizers were encouraged by this outpouring of creativity, and since the competition allows the theatre design to reflect a country's own cultural and theatre traditions, we look forward to even more participation from international students. These linkages allow the Student Design Competition to present alternative views of theatre design.

The awards process calls for the teams selected as finalists to attend the USITT Annual

Conference & Stage Expo and make team presentations to the Architectural Commission. The 2008 winner was the submission of Magnet Group from Gdansk University of Technology, Poland. Architectural student Magdalena Jurewicz's presentation clearly showed the collaborative process that she and teammate Agata Jewstafiew went through to develop their theatre design. Having them in Houston really exemplified the intent of the competition.

Those interested in learning more about the 2009 Competition, which has a deadline of November 17 for notifying the Architecture Commission of intent to enter, should click [here](#).

As we continue to examine our organization's structure and refine our initiatives for USITT in the 21st Century and our next 50 years, it is important to strengthen existing bridges and look for opportunities to build new ones.

The Architecture Commission, by creating a new opportunity for collaboration, has been working to accomplish that part of our mission. By strengthening the experiential learning opportunities through a national design competition, seeking linkages through sponsorships and professional connections, Commission members are creating a bridge to students in countries far from our boundaries. They are introducing new constituencies to the wealth of opportunities available within USITT.

[To Top](#) 

[Next Page](#) 


[home](#) **USITT**

News from:

Regional Sections

[Next Story](#)
[▷ USITT](#) [▷ Calendar](#) [▷ JobsUSITT](#) [▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

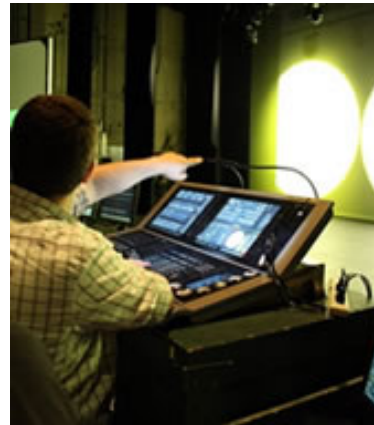
For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Fredonia Hosts Upstate NY Event

Nearly 100 theatre faculty, students, and industry professionals were on hand September 13 at Rockefeller Arts Center on the SUNY Fredonia campus for the annual Fall Fling, a conference of the Upstate New York Regional Section of USITT. The event, a co-production of the Department of Theatre and Dance and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, was the result of nearly six months of planning by Stephen E. Rees, chair of theatre and dance, and Anne Podolak, director of EH&S at Fredonia.

A series of informative morning sessions on a variety of technical production topics were presented by Theatre and Dance faculty. They included demonstrations of computer lighting control for automated stage lighting fixtures by resident lighting designer Todd Proffitt; the use of Apple's iPod as a research tool for costuming and a session on costume silhouette by costume designer Dixon Reynolds; development of computerized 3-D "walk-through" models for scenic designs by Gregory Kaye; and the use of video for projected theatrical scenery by Scene Shop Supervisor, Sean Culligan. About 25 theatrical production and design students provided hospitality and tours to visiting participants.



The afternoon session was a workshop on safe working practices for the theatre presented by Bill Sapsis, president of Sapsis Rigging, Inc. of Lansdowne, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sapsis, a professional stage rigger for theatre and concert venues and trainer for the Entertainment Technician Certification Program, is recognized internationally as one of the leading experts in stage rigging safety and training. His four-hour session concentrated on such crucial aspects of theatrical safety as fall protection, interpersonal communication, hardware selection, and equipment maintenance as well as compliance with the variety of codes and mandates that regulate the entertainment industry. His presence was the result of a coordinated effort by Ms. Podolak to obtain a grant and other funding.

