

NETC News

A Quarterly
Publication of the
New England Theater
Conference, Inc.

volume 16 number 3 summer 2007

Kitty Carlisle Hart 1910–2007

With the death of Kitty Carlisle Hart at the age of 96 on April 17, 2007, NETC has lost not just a long-time friend and supporter, but also a living historical link to the American theater throughout its most productive and artistically flourishing era.

Born in New Orleans on September 3, 1910, Kitty Carlisle Hart made her Broadway debut in 1932. Throughout her very long career, she performed in Broadway musicals, straight plays, revues, operettas, grand opera, films (most notably *A Night at the Opera* with the Marx Brothers in 1935) and television (including a stint of over 20 years, beginning in 1956, as the most elegantly attired panelist on *To Tell the Truth*).

She was also a tireless arts advocate, serving as Vice Chair (1971–76) and then Chair (1976–96) of the New York State Council of the Arts. In 1948 she married Moss Hart, the renowned Broadway author (*You Can't Take It with You*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*) and director (*My Fair Lady*, *Camelot*). She had two children with him and, to all appearances, lived a blissful married life with him until his death in 1961.

Her familiarity with New England theater went back to 1937, when, according to an 1999 interview conducted by NETC's present Manager, Joe Juliano, she "went to the Dennis Playhouse.... I've been there many times. It was always fun to go there and do summer stock. I love New England in the summer; it was a vacation." She also attended some of the early Elliot Norton Awards; and it was Boston's own Elliot Norton, one of the most influential and universally respected theater critics of the twentieth century, who was responsible for the creation in 1961 of the Moss Hart Awards, which began Kitty's association with NETC. From 1962–2004 she attended all but two of the NETC conventions. She missed last year's convention because she had already contracted the pneumonia which killed her.

And she missed the 2005 convention because, at the age of 94, she was at the Regency in New York,



In 1982, Kitty Carlisle Hart shares honors with Ellen Stewart of New York's La Mama, and host Joseph Juliano.



Kitty Carlisle Hart, with the late Marie Philips (long time NETC executive director), and composer/lyricist Stephen Sondheim at the 1981 awards dinner.

performing the cabaret act in which she sang and reminisced about her career and about the many people she had known. And she had known them all: Irving Berlin, Kurt Weill, George Gershwin (who had proposed marriage to her years before she met Hart), everybody who was anybody in the entertainment world.

Not that she necessarily remembered their names. Joe Juliano met Kitty in the early 1980's, and the two of them hit it off almost immediately, but he says that despite their long friendship, she usually called him "Darling" whenever they met. It was nothing personal. She called everyone "Darling." It saved time. (The *New Yorker* printed a cartoon showing its

inside this issue

Feature:
"From *Eumenides*
to Tevya—A Greek
Theatrical Excursion"
page 2

Area News
page 4

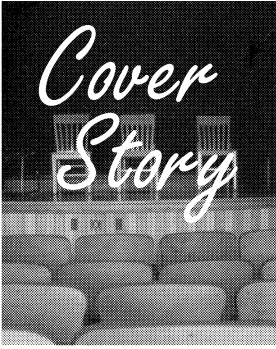
Upcoming Events
pages 6, 8–10

Opportunities
page 7

Ovations
page 11

continues on page 2

new england
NETC
theatre conference



Kitty Carlisle Hart

continued from previous page

concept of her 90th birthday party—a long dinner table with, at every place setting, a card reading simply “DARLING.”)

Joe remembers her as an “amazing lady,” a “brilliant, totally outspoken woman” who always brightened up the annual banquet with her personality, her innate gregariousness and her anecdotes (she invariably knew the Guest of Honor, whoever he or she might have been that year).

One of Joe’s memories of Kitty seems particularly telling. He visited her at her New York apartment one day to deliver something in connection with the Moss Hart Awards. In their telephone conversation that day, she had told him that she had a terrible head cold (and she sounded it), but insisted that he come by that day anyway. When he got there, she was preparing to attend a performance that night. Joe suggested that, with such a cold, she might want to stay home.



