



SETC NEWS

January / February 2008

Send Us Your Suggestions for SETC's 2010 Convention Location

You can plan your SETC Convention calendar through 2012, minus one! I think it is the first time in SETC's history that we can announce where we will be for the next five years (well, almost).

Contracts have been negotiated and signed for 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012. We are hoping for a return to Greensboro in 2013, the first year the Koury Center has an opening.

And what about 2010? It is still open! I welcome suggestions for where the SETC Convention should be held that year. Keep

From the
Executive Director
Betsey Baun



in mind that we look for sites that can manage 20 workshops simultaneously and have multiple ballrooms for professional auditions (with room to seat 250 professional company reps); undergraduate and graduate school auditions; the design/technical competition, critiques and programming;

SETC CONVENTION SITES/DATES

- 2008: March 5-9, Chattanooga, TN
- 2009: March 4-8, Birmingham, AL
- 2010: March 3-7, Ideas? See story
- 2011: March 2-6, Atlanta, GA
- 2012: March 7-11, Chattanooga, TN

and a theatre performance space. In addition, we need three exhibition spaces: to house Job Contact Service (SETC's backstage, front-of-house and academic job fair), the Commercial Exhibits (with 50 exhibitors) and the Educational Expo (with 75 exhibitors). Finally, we need two off-site theatre spaces.

Have a suggestion for the 2010 location? Send it to me via e-mail (setc@setc.org), and I will make sure your city receives our RFP. The RFP is a "Request for Proposal" that details SETC's site and logistical specifications. If your site is determined to be appropriate, a small team of us will visit (and invite interested SETC members from your city to accompany us). Our SETC team – which includes a past president, Jack Benjamin, and Scott Falk of Arrowhead Conferences and Events – examines the meeting space, sleeping rooms, theatres and support system within the city. If everything coordinates and costs meet our criteria, your suggestion might bring SETC to your city in 2010!

Share the Applause with the Players in Your Life

By now, you undoubtedly have been flooded with images of New Year's infants, top hats, party horns and Times Square revelers. Rather than acknowledge the turn of the calendar by traveling that well-trod path, I thought I would veer slightly by offering my own twist on two of the most cherished New Year traditions – celebration and resolution.

Theatre people are a notoriously celebratory lot. We seem to throw a party at the drop of a hat. (And since we all know at

convention. Most recently, I was honored to present the Gene-Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award at Atlanta's answer to the Tonys, the Suzi Bass Awards, held in November.

These celebrations had many qualities in common – such as honoring excellence, recognizing achievement and thanking collaborators. They also had another common element. The presentation of awards was not only about the recipients, but also about building a community and offering mutual support to all involved.

My point is that those who create theatre are lucky. We are recognized for our labors. We all get to share the applause.

The concept of sharing the applause takes me from celebration to resolution. I have always been suspicious of New Year's Day resolutions. Those well-intentioned declarations of tight budgets and strict diets usually are forgotten by the time Valentine's Day arrives, bringing with it a new cycle of outrageous spending and conspicuous consumption to impress our true loves.

Recently, as I talked with friends and neighbors, I mused about the applause that rewards a job well-done in our field – and an idea began forming. What if everyone had that experience? Wouldn't it be fun to see a bank teller bow? (No, I'm not talking about a holdup.) Imagine what would happen if you

(Continued on Page 6)

From the President
David S. Thompson



least one costumer, we can always find a hat.) Many of the celebrations are more formal, however.

As I thought back over 2007, I realized that I had been privileged to be involved in several such formal ceremonies. Of course, there were the events of our annual convention in March. In June I was honored to serve as a presenter at the 2007 American Association of Community Theatre convention (AACTFest) in Charlotte. October took me to Jackson, TN, where I served as an adjudicator and presenter at the Tennessee Theatre Association annual

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COME EARLY, STAY LATE . . . SETC 2008 . . . IN CHATTANOOGA

Explore on your own! Visit www.chattanooga.com for info on attractions in the area. See story, Page 3 for restaurant tips.

ASK SETC

Q When and where will auditions be held at the SETC Convention in Chattanooga? Where are callbacks?