At a brief meeting of the

This month:
Upstate New York
Chesapeake

Upstate Section membership, Section Chair Trish Ralph, Scene and Lighting designer at SUNY Brockport, announced upcoming events at SUNY Oswego in January and at the University of Buffalo in mid-April. She was joined by Vice-Chair Johan Godwaldt and Secretary Kitty Macie, both of SUNY Oswego, and Treasurer Don Guido of SUNY

Binghamton. A drawing for a variety of USITT "swag" was held with the main prize being a paid, \$200 student registration for the annual USITT Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio in March. This prize, presented by Michael Mehler, USITT VP for Programming and Scenic designer for Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania, was claimed by Laura High of Nazareth College, who promptly gifted a fellow student, Becca Pickett, with the award.



Laura High presents fellow student Becca Pickett with the \$200 paid student registration to the Cincinnati 2009 Conference & Stage Expo Ms. High won during the Upstate New York Regional Section's Fall Fling.

[To Top](#) 

Lefko at Chesapeake Annual Convention

The Chesapeake Regional Section of USITT held its annual convention and exposition at Towson University September 13. One of the highlights was the keynote address given by the National President Carl Lefko.

Mr. Lefko spoke first of his beginnings in the USITT organization by attending a master class, as a student, in 1977. (The same year the section was founded). Throughout his speech was the theme of volunteerism. He reinforced that USITT is on the move, and it is important for people to get on board now.

At the convention, over 20 workshops were presented representing all areas of design and production. (A detailed list of those workshops can be found at www.usittchesapeake.org.) A master class in VectorWorks Spotlight was also presented, by Gregg Hillmar.

Officers elected were: Kacey Fisher, President, second term; Cheryl Yancey, Secretary; Mark Wujcik, Second Vice-Chair, second term; and Kevin Curry, First Member at Large.

The section thanked the exhibitors that participated in this past Expo: AKT3



Chesapeake Regional Section Chair Kacey Fisher, left, talks to participants at the section's annual conference.

Company, Barbizon Capital, Color Kinetics, ETC, Fisher Theatrical, PAR Lights, Strong Entertainment Lighting, Texas Scenic Company, Theatre Service and Supply, TMB, and VectorWorks Spotlight by Nemetschek NA.

Chris Hall from the University of Maryland was the winner of a free registration to the Cincinnati 2009 Conference & Stage Expo.

[To Top](#) 



home **USITT**

Commissions

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008 News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Update on Costume Design & Technology Commission

Kristina Tollefson

Costume Design & Technology Co-Commissioner

When seeking information regarding the Costume Design & Technology Commission, be sure to stop by the Commission's website which can be located by going to the [USITT website](#) and clicking on Costume Design & Technology Commission in the left hand column.

On the website, there is information about all of the activities including leadership, Conference activities as well as special projects including Summer Symposia, Costume Program Survey, Projects for Teaching, Costume Storage Database, and the OISTAT website.

The Commission's e-mail listservs remain very active and continue to grow.

The Costume Info List, which is a place to discuss and exchange ideas on everything from construction to education to purchasing sources, is nearing 600 members and will soon celebrate its eighth anniversary. Those who haven't been a subscriber that whole time shouldn't worry. There is a searchable archive to help find the answer just about any question. The Costume Locator List is a great resource for finding a production specific costume or just trying to find that odd size or last missing piece for a production. Everyone on that list is open to receiving rental inquiries and may have just what is needed.

When considering season selection, be sure to stop by the [Costume Plot Database](#) which provides the casting and costuming requirements for a variety of plays. It gives the kind of information needed during the season selection process and can save a great deal of time. By pooling efforts and listing this information in one location, the duplication of efforts can be eliminated and the work colleagues have already done can be taken advantage of. There are currently 33 plays listed in the database.

There are two easy ways to submit a play, musical, or opera: Go to www.costumeplotdatabase.com and click on the Want to Help? link. Download either the pdf or Excel version of the submission form. Fill it out and either fax it to 407-823-6446 or e-mail it to



kristina@costumeplotdatabase.com. Submissions may also be made by sending dressings lists or other documents from the play with an e-mail explaining any changes the production went through to the same location, and student assistants will compile the information into the correct format. Help is needed for this project to grow. If everyone made a commitment to submit one play each season, all would benefit.

[To Top](#) 



Conference & Stage Expo

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008 News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Once people arrive in Cincinnati, USITT's Conference hotels are close by the Duke Energy Center, center, including the Millennium, at right. The Hyatt Regency is at the left. The Duke also connects to convenient parking via a skywalk. The photo was taken from the Cincinnati Hilton which is USITT's headquarters hotel.

Photo/Barbara E.R. Lucas

Make Plans Now for Cincinnati

Kathie Brookfield
Cincinnati Promotions Coordinator

Planning the trip to Cincinnati for the 2009 USITT Annual Conference & Stage Expo? Here's some information about airlines and airports in the region, as well as car, bus and train options.

Anyone living within six to eight hours from Cincinnati in cities such as St. Louis, Memphis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Toledo, Toronto, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington D.C., Charlotte, North Carolina, and Atlanta may consider driving. Car-pooling to the conference can save some money and extend the Conference networking experience.

Parking is available, at a charge, in several surface lots, metered parking on the street, and in garages within walking distance of the hotels and Duke Energy Center. Metered parking on the streets is enforced 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday with the first 10 minutes free. Meters have different rates depending on where they are located. Garage and surface lot maps and rate information can be accessed [here](#). [Click here](#) for a downloadable guide.

While a recent check on airfares has listed flights in the \$400 to \$1,000 range for distances of about 800 miles from the Greater

Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky airport (CVG), this changes constantly.

Flights from the West Coast are listed \$200 to \$400 less to CVG. Flights to airports just outside the Greater Cincinnati area within a 100 mile radius, such as Dayton (DAY), Columbus (CMH), Indianapolis (IND), Lexington (LEX), and Louisville (SDF) may be less expensive. Rental cars are available for the one- to two-hour drive to the Duke Energy Center. Bus, taxi, shuttle, and car rental services are available at CVG. Community Yellow Cab company is licensed to transport passengers both to and from the CVG airport. The cost for the trip from CVG to downtown Cincinnati is \$25 per taxi for one to four passengers for the 13 mile trip. There is also the Airport Executive Shuttle a seat on which can be reserved the day prior to arrival or departure. Make sure to have the flight number, hotel and phone number available when calling 1-800-990-8841.

Amtrak has service to Cincinnati on the Cardinal from the east, New York through Washington, D.C., and from the west, Chicago through Indianapolis. The train arrives at the Historic Union Terminal. The schedule is limited to departures for the 828 mile trip from New York at approximately 6:45 a.m. on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday arriving in Cincinnati at approximately 1:03 a.m. the next day. The departures for the 319 mile trip from Chicago are at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday arriving in Cincinnati at 3:17 a.m. the next day. Check www.amtrak.com for connecting schedules.

Bus service via Greyhound is also available. The Greyhound Terminal is located on Gilbert Avenue in downtown Cincinnati. [Click here](#) for locations of Greyhound stations, schedules, and ticketing.

The 2009 USITT Annual Conference and Stage Expo is only a few months away. Start planning now!

[To Top](#) 

[Next Page](#) 



Conference & Stage Expo

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



USITT's hands-on Professional Development Workshops, led by skilled practitioners, are well-known for providing an outstanding level of expertise to those who attend. Shown are participants in the *Painting with Pneumatic Sprayers at the Alley Theatre: Style and Technique*.

Photo/Tom Thatcher

Pre-Conference Workshop to Feature Advance Model Making

Mark Wethington

Co-Chair, Professional Development Workshop

Paul Shortt, along with fellow master model makers and designers Tom Umfrid and Brian Ruggaber, will present a Professional Development Workshop (PDW) at the 49th annual Conference & Stage Expo in Cincinnati. *Advanced Model-Making: Beyond Elmer's and Foam-core* will explore advanced modeling techniques that will take models to the next level. *Beyond Elmers and Foam-core* is an advanced master class and is intended for the professional scenic designer and charge artist.

Demonstrations and hands-on experience will help the participant with some of modeling's trickier problems. Topics to be covered include: using the model as a sketching tool, sculpting, modeling natural elements, soldering, and using brass. Also discussed will be tips for photographing models and manipulating them in Photoshop to create a communication tool for directors and designers.

Mr. Shortt grew up in Michigan and enrolled at the University of Michigan in the early 1960s. He started in industrial engineering but, after seeing a display of theatrical models on campus, he became intrigued and quickly started to design for the university

plays. After graduating, he went on to get his masters degree in scenic design from Yale School of Drama. Mr. Shortt went on to co-find the Theatre Design and Production program at the College Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and is now professor emeritus. He has designed for Cincinnati Playhouse, Opera and Ballet as well as for the Asolo Theatre among many others. Using the model as a “sketching” tool is one of the methods Paul uses while designing and he will be discussing this unique approach to design in this day long PDW .

Mr. Umfrid is the senior resident scenic designer at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) where he has been for 19 years. He has designed regionally with Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Utah Shakespearean Festival and internationally with London’s Royal College of Music and the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He will be discussing his techniques of using rough “experimental” models in conjunction with digital photography, Photoshop and traditional mixed media to communicate with the director and design team.

Mr. Ruggaber is an assistant professor of scenic design at CCM. He has designed for The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Bristol Riverside Theatre, and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte among others. He will be leading the PDW participants in the use of brass in models including soldering techniques.

This will be an all day workshop in which the participants will explore an amazing array of techniques for the designer and come away with a wealth of knowledge to apply to their next design projects. To sign up for the session, include it with any Conference registration, or sign up electronically at www.usitt.org/cincy.

[To Top](#) 



Conference & Stage Expo

[Next Story](#)

[▷ USITT](#)
[▷ Calendar](#)
[▷ JobsUSITT](#)
[▷ Sightlines](#)

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Automated Rigging in Schools & Universities was one of the exhibitor-sponsored sessions at the 2008 Annual Conference & Stage Expo in Houston, Texas. The session featured panelists including Van Phillips, Steve Warner, and Darrell Ziegler.

Photo/Tom Thatcher

Exhibitor Programs Run the Gamut

Helen Willard

Stage Expo Sales Manager

In addition to exhibiting at Stage Expo, many companies sponsor and present programs at the conference. Here are brief descriptions of some of the sessions which will be presented by exhibitors in Cincinnati.

Tuning Your Color Palette

Sponsored by Apollo Design Technology, Inc.

A panel of lighting designers will discuss how they approach color use and how they create the color palette they use for their show designs. Real-life experiences in color choice will be discussed. The audience will be invited to share their thoughts on color.

More Costuming Without Sewing

Sponsored by Kreinik Mfg. Co. Inc.

Techniques, along with examples, of theatre groups using non-traditional methods of embellishing and constructing costumes and building props without sewing or glue. This will be a hands-on program using these unorthodox methods.

HD Make-up/Be Prepared for your next High Definition Production

Sponsored by Kryolan Corporation

On February 17, all television stations will be airing in HDTV. Come see and learn the do's and don'ts in make-up applications when your production is being taped for television or film, a method that is already being used for editorial and professional photography work.

Airbrush Make-up for the Theatre*Sponsored by Make-Up Designory*

The airbrush has gained a lot of attention in the make-up field and is being used in all parts of the industry. Most airbrushes are designed to allow any liquid, including make-up, to flow through them. The different types of airbrushes, compressors, and paints available for make-up will be discussed. Make-up artists use the airbrush just as a sponge or a brush. How to create different effects in a complete demonstration of a character make-up using the airbrush will be discussed as well as how to select and maintain the airbrush.

Graceful Bodices: Draping Over Period Corsets*Sponsored by Period Corsets*

This session is a demonstration on draping bodices from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, including how to deal with period shapes considering fabric grain, style lines, and proportion. Paper patterns and sleeves will be discussed, but the primary focus is methods to create beautiful bodices.

Notions Knowledge*Sponsored by Period Corsets*

A presentation on truly understanding the nifty notions we all know and love. A primer on the how, why, and when to use these notions including thread, needles, scissors, and pins. Information for the beginner as well as the advanced sewer.

Wireless Microphones, White Spaces, and Spectrum Changes*Sponsored by Shure, Inc.*

This presentation will review the FCC's changes to the UHF spectrum and the effect on wireless microphone operation. Learn about the impact of the new consumer wireless devices operating in the White Spaces, results of FCC testing of White Space device prototypes, reallocation of 700 MHz spectrum to commercial and Public Safety users, and what wireless microphone users need to do to ensure reliable performance for their equipment.

Technical Design/Direction – In a Disney Theme Park*Sponsored by Walt Disney Entertainment*

Join Disneyland technical directors in a behind-the-scenes look at a real project and the technical challenges and triumphs in bringing the creative to life at a Disney Theme Park. Explore the history and details of the creative vision, journey through the adaptation of the creative vision into existing infrastructure, review selection/design of equipment to sustain the show, and visit Disneyland live via teleconference to see the show application and share information with the technical team.

Plan to visit Stage Expo in Cincinnati March 18 to 21 for these and many other sessions.

[To Top ↑](#)[Next Page →](#)



Conference & Stage Expo

[Next Story](#)

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Costume sessions planned for 2009 in Cincinnati will be just as interesting as those which drew crowds at the 2008 Conference in Houston, Texas. Shown at left are participants moving in for a closer look and continued discussion following *Crafts and Wigs with the Artisans of the Alley Theatre*.

Photo/Casey Kearns

Costumers Announce Conference Sessions

Cathryn Ellis

Costume Design & Technology Commission

March may seem a long time from now, but registration information for the Cincinnati 2009 Conference & Stage Expo is now available on the USITT website, and it is time to start planning the trip. The Costume Design & Technology Commission has assembled an exciting roster of workshops. The conference will begin with several sessions from the Commission on March 18, 2009.

Beginning the conference at noon on Wednesday, Doug Kreinik will present a session on *Costumes Without Sewing*. He will show examples and techniques of costume embellishment and construction (that can also be used to construct props) that do not use either sewing or glue. At 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Alexandra Bonds will present a workshop on the *Costumes of the Beijing Opera*. Ancient China used dress as a way to identify one's place in society, and the traditional theatre form of the Beijing Opera evolved within this rank- and clothing-conscious world. It absorbed the design language that emphasized the use of clothing

to identify characters on stage. Through a complex system of visual cues from the form, color, and surface designs, the costumes of the Beijing Opera communicate the characters to the audience.

At 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Heather Fleming will present a workshop on *Modifying Wigs*. The purpose of the modifications is to create a more natural effect and superior fit, a more heightened effect, or other desired changes. Techniques demonstrated will include ventilation, removal and reinsertion of wefting, inserting parts or combovers, bald spots, color streaks, adding length, and changing texture. At 6 p.m. will be workshop on *Creating Costumes from Found Objects*. This session will be led by Joan Mather and is a hands-on workshop. Attendees will work in groups of five to six to create, on a dress form, a costume from non-traditional and found objects.

The final session of the day is the annual Costume Design & Technology Commission meeting. The is an informal and informational meeting that provides programming and networking opportunities to anyone interested in the areas of costume design and technology projects. At the Commission meeting, the annual budget will be discussed, the summer symposium will be presented, and the membership will vote on the workshops sessions for the 2010 convention in Kansas City.

[To Top](#) 

[Next Page](#) 



For the Record

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Executive Committee

- Carl Lefko, *President*
- Patricia Dennis, *Secretary*
- Travis DeCastro, *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*
- Michael Mehler, *Vice-President for Programming*
- Vacant, *Vice-President for Promotions & Development*
- Holly Monsos, *Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters*
- Daniel Denhart, *Vice-President for Special Operations*
- Sylvia Hillyard Pannell, *Immediate Past President*

[To Top](#) ↑

Directors at Large

2006-2009

- Leon Brauner
- Richard Dunham
- Debra Krajec
- Andi Lyons
- Donna Ruzika
- Bill Teague

2007-2010

- Lea Asbell-Swanger
- Nadine Charlsen
- Michael Monsos
- Mark Shanda
- Sherry Wagner-Henry
- Craig Wolf

2008-2011

- Dan Culhane
- Mary Heilman
- David Krajec
- Carolyn Satter
- John S. Uthoff

- Monica Weinzapfel

[To Top](#) 



home **USITT**

For the Record

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf

Honorary Lifetime Members

- Richard L. Arnold
- Willard F. Bellman
- Joy Spanabel Emery
- Eric Fielding
- Ted W. Jones
- Christine L. Kaiser
- Joel E. Rubin
- Tom Watson

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

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.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Disney Entertainment Productions
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Electronics Diversified, LLC
- 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.
- MDG Fog Generators
- Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.
- Morris Architects
- Musson Theatrical, Inc.
- Norcostco, Inc
- PRG
- Production Advantage, Inc.
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.
- Rose Brand Theatrical Fabrics, Fabrications & Supplies
- SeaChanger by Ocean Optics
- SECOA
- Stage Research, Inc.
- StageRight Corporation
- Steeldeck Inc.
- Strand Lighting
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- Texas Scenic Company
- Vari*Lite
- Vincent Lighting Systems
- Vortek, a division of Daktronics
- Walt Disney Entertainment
- Wenger Corporation
- ZFX, Inc.

[To Top](#) ↑

Sustaining Members

- A.C. Lighting Inc.
- AC Power Distribution, Inc.
- A.C.T Lighting, Inc.
- AKT3 Company
- ALPS/Advanced Lighting & Production Services, Inc.
- Altman Lighting, Inc.
- Audio Visual Professional Group, Inc.
- Auerbach·Pollock·Friedlander
- A V Pro, Inc.
- Bandit Lites, Inc.
- Ben Nye Makeup
- Brawner & Associates LLC
- Bright Star Productions, Inc.
- University of California - Davis
- California Institute of the Arts
- Center Theatre Group
- Checkers Industrial Products Inc.
- Chicago Spotlight, Inc.
- Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
- Cobalt Studios
- Colorado Springs Fine Art Center
- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
- Cosler Theatre Design
- The Crosby Group, Inc.
- Dazian Fabrics, LLC

- Designlab Chicago
- Entertainment Lighting Services
- Fisher Theatrical, LLC
- Foy Invenenterprises, Inc.
- GALA Systems, Inc.
- Gerriets International Inc.
- Grand Stage Company, Inc.
- GRT Genesis
- Hall Stage North America, Inc.
- The Hilliard Corporation
- Hollywood Lighting Services, Inc.
- I. Weiss
- InCord Ltd.
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees
- Irwin Seating Company
- Johnson Systems Inc.
- Kenmark, Inc.
- Kirkegaard Associates
- KUPO Industrial Corp
- LCS Series (Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.)
- Le Maitre Special Effects 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.
- Live Production Institute
- Look Solutions USA, Ltd.
- LVH Entertainment Systems
- Lycian Stage Lighting
- LynTec
- The MAGNUM Companies, Ltd.
- Mainstage Theatrical Supply, Inc.
- Make-Up Designory
- Mehron, Inc.
- Mutual Hardware
- Niscon Inc.
- University of North Carolina School of the Arts
- On Location Lighting Systems, Inc.
- Ontario Staging Limited
- Orange Events
- OSRAM SYLVANIA
- Pathway Connectivity
- Penn State University
- Period Corsets
- Production Intercom, Inc.
- Prolyte Products Group
- Protech Theatrical Services, Inc
- RC4 Wireless/Soundsculpture Inc.
- Robert Juliat America

- Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.
- Schuler Shook
- Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc.
- Selador/Shine Lighting
- Selecon
- Serapid, Inc.
- Show Distribution Group Inc.
- Skjonberg Controls, Inc.
- Smooth-On, Inc.
- South Dakota State University
- Spotlight S.R.L.
- Stage Decoration & Supplies, Inc.
- Stage Equipment and Lighting, Inc.
- Stage Technologies
- Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
- Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas
- StageLight, Inc.
- StageSpot
- Staging Concepts, Inc.
- Strong Entertainment Lighting
- University of Texas Performing Arts Center
- Theatre Arts Video Library
- Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC
- Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.
- Theatre Victoria
- Thematics
- Thern Inc.
- James Thomas Engineering
- Tiffin Scenic Studios, Inc.
- TMB
- Tobins Lake Sales
- TOMCAT USA, Inc.
- Topac Inc.
- Turning Star Inc.
- Union Connector Co, Inc.
- VectorWorks Spotlight by NNA
- Wayne State University Dept. of Theatre
- Wireless Solution
- Wybron, Inc.

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

[To Top](#) ↑



home **USITT**

The Last Word

Cover

▷ USITT ▷ Calendar ▷ JobsUSITT ▷ Sightlines

November 2008

News & Notices

- Student Architecture Competition
- Tipton Honored
- Announcements
- Art Auction in 2009
- Offer Fellowships
- Member Benefits
- The Last Word

News From:

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

Commissions

- Costume Design & Technology

Conference & Stage Expo

- Traveling to Cincy
- Model Making Workshop
- Exhibitor Sessions
- Costume Highlights

For the Record

- Leadership
- Honorary Lifetime Members
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members
- November 2008 issue pdf



Heidi Hoeffler provided the illustration for John Staunton's narrative on the importance of getting involved with a commission. Ms. Hoeffler is Vice-Commissioner for the Scene Design Commission

For Best Conference Experience -- Get Involved!

John Stanton

VC - Student Affairs, Scene Design Commission

My first experience with the annual USITT Conference & Stage Expo was in Houston. I had been to other conferences in high school such as the Thespian Festival in Corpus Christi, Texas, but this was something completely different. The people at USITT were just like me; they were all part of the technical side of theatre. I also felt that my voice was really heard!

Prior to the conference, I was asked by my professor if I would like to be the Vice-Commissioner of Student Affairs for the Scene Design Commission. Not sure whether or not I wanted this kind of responsibility, I had to think about it for a while. She explained to me that this position would allow me to be involved in making decisions for future national conferences, and that it would be a great opportunity to meet people and let my voice be heard. So I decided to take on the job.

To my surprise, it wasn't as hard as I had thought it would be. Before the conference started, I was told of my responsibilities.

They were very easy to understand: be the voice of the students, listen to what the students tell me, and report back to the other Commissioners what they said.

When I first met with the students who attended the Scene Design Commission meeting, I had no idea what would come out of the question, "What would you like to see at USITT?" When I asked that question, the group of about 12 students exploded. Everyone gave their opinion and ideas for future conferences, and I discovered that we all had a lot of the same ideas and concerns.

So at the end of our first meeting, we had three new session proposals for the next year's conference. The sessions each had chairs, who were students, and they were charged with the recruitment of colleagues who could serve as panelists for each session.

When the student chairs came back to our final meeting, we discussed what they had found -- that a lot of people were interested in the same things as we were, but did not know how to let their voice be heard and had no idea that anyone would actually listen! I told them, "Just let them know that all they need to do is come to the Scene Design meetings and tell me about it."

So after our final meeting together, we had three great new student sessions that I presented to the other Vice-Commissioners. They all loved what we had come up with and were happy that the students had a voice in choosing the programming for the 2009 conference in Cincinnati. What it basically came down to was, if you want to learn about something new or to just let your voice be heard at the USITT conference, all you need to do is come to the Commission meetings...

[To Top](#) 

[Next Page](#) 