Fantastiks’ Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, with the fantastic Kitty, Boston critic and NETC founder Elliot Norton, and artist Al Hirschfeld at the 1984 convention.

“Why would I want to stay home?” she said. “The only one here is me.”

She will be missed.

—Contributed by David Frieze

Waterville Selected to Premier *Fame Forever* in U.S.A.

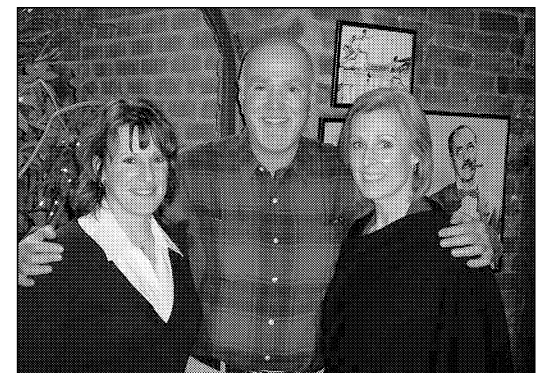
Debra Susi, director at Waterville (ME) Opera House, recently visited Glasgow, Scotland to attend the Apollo Player’s world premier of *Fame Forever—Reunion and Rebirth*, the sequel to David DeSilva’s *Fame—The Musical*. While there she had a chance to meet and talk with Ben Winter (book) and Steve Margoshes (composer) in preparation for the U.S. premier of *Fame Forever*, which she will be directing. After hearing about the Opera House’s success with *Fame—The Musical*, David visited Maine last summer and selected the theatre for the American premier. The new musical will open Sept. 21 at the Waterville Opera House in Waterville, ME.

Auditions are scheduled for June 2–6. Talented singers and dancers from around all over New England are invited to audition. For information on auditions, go to www.operahouse.com/schedule/index.html.

This has been a busy year for Debra, a teacher of theatre arts at MSAD #53 and Theatre Director at Maine Central Institute. Having recently directed *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, her thesis show for her second master’s degree (an M.A. from Central Washington University), Debra has also been selected to attend the Chicago Director’s Lab in August. The

theme for this year’s workshop is “Re-Envisioning the Classics,” providing opportunities to discuss fresh perspectives on classic plays with other directors from all over the world.

The NETC membership will get a chance to see this dynamic board member in action at the November convention as she co-chairs the High School Olympiad with Jeff Watts.



Diane Bryan, executive director of Waterville Opera House, David DeSilva of *Fame—the Musical*, with director Debra Susi.

From *Eumenides* to *Tevya*—A Greek Theatrical Excursion

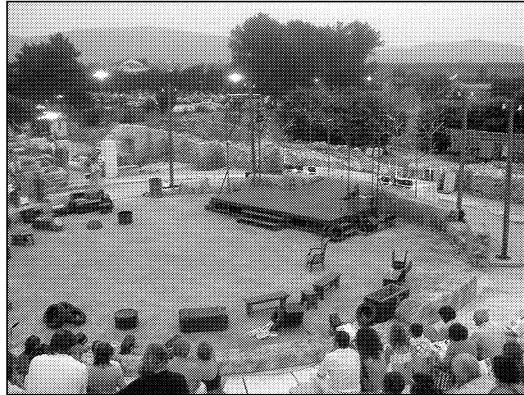
by Richard Freedberg

During our summer vacation, my wife and I went to see Aeschylus' *Eumenides* in the ancient theatre on the Greek island of Thassos, in the Northern Aegean Sea. Although we knew the performance would be in Greek, the chance to see a classical play performed in classical style was too good to pass up. We wouldn't understand more than a few words, but the experience would be exciting.

We climbed 250 steep, narrow steps to the theatre, crowded with laughing Greeks dressed up for a weekend night on the town. Grandmothers wearing traditional black, families with young children, courting couples, high schoolers, chic yuppies and, in the middle of this crowd, my wife and I. The theatre was everything you would expect in an ancient theatre: a semi-circle built directly into the hillside with a round stage and stone benches with no backs for seats.