A The answer depends on the type of auditions you are participating in at SETC 2008. Here's a rundown by audition type:

Professional Auditions

When: Thursday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, followed by dance call and callbacks by companies

Acting Auditions Location: Chattanooga Convention Center Ballrooms E/F/G

Dance Call Location: Convention Center Ballroom E

Callback Locations: Staybridge Suites, Marriott Hotel and specified Convention Center meeting rooms (after the day's workshops have ended).

Undergraduate School Auditions for High School Juniors

When: Saturday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Auditions Location: Convention Center Meeting Rooms 14 and 15

Callback Location: Education Expo and Interview Lounge at front of Exhibit Hall A in Convention Center

Undergraduate School Interviews for Transfer Students, High School Seniors and Design/Tech Students

When: Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Professors receive student applicant packets at registration upon arrival

Interview Request Location: Bulletin Boards in the Interview Lounge at Front of Exhibit Hall A in Convention Center.

Interview Location: Education Expo and Interview Lounge at Front of Exhibit Hall A in Convention Center

Note: Student applicants will be asked to walk on stage at 9 a.m. Saturday during the Undergraduate School Auditions. They will state their names and interest areas. (i.e., "My name is Mary Smith and I want to study scenic design.")

Graduate School Auditions

When: Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Auditions Location: Amphitheater, Chattanooga Hotel

Callback Location: Meeting rooms at the Chattanooga Hotel

Graduate School Interviews for Design, Technical and Directing

When: Friday, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Portfolio Review Location: Roberts Room, Chattanooga Hotel

Students: Not sure where you fit? For more information, see the chart online at www.setc.org/docs/2008undergraduateauditionchart.pdf

Q What opportunities are there at the convention to interview for other types of theatre jobs?

A There are two ways to find other theatre jobs at the SETC Convention:

Job Contact Service (JCS)

SETC's Job Contact Service is the place to find backstage, front-of-house, technical, design, academic and administrative jobs, as well as intern and apprentice positions. When: Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-Noon. Location: Convention Center Exhibit Hall B. **Note:** You must register for this event (with application and resume) in addition to registering for the convention.

Actor/Tech Walk-Thru

Actor/Tech Walk-Thru is where you can find opportunities to work in a tech job and also "fill in" onstage for group scenes. When: Saturday, 9 a.m. Callbacks follow. **Note:** You must apply on-site at JCS with your tech resume. You must be registered for the convention and JCS to apply for this service.

Deadline Approaches for Grad/Undergrad Auditions

If you plan to participate in the Undergraduate Auditions and Interviews or the Graduate Auditions and Interviews, you need to move quickly to meet the application deadline of January 28. Visit www.setc.org/auditions/ for more information.

Preliminary School List

Listed below are schools that had registered to participate in the 2008 auditions as of November 27. We expect to **double** the number participating by the time of the convention.

Undergraduate Auditions and College Interviews:

American Musical and Dramatic Academy
Catawba College
Chattanooga State Professional Actor Training Program
Elon University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida School of the Arts
Florida Southern College
Gainesville Theatre Alliance (Brenau University/Gainesville State College)
Greensboro College
High Point University
Lees-McRae College
Mars Hill College
Marshall University
Minnesota State University Moorhead
Murray State University
NY Conservatory for Dramatic Arts (School for Film and Television)
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Point Park University
Radford University
Rose Bruford College
Rutgers University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Shenandoah University
Stella Adler Studio
TVI Actors Studio
University of Maryland
University of Miami
University of Mississippi
University of North Carolina Wilmington
University of South Carolina Aiken
University of Virginia
Wake Forest University
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Western Kentucky University

Graduate Auditions, Design/Tech Interviews and Directing Interviews:

American Musical and Dramatic Academy
Florida Atlantic University
Illinois State University
Rose Bruford College
Rutgers University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Southern Utah University
Stella Adler Studio
TVI Actors Studio
University of North Carolina Greensboro
University of Tennessee Knoxville
Virginia Tech
Wayne State University

SETC in Chattanooga

Tips on Where to Eat at SETC

For quick eats near the Chattanooga Convention Center, try the diner across the street, **City Café**. The closest food court, **Warehouse Row**, is three blocks away. If you're not up to a walk, you can get there on the free shuttle that leaves from the convention center.

If you're willing to wander a bit further, you'll find Tennessee's only certified "green" restaurant, **212 Market**, located 11 blocks from the convention center. The free shuttle will let you off just a block away.

You'll find a mix of high-end and mid-range restaurants in that same general area. Jack's Alley has **Sticky Fingers**, **Panera Bread** and **Taco Mac**, all located nine blocks from the convention center on the free shuttle route. Other popular eateries located 11 blocks away at the end of the shuttle route at Shuttle Park North include two high-end restaurants, **Hennen's** and **Blue Water**, two mid-range restaurants **Big River Grille** and **Blue Plate**, as well as **Mello Mushroom**, specializing in pizza and similar fare.

Buy a Shirt, Send a Kid to School

Want a cool SETC shirt? Want to help students go to theatre school? This is one case where you can have it all. Just buy a shirt or bid on an item at the SETC Silent Auction, and you will win a great souvenir for yourself while helping fund the SETC Endowment, which will pay out more than \$20,000 in scholarships this year.

Look for SETC shirt displays throughout the convention site. In addition, students in the High School Theatre Festival can order shirts through forms in their schools' registration packets.

Dinner and a Show ... for \$20

Name one place where you can enjoy a fine dinner and three award-winning plays for just \$20.

Can't think of one? Try ... the SETC Community Theatre Festival. On Thursday night during the SETC Convention, the Chattanooga Theatre Center will host a dinner from 5-6:30 p.m., followed by an evening of live theatre that includes the state winners from Alabama, Florida and North Carolina – all for just \$20 per person. Sign up when you register for the convention.

Network and More ... at the 2008 Design-Tech Events

A wide variety of events is planned at this year's SETC Convention in the Design-Tech area, including a book unveiling and a design-tech mixer in addition to the traditional workshops and annual Design Competition.

"We are especially excited about the success of the Friday night Design Competition Awards Ceremony," says Troy Snyder, the chair of the Design-Tech Committee. "It has really taken off in the last couple of years. The event is sponsored by Vari*Lite, and without the support of Thommy Hall and his company, it wouldn't happen."

Projects entered in the Design Competition should be dropped off at the Exhibit Hall on Thursday morning, March 6, and will be reviewed by the panel of adjudicators on Thursday afternoon. A panel of guest designers will review their careers and answer questions at a Talkback Session on Thursday evening.

As was the case in 2007, all projects will not be critiqued by the guest designers. Some projects entered in the competition will be selected for critique in a Juried Adjudication Session led by the guest designers; other entries will be critiqued in sessions led by distinguished SETC Design-Tech faculty.

"This change in the adjudication process was made last year to accommodate the growing number of entries in the competition and the busy schedules of the guest designers, who graciously donate their time to offer advice to designers who are in the beginnings of their careers," says Snyder.

The SETC Design Competition showcases the work of student designers from around the southeastern United States. Students from any college or university that belongs to SETC may enter designs in set, costume or lighting design and the technology and craft area. Cash awards are given in each of the four areas, sponsored by Sculptural Arts Coatings, ETC Inc., and Pattern Maker Software, with the fourth award given in honor of Irene Smart Rains. Registration forms are available online at www.setc.org.

At the start of the Design/Tech Reception/Awards Ceremony on Friday, March 7, SETC will unveil a new "Outside the Box" book and authors will be on hand to sign copies for purchasers. (See more info below.)

Popular events back for another year are the Design South panels and workshops in all areas of technical theatre.

New this year is the "Design-Tech Mixer," a Wednesday night event sponsored by Vari*Lite that will be held as a kick-off to the activities of the week. Design-Tech students, faculty and professionals will have the chance to mingle and socialize at the beginning of the conference. (See more info above.)

"We hope that it will be a time for everyone to get together before the conference gets hectic," says Snyder. "It's a great way for everyone to network and make those connections that are so crucial to a career in theatre."

Don't miss the unveiling of SETC's New *Outside the Box* Book!

Get your copy of this newly published book, packed with innovative design/tech solutions developed by your fellow SETC members!

Time: 8:30 p.m., Friday, March 7

Event: Design/Tech Reception/Awards Ceremony

Location: Exhibit Hall C, Chattanooga Convention Center

Books will be available for purchase

Free autographing by authors

Please join us
for SETC's first

DESIGN-TECH MIXER

Sponsored by Vari*Lite

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

All individuals who work or study any aspect of theatre design or technical theatre (Professors, teachers, professionals, students and exhibitors)

WHEN:

8-10 p.m., Wednesday, March 5, 2008

WHAT:

Networking Opportunity!

WHERE:

Exhibit Hall C

**Hors d'oeuvres
Cash Bar**

States Report on Their Annual Conventions;

Florida State Convention

The Florida Theatre Conference kicked off its annual convention in Lakeland on Halloween night with the Secondary School One-Act Festival. During the next three days, 29 one-act plays were presented, along with two Theatre for Youth presentations.

More than 200 college/university students participated in the SETC screening auditions, with 85 students moving on to SETC auditions in Chattanooga. The Transfer/Undergraduate Auditions hosted 348 high school/community college students before 33 colleges and universities.

The 45-plus workshops covered such topics as auditions, Greek theatre for the classroom, musical comedy production, acting the song, drawing for the theatre, stage combat and casting (presented by two Universal Studios casting directors).



Stephen Bayless

Venice Little Theatre's production of *Alligators* will represent the state in the SETC Community Theatre Festival. West Orange High School's production of *Holy Ghosts* won the Secondary School One-Act Festival. Janet Castro of Charlotte Players won an Achievement Award in community theatre.

New officers are: President, Jeff Revels; Vice-President, Sandra Cockrell; Secretary, Donna White; Past President, Ben Wilson; SETC Representative, Stephen Bayless.

Stephen Bayless
State Representative

Georgia State Convention

Comedian Jeff Foxworthy mixed sound advice with "blue-collar" sound bites during a keynote address that was a highlight of the Georgia Theatre Conference gathering October 18-20.

His address, "The Many Roads to Chattanooga," often had the audience howling with laughter. The Atlanta native mixed humor with advice about the importance of networking and balancing family and values against career goals.

The convention, hosted by Franklinia Play-

house and Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia, was attended by approximately 1,200. A total of 24 plays were presented, 150 students participated in SETC screening auditions, and 27 students participated in College/University Auditions.

The Best Play winner in the Community Theatre Division was Hart County Community Theatre's production of *Where Have All the Lightning Bugs Gone?*. In the Secondary School Division, the winner was Davidson Fine Arts' presentation of *A Thurber Carnival*.

Special recognition was given to retiring GTC Executive Director Vicki Pennington. GTC's highest honor, The Leighton Ballew Award for Outstanding Service to Theatre in Georgia was presented to Elaine Malone, an outstanding secondary school teacher at The Galloway School.

New officers are: President, Jeff Green; Vice President-Programming, Mark Costello; Secretary, Dan Robbins; Treasurer, Dean Slusser. The Board of Directors hired a new executive director, Mary Norman.

Duke Guthrie
State Representative



Duke Guthrie

Kentucky State Convention

Tony-nominated Broadway producer Zev Buffman extolled the benefits of theatre on life in a keynote address at the Kentucky Theatre Association's annual conference at Western Kentucky University on November 9.

"All the time you spend in the theatre will come in handy," he said. "[Whatever your] profession, you will do it better. ... What we're doing right now, the moment we're in, the space we're in right now is theatre. Shakespeare was not wrong when he said all the world's a stage.

... Nobody wastes time doing theatre, whether they make it or not. It's a great, great preparation for the rest of your life. I love it. I recommend it. I prescribe it."

Convention events included a high school



Kathi E.B. Ellis

one-act festival, a community theatre festival, a K-12 teacher professional development day and SETC screening auditions.

The Community Theatre Festival winner was *Open 24 Hours*, presented by Merely Players of Owensboro. The High School Festival winner was *Lovers*, presented by the School for the Creative and Performing Arts at Lafayette High School.

KTA's new executive director, Doug Schutte, was introduced. Officers are: President, Alana Ghent; Vice President, Denise Watkins; Treasurer, Jeremy Kisling; Secretary, Amanda Cope.

Kathi E.B. Ellis
State Representative

North Carolina State Convention

In an inspiring address at the annual fall gathering of the North Carolina Theatre Conference, Theatre Communications Group Executive Director Teresa Eyring praised advocacy efforts on the state level and challenged us to take our work to the national level – to impress upon Washington the importance of arts education and the vital impact of the arts on our economy.

The 2007 NCTC event, which took place November 15-17 at Fayetteville State University and Cape Fear Regional Theatre, included a state High School Play Festival managed by the talented students of Union Pines High School and their teacher Judy Osborne.

Watauga High School's *John Lennon and Me* won that festival, while Haywood Arts Repertory Theatre's *John and Jen* was chosen to represent the state at the SETC Community Theatre Festival.

David Schram and his Greensboro College students served as auditions coordinators for the SETC screening auditions and College Auditions/Technical Interviews.

Workshops were led by State Representative Rick Glazier, Joe Norton of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, Robert Friend of Choice Ticketing and many others. NCTC honored the distinguished career of Scott Parker, as well as the excellence of Playmakers Repertory Company, Stageworks Theatre, Elon University and the Little Theatre of Winston-Salem. Corey Mitchell received the K-12 Theatre Educator Award.

Angela Hays
Executive Director

Share Highlights and Name Award Winners

South Carolina State Convention

At the South Carolina Theatre Association state convention this year, 98 college students auditioned – more students than we have had since I can remember! Sumter High School's production of *Drop* was chosen to represent South Carolina at the Secondary School Theatre Festival at SETC, and Rock Hill Community Theatre's *tick, tick ... Boom!* was selected as the state's entry in the Community Theatre Festival.



Leslie Dellinger

Our Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Phil Hill for his many years of dedication and just plain hard work for the SCTA organization. Phil received a standing ovation.

The convention closed on Sunday with a special performance by Timothy Mooney, *Moliere Than Thou*.

The convention afforded many opportunities for great networking. Many of the teachers present were especially excited because they found out on November 9 – the opening day of the convention – that they had achieved National Board Certification. Congratulations to Janet Arvey (Dreher High School), Jimmy Chrisman (South Point High School), Leslie Dellinger (Lexington High School), and Monica Wyche (Blythewood High School) for winning this certification.

New officers are: President, Dewey Scott-Wiley; Vice President, Tim Brown; Secretary, Anne Lavelly; Treasurer, John Bald.

Leslie Dellinger
State Representative

Tennessee State Convention

The Tennessee Theatre Association hosted its inaugural Theatre for Youth Festival at the annual convention held October 24-28 in Jackson. Three plays were presented in this new event: Lambuth University's *A Thousand Cranes*, Milligan College's *Go Green!*, and Austin Peay State



Melissa Shafer

University's *Wiley and the Hairy Man*.

Morristown West High School's *Almost, Maine* won the Secondary School Theatre Festival. The Community Theatre Festival provided a great evening of theatre. The Chattanooga Theatre Center was awarded Best Production honors and the Technical Excellence Award for *Claire de Lune*.

The conference's annual business luncheon featured an inspiring keynote address by David Alford, artistic director of Tennessee Repertory Theatre and winner of this year's Distinguished Achievement Award.

Other events included the SETC screening auditions. TTA would like to thank Ty Prewitt and Cecilia Chilton of Mainstage Theatrical Supply, sponsor of awards for Technical Excellence in the Secondary School and Community Theatre Festivals; the Tennessee Arts Commission; and our host venues, Lambuth University, Liberty High School and North Side High School.

Melissa Shafer
State Representative

Virginia State Convention

Virginia Theatre Association's yearly conference has grown to encompass **three** weekends in **three** locations.

In late August, the Community Theatre Division held its festival at Centreville High School. Springfield Community Theatre's production of *The Value of Names* was chosen to represent Virginia at the SETC Convention in 2008. The winning show was also featured at the annual conference in Richmond as an evening entertainment offering for high school students and teachers.

On October 25, 1,300 high school and college students, theatre educators and theatrical sales representatives descended on the Marriott Hotel and the Greater Richmond Convention Center for the annual VTA Conference. Seventeen colleges auditioned 185 students for possible admission and scholarships. In addition, 155 auditionees participated in the SETC screening auditions, 35 workshops were presented, and 43 high school plays competed in the Secondary School Theatre Festival. Henrico High School's Center for the Arts won first



Mac Damron

place for *Wit*.

The Virginia Theatre Association awarded its first two college scholarships – one for performance and one for technical theatre – to deserving high school seniors.

During the weekend of November 9, the Young People's Theatre Division held its annual festival in the newly renovated Lincoln Theatre in Marion. All 12 participating schools received awards, and workshops were provided for the middle school students in attendance. If you ever have a chance to visit Marion, VA, and the Lincoln Theatre, do it! The artwork in the theatre is breathtaking.

Mac Damron, State Representative
Mary K. Molineu, VTA Executive Director



Mary K. Molineu

Richard Finkelstein

West Virginia State Convention

The 2007 West Virginia Theatre Conference convention held at Musselman High School had something for everyone.

The Scarecrow, a play written by S. Glenn Brown and directed by Linda L. Brown, took top honors in the Secondary School Competition. *Twisted Jazz*, Clay County High School's entry, directed by Crystal Gibson, took the Distinguished Play award, and Musselman High School's *ISO* received the Best Ensemble award.

Charleston Stage Company's production of *The Exonerated* took top Community Theatre honors, as well as a nod from the judges for ensemble work. *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* as presented by the Apollo Theatre took Distinguished Play honors.

Officers are: President, Mike Stiles; President-Elect, Dennis Wemm; Secretary/Web Developer, Susan Marrash-Minnerly; Treasurer, Larry Reed; SETC Representative, Gregory Mach.

Any agenda items for our state meeting at the SETC Convention should be sent to me at mach@wvwc.edu.

Gregory Mach
State Representative



Gregory Mach

PEOPLE on the move

James Fisher is the new head of the Department of Theatre at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) and also is the recipient of the 2007 Betty Jean Jones Award for Excellence in the Teaching of



James Fisher

American Theatre from the American Theatre and Drama Society. Fisher, an alumnus of UNCG, previously was the department chair at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, IN. He is the author of several books, including *The Historical Dictionary of*

the American Theatre: Modernism (Scarecrow Press, 2007; co-authored with Felicia Hardison Londré) and the forthcoming *Understanding Tony Kushner* (University of South Carolina Press, 2008).

President's Column

(Continued from Page 1)

applauded your physician. (Okay, depending upon the procedure, that could be embarrassing.) Why not cheer the referee at your youth sports league? (I actually do this, and it breaks the tension.)

As a way of sharing my own experiences, I've begun regularly applauding people who cross my path. My "applause" ranges from a simple thanks (to the team of brothers who miraculously repair our aging air conditioning at remarkably reasonable rates) to full-blown hand-clapping (for a particularly dedicated worker at my local sandwich shop).

My nod to the New Year is not a resolution to begin offering praise where due, but rather is a simple suggestion for an extension of what you and I already do. Share the applause.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: UPCOMING CONFERENCE DATES

**Region IV Kennedy Center
American College Theatre Festival
(KCACTF)**

February 5-10, Clemson, SC
More info: www.kcactf4.org

**United State Institute for Theatre
Technology (USITT) Conference
and Stage Expo**

March 19-22, 2008, Houston, TX
More info: www.usitt.org

Need a Printed Document in Word?

XP Imaging Technology Can Help with Conversion

Recently I needed to convert a play script to Microsoft Word so I could give examples from the play in a critique I was writing. But how? In years past, I typed entire plays into the computer as I prepared to direct them. I didn't want to do that again! Another time, my library's information technology staff helped me scan and convert a manuscript to Microsoft Word. I appreciated the help, but it took hours to clean up the dropped letters, quirky transcriptions and debris from fourth generation Xerox copying.

I wondered if that technology was still available. If so, had it been improved?

I did a Google search and learned that the operative terms now are "document imaging," "tagged image file format (TIFF)," "Microsoft Document Imaging (MDI)," and finally "optical character recognition (OCR)."

To my surprise, I discovered that a program I already have – Microsoft Office XP Professional – offers these features. After activating the relevant components of my XP program, I found document imaging to be a zip-zap operation.

Well ... not quite. The process remains pretty operator-intensive.

Here's how XP's imaging program works. Click on "Start," then click on "All Programs." Choose "Microsoft Office Tools," and in the pull-down menu, click on "Microsoft Office Document Scanning."

Next, place the document on the scanner and click the "Scan" button in the display. The scanning operation is displayed on the screen and then the scanned image comes up as a TIFF document on the screen. Open the "File" menu and click on "Send Text to Word." It happens! The document that appears is a Word document. Make the necessary corrections to the copy and save it with its own distinctive title. If the project has multiple pages, repeat the sequence until you are finished imaging your document. Finally, you'll want to assemble the pages in a document.

In scanning multiple pages, I discard the "scanned images" as I go. After I've sent the text to Word, the scanned document image remains on my screen's task bar. I click the "X" to close it, opting to not save it. That leaves the display box ready to scan the next document.

At this level of using OCR, you'll have to do a lot of reformatting, correcting spellings and restoring boldface and other embellishments. If you constantly compare the text onscreen with your original text, you can make corrections quickly. Occasionally a word scans incorrectly (such as "o'dock" appearing instead of "o'clock"). Not to worry, your spell-check will identify these mavericks and you can correct them.

If you need help with the technique I describe, Microsoft Office Online provides lots of information about document imaging. Check it out. I also found this site helpful: http://weblogs.asp.net/jgalloway/archive/2006/10/01/Free-OCR-software_3F00_-You-may-already-have-it_2E002E002E00_.aspx. I know it's a lot to type into an address line, but there's also a lot of information waiting for you there.

Building a Word document page by page is tedious. I intend to explore more document imaging techniques with Patrick Morton, my genial computer guru at Wake Forest University. Patrick says OCR technology has improved by leaps and bounds. If you find the topic intriguing, perhaps you have access to an informed technician.

Be careful about copyright infringements as you explore document imaging. Don't push your luck. We have wonderful computer technology available today that can save us time. Use it wisely.

Don Wolfe can be reached via e-mail at wolfe@wfu.edu



Looking for Info on SETC Professional Theatres?

You'll find it in the Spring 2008 *Southern Theatre*, which will include the third annual *SETC Professional Theatre Directory*, a special section listing information on SETC member professional companies. Watch the mailbox for your copy!

Lori Leigh Joins SETC Staff as Educational Services Manager

Teacher. Playwright. Performer. Artistic director. Arts administrator. Director. Dramaturg.

You would be hard-pressed to find an area of theatre in which Lori Leigh (pronounced *lay*) doesn't excel. The newest member of the Central Office staff, Lori recently moved South to accept a job as SETC's educational theatre services manager after spending the past two and a half years in New York.

"I am excited to be back in the Southeast and hope that working with SETC will utilize my artistic and administrative skills for service in the region and in the theatre community at large," Lori says.

A native of Ringgold, GA, Lori grew up in Chattanooga, TN, where she discovered her love of theatre while playing Elaine Harper in a high school production of *Arsenic and*

Old Lace. After receiving an undergraduate degree in dramatic arts and English, she went on to earn a M. Ed in curriculum and instruction at Tennessee State University.

She spent seven years teaching and directing drama in grades K-12, including a four-year stint running the theatre program at Nashville's Hillwood High School, where her students were involved with SETC. Lori also has worked with university students as a guest director, guest dramaturg and visiting artist. In addition, she developed drama curriculums and programs for schools, professional theatres and performing arts camps.

Lori was a recipient of the Ruth Sweet Performance Grant (a \$3,500 performance grant for actors) and was chosen to perform in a comedy selection at Late-Night Improv

in Encore!, part of the 2002 Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville.

In the spring of 2007, she earned her MFA in theatre from Sarah Lawrence College in New York under John Dillon.

An accomplished playwright, Lori has had works produced by Edward Albee's Great Plains Theatre Conference, the Bailiwick Repertory Theatre in Chicago and Sarah Lawrence College. She is represented by the Barbara Hogenson Agency of New York and is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

While living in New York, Lori directed and assistant directed productions for Sarah Lawrence College, the Ensemble Studio Theatre and Dixon Place. She directed a finalist production in the Samuel French Short Play Festival, Lauren Wilson's *Wedding Duet*, published by Viking Press in an anthology, *Short Comic Plays*.

On the administrative side of the business, Lori has worked in the education, literary and marketing offices of Stephen Sondheim's Young Playwrights, Inc., and Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago. She also served as associate artistic director of One Hand Clapping Improvisational Theatre in Nashville.

At SETC, Lori is the person to see about all things educational – and more. She oversees undergraduate and graduate school auditions/interviews, puts together SETC's College, University and Professional Training Program Directory, handles advertising for *Southern Theatre* magazine, and oversees festivals, exhibits and the Nail That Audition Workshop. She also represents SETC at Association for Theatre in Higher Education conferences. You can reach her by sending an e-mail to lori@setc.org or by calling the SETC Central Office at 336-272-3645.



Lori Leigh

Who Owns That Image Projected onto Your Stage?

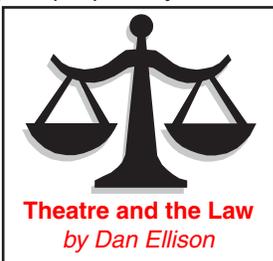
I recently saw a production of *The Grapes of Wrath*. At various points during the performance, Depression-era photographic images were projected onto the stage.

As the technology has become more affordable (and simplified enough for people with minimal computer skills to use), such video projections are increasingly incorporated into the set design of theatrical productions of all sizes.

There are two major legal issues to keep in mind when presenting multi-media stage productions:

- First, make sure you have the right to use the images. Whether they are single photographic images or snippets from movies or television (even newscasts), they may be under copyright protection. As a starting point for determining whether the image is protected under copyright law, I suggest that you peruse a chart created by Lolly Gasaway, the librarian in the law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The chart can be found at www.unc.edu/~uncInlg/public-d.htm. (It is useful for all types of works, not just photographic images). If your image is still under copyright protection, get permission to use it. In some

limited instances, you may use an image under the "fair use doctrine." However, unless you have received expert legal advice that the fair use doctrine applies (which is determined on a case-by-case basis), you should not rely on this doctrine to protect your use of copyrighted material.



- Second, determine in advance who owns the rights to any video works that you create. Let's say you have developed a movie, slide show or PowerPoint presentation to be projected during your theatrical production. Before the play opens, clarify – in writing – who owns the copyright to that video work. Does the

independent contractor/videographer own the copyright? Or is the producer, director or set designer the owner? With new uses for video content springing up daily, clarifying copyright ownership at the inception is crucial. That way you won't have to play copyright catch-up if you want to spin off that backdrop video into some other project. For example, if another theatre wants to use your video projections in its production of the same play, who does the theatre ask?

With creative works, always think about copyright ownership sooner, rather than later.

Dan Ellison is a Durham, NC-based attorney who has concentrated on arts-related law and nonprofit law for 15 years. He is a past president and the current executive director of the North Carolina Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. Have a question? E-mail him at: artandmuseumlaw@aol.com.

Note: The contents of this column are intended for general information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances.

Hey, Workshop Presenters!

You deserve our thanks. SETC invites all who are presenting workshops at the 2008 SETC Convention to a "thank you" reception Thursday, March 6, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Tennessee River Room at the Marriott in Chattanooga. Wear your "Presenter" ribbon, because it is your admission ticket to this event.



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SETC THEATRE SYMPOSIUM
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 APRIL 11-13, 2008
 TOPIC: OUTDOOR DRAMA

POSSIBLE PAPER TOPICS:

- Summer Festivals
- Passion Plays
- Street Performance
- Practitioners' Stories/Experiences
- Actors Equity and Outdoor Playing
- Aesthetics of Outdoor Performance
- Logistics of Outdoor Production
- Representing Nighttime/Other Effects
- Writers of Outdoor Drama
- Pageants
- Historical Dramas
- Audience Reception
- Water or Barge Shows
- Outdoor Puppetry
- Any other topic that relates!

MORE INFO:

Editor Jay Malarcher
 E-mail: jay.malarcher@mail.wvu.edu

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS:

Jan. 17, 2008

2008 Commercial Exhibits to Include Product Demos

Look for product demonstrations and more in the Commercial Exhibits area in the South Rotunda of the Chattanooga Convention Center during the SETC Convention this year. The 2008 Commercial Exhibitors as of November 16 are listed below. The list is expected to grow substantially by the time of the convention.

- Anchorage Press Plays Inc.
- Atlanta Workshop Players Inc.
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- Costume Holiday House
- Custom Stage Services
- Dead Man Walking School Theatre Project
- Dramatic Publishing
- Dramatists Play Service
- Field Template
- Fisher Theatrical
- Interactive Educational Video LLC
- Mainstage Theatrical Supply
- New Plays Inc.
- Norcostco
- Parlights Inc.
- Playscripts, Inc
- Samuel French Inc.
- Shure Incorporated
- Stage Directions Magazine
- Stagelight Tennessee
- Texas Scenic Company, Inc.
- Theatrefolk
- Theatrical Rights Worldwide
- Vari*Lite
- Wenger Corporation

Where to Send News

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