



Colorado State University

School of the Arts

Art • Music • Theatre • Dance

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CSU THEATER STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR EXCELLENCE

Fort Collins, CO – Forty-five Colorado State University Theatre students, faculty and staff participated in the 40th Annual Region VII Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) hosted by the University of Wyoming in Laramie on Feb. 18 through 22 and brought home multiple awards and certificates of excellence and recognition.

The Theatre program's Fall 2007 production of "The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail," directed by Dr. Laura Jones, was selected as a regional finalist. Seventeen cast members and twenty-one crew members unloaded and remounted the scenery, costumes, props and special effects and successfully surmounted the challenges of an abbreviated timeline before playing to a full house on Feb 20.

For their professionalism in executing this complicated operation, Cory Seymour, Tour Manager and Technical Director, and the Thoreau Touring Company won the coveted "Golden Handtruck" Award. In addition, faculty video designer Liza Williams and student video designer Annaleigh Timmerman won Certificates of Recognition and August Slaughter was recognized for his performance as Edward Emerson.

Additionally, fourteen student performers and their partners competed in the Irene Ryan Acting Competition and Maura Robinson, a student in Dr. Eric Prince's upper division playwriting class, had her one-act play "The Shrink Factor" selected as one of six finalists by the National Playwriting Program, an external panel of three readers. A staged reading of Ms. Robinson's play was presented, directed by Dr. Prince with seven CSU student actors. Performers and playwrights all received positive responses in special sessions conducted by nationally recognized-professionals representing the Kennedy Center.

Dr. Laura Jones was honored by Region VII's executive committee with the 2008 Faculty Excellence Certificate of Recognition in Directing. Each of the eight regions of the KCACTF annually acknowledges distinguished teaching artists in the various fields of design, acting/directing, playwriting and scholarship.

About the KCACTF

The KCACTF is a year-round national theater program featuring 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide. The program has been a prominent catalyst in improving the quality of college theater programs throughout the nation.

While celebrating the creative process, KCACTF participants view other's work, and share experiences within the community of theater art. The program recognizes excellence in production in addition to offering student artists individual recognition through awards and scholarships in areas of playwriting, acting, criticism, directing, and design.

Each January and February, regional festivals showcase the finest productions of each region's entries and offer a variety of activities comprised of workshops, symposia, and regional-level award programs. Workshop topics include such issues as Using Voice-Over Techniques to Create Characters, Web-based production management, How to Stage Any Theatre Configuration, Time and Space: the Actor's Vocabulary, Strategies for a Balanced Life in the Theatre Arts, and Actors Workshop for Life After College.

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The School of the Arts at Colorado State University provides an enriched venue in which the study and practice of Art, Dance, Music and Theatre are nurtured and sustained by building the skills and knowledge needed by future generations of arts professionals to become contributors to the essential vitality of our culture and society. For more information, visit www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com.