As we entered, people were selling one inch thick Styrofoam squares, about the size of a ceiling tile. "What are THOSE for?" I asked my wife. We couldn't guess. We went up about 10 rows and squeezed in beside a family of five on our left and three giggling high school girls on our right. It was then that we discovered the use for the Styrofoam pads: they were cushions. I asked the girls, "Do you think we need them?" They laughed and like the three maids in *The Mikado* all said, "Nai!" (Greek for yes). I pushed my way back to the entrance and bought two pads. When I got back to our bench, the sun was just beginning to set. A spotlight shone on center stage. It was at that moment that the miracle began. With one breath, the entire audience of 2,000 people froze in their seats. For the next 2 hours, we fell in love with theatre all over again. We were fascinated to see how the audience stayed magnetically focussed on the words and actions. Even the children were motionless. Nobody left his seat and nobody talked.

Later, when I had a chance to read the English text, I had more insight into the lasting power of classical Greek theatre. The character Orestes speaks: "O Athena, you have given me back to dwell once more in my fatherland...and Grecian lips will say, the man is Argive (Greek) once again." In northern Greece, many of the present day Greeks are descended from the 1.5 million Greeks forcibly ejected from Turkey in the 1920's. Orestes' words had special meaning for this audience on Thassos.



At Acontisma, Greece, an ancient theatre is restored for modern productions.

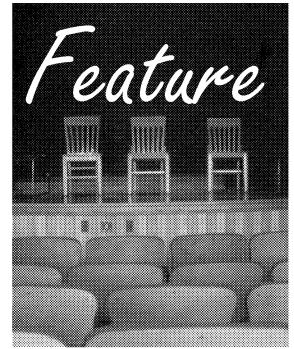


Evmolpis Theatre Company in *Fiddler*

On another dark, star-filled night, we saw the Evmolpis Theatre Company perform in the Cultural Village Acontisma, restored by the Greek Government in 1996. They were not performing a piece from Greek antiquity, but the classical American musical: *Fiddler On The Roof* (in Greek) with Grigoris Valtinos as Tevye.

We wondered how the Greeks would react to an American musical about Jewish life in Eastern Europe. They didn't disappoint us. Every joke, every nuance, all the emotions and the story itself were accepted with love, respect, laughs and tears. Theatre is alive and well in the birthplace of European theatre.

καλή επιτυχία! (Break a leg!)





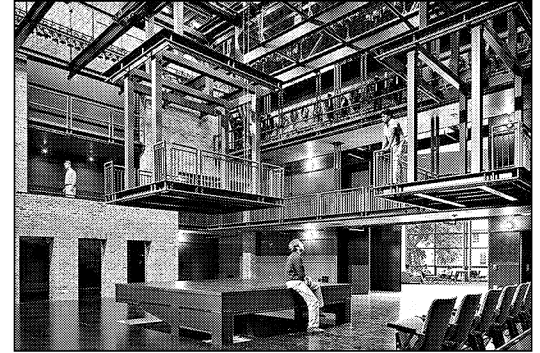
USITT PQ USA 2007 Exhibits Heading Towards Prague—Williams' Design Featured

After more than two years of preparation and nine months of construction, the three exhibits representing the United States at the Prague Quadrennial have begun their journey overseas. All three exhibits are sponsored and supported by the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, the professional association for design, production, and technology professionals in the performing arts and entertainment. A team of faculty and students from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, led by Tom Korder and R. Eric Stone, completed the finishing touches in the last few weeks, making the structure of the exhibits come alive with the design contents.

A unique feature of this year's National Exhibit will be areas allocated for the display of puppets and costumes. Among the puppets on display is an animated model for Michael Curry's paper ghosts from Cirque du Soleil's new production, *The Beate's LOVE*, used to visualize George Harrison's song, *While My Guitar Gently Weeps*. Susan Hilferty's design for Elphaba, the witch in *Wicked*, will greet visitors at the entrance of the USITT PQ USA National Exhibit.

The Architecture Exhibit highlights 17 performance spaces for the next generation, focusing on training facilities for universities and colleges, professional theatres, and performing arts facilities. Two projects emerged as featured designs: the Class of '62 Center for Theatre and Dance, Williams College, Williamstown, MA from Architect William Rawn Associates; and the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York from Architect Gehry Partners, LLP.

The Student Exhibit includes cubicles representing 16 theatre design training programs across the country, and



© Robert Benson Photography

Class of '62 Center for Theatre and Dance, Williams College, William Rawn Associates, architect, a design selected for presentation by USITT at Prague Quadrennial.

production photos, props, and costumes from several more. Distinctive facets of this display are the "Design as Performance" DVDs and live performances to take place on a stage within the exhibit.

The team will be reunited with the exhibits in Prague on June 10, when the set up for the entire PQ begins. Upon arrival, the exhibit pieces will be delivered to their pre-assigned locations in the Industrial Palace, and the team will have three days to assemble all three exhibits. This PQ will be the largest ever in square footage as well as number of participants. The gala opening for all exhibits will begin at 7p.m. Thursday, June 14, 2007.

USITT's Vice President for International Activities Alexandra Bonds serves as commissioner for all three exhibits and assembled the curators who selected which works would be included in the Student and National exhibits. Richard Pilbrow organized the curators for the Architecture Exhibit.

Still More on the Burner at Gaslight

Gaslight Theater, Hallowell, ME, reminds us that there is still a lot to look forward to in their 2007 programming.

The rest of the Gaslight Theater season includes the musical, *Lucky Stiff*, running June 21, 22, 23, and 28, 29, 30.

August brings *Crimes of the Heart* (August 16, 17, 18 and 23, 24, 25).

Over The River and Through the Woods will be staged November 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10.

All performances will be staged at Hallowell City Hall, 1 Winthrop Street, Hallowell, ME.

For more information call 207-626-2698, or go to the website at www.gaslighttheater.org.

Arts Good for Business

In May, Americans for the Arts announced the results of the most comprehensive economic impact study of the nonprofit arts and culture industry ever conducted in the United States. Entitled *Arts & Economic Prosperity III*, the report reveals that the nonprofit arts industry generates \$166.2 billion in economic activity every year, resulting in \$29.6 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenues.

The nation's nonprofit arts and culture industry has grown steadily since the first analysis by Americans for the Arts in 1992, expanding at a rate greater than inflation. Between the second study conducted in 2000 and 2005, spending by organizations and their audiences grew 24 percent, revealing the nonprofit arts industry as a formidable business and economic driver for communities across the country.

"This study is a myth buster," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "Most Americans understand that the arts improve our quality of life. This study demonstrates that the arts are an industry that stimulates the economy in cities and towns across the country. A vibrant arts and culture industry helps local businesses thrive."

Americans for the Arts presented the national findings of this study at a special briefing on Capitol Hill to members and staffers of the Congressional Arts Caucus and Senate Cultural Caucus. The release of this study and the briefing comes at a critical time in the FY2008 budget process with the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee markup, which sets the initial funding level for the National Endowment for the Arts, tentatively scheduled for tomorrow.

Arts & Economic Prosperity III documents the economic impact of the nonprofit arts and culture industry in 156 communities and regions (116 cities and counties, 35 multi-county regions, and 5 states), representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia. You can view a full listing (PDF) of participating organizations to see if there is one in your area.

For an in-depth look at the national study, findings, and methodology, order the 24-page *Arts & Economic Prosperity III Summary Report* through the Americans for the Arts bookstore.



Summer Camp at Leddy

Leddy School for the Performing Arts, Epping, NH, is accepting registrations for all summer camps and lessons! With the end of the school year close at hand, it's time to plan for the summer! Leddy School is offering a variety of camps and lessons for ages 6 and up!

For private lessons, the summer session begins officially the week of May 21, although students may certainly begin any time after that week in accordance with their schedules. Voice lessons for ages 10 and up and piano lessons for ages 6 and up are available with Kimberly Oppelt. Guitar and bass lessons are available for ages 6 and up with Eric Turner. Percussion (drum) lessons for ages 6 and up are available with Chris Thurston. All lessons are private.

Summer camps begin the end of June! First on the docket, from June 25 to June 29, are **Sing Out! 1** for ages 7 to 11 and **Sing Out! 2** for ages 12 to 16. **Sing Out! 1** will run from 10:00a.m. to Noon and **Sing Out! 2** will run from 1:00p.m. to 3:00p.m. Both camps are facilitated by Mary Gatchell. Then, from July 2 through

July 13 (recital is July 14), comes Leddy School's extremely popular 13th annual **Musical Theater Summer Camp** for ages 9 to 16! **MTSC** runs Monday through Friday from 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. (except July 4) and is facilitated by Elaine Gatchell (choreography), Mary Gatchell (singing) and Paul LeFevre (acting). Next, from July 16 to July 20, are **Mini-Musical A** for ages 6 and 7 and **Mini-Musical B** for ages 7 and 8! **Mini-Musical A** will run Monday through Friday from 9:00a.m. to 10:30a.m. and **Mini-Musical B** will run Monday through Friday from 10:45a.m. to 12:45p.m. Both **Mini-Musical** camps are facilitated by Jennifer Cardin.

For more information and to obtain the registration form, go to leddycenter.org/school and click on the summer camps and lessons link. Otherwise, call 603-679-2781 between the hours of 8:30a.m. and 5:00p.m., Monday through Friday.

Leddy School for the Performing Arts is a 501c(3) nonprofit NH Arts & Education organization.



The Harriett Lake PlayFest '08

The Harriett Lake Festival of New Plays is seeking submissions for PlayFest 2008.

New full-length plays based on or inspired by works of classic literature or historic events are welcome. We prefer plays that require six actors or fewer, and have a particular interest in one-person shows.

However, even in the case of one person shows, we are not looking for history lectures, or museum piece adaptations that are faithful to a fault, but rather dynamic new theatrical versions of classic stories that speak to the contemporary mindset.

In order to qualify for PlayFest a play must:

1. NOT have received more than two professional AEA productions;
2. NOT have received a Broadway or Off-Broadway production;
3. NOT have received Orlando production in current form;
4. NOT be published for general distribution.

We are also seeking musical adaptations. We will be a little less strict about the cast size, but are only interested in musicals based on or inspired by works of classic literature or historic events.

Each year we select around ten new plays to be presented as readings. Two or three of those plays will go on to be developed in workshops during the Harriett

Lake Festival of New Plays. Playwrights will receive a stipend and travel and housing expenses. Some plays go on to be fully produced as part of a subsequent Orlando—UCF Shakespeare Festival season.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Do not try to circumvent these guidelines!

Submissions should include a bio/resume, a one page synopsis, five pages of sample dialogue, a character breakdown, and an e-mail address. Please do not send full scripts.

Mail submissions to:

Patrick Flick
 Director of New Play Development
 The Harriett Lake Festival of New Plays—PlayFest
 Orlando—UCF
 Shakespeare Festival
 812 East Rollins St. Suite 100
 Orlando, FL 32803

Initial submission deadline for the 2008 PlayFest is June 31, 2007.

Playwrights will be notified via email no later than October 31, 2007 as to whether or not they are to send the full script.

DO NOT SEND FULL SCRIPTS UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO! WRITE ON!

Visit our website at www.shakespearefest.org.

“Out of Time” for Teen Playwrights in Hartford

Hartford Stage’s 7th Annual Teenage Playwriting Competition, Write On!, is a playwriting competition for writers ages 12–19 years. This year’s theme is “OUT OF TIME.” If you can think of an idea to fit this theme, write a short description of it, send it to us and you will be entered to win!

Deadline for idea submissions is July 15, 2007.

The winning playwrights will attend an intensive workshop with Hartford Stage’s professional Playwright-in-Residence to develop their ideas into a 10-minute play. Each play will be produced and performed by professional actors and directors as part of the Brand: NEW Fall Festival of New Work in October. Plus, winners will receive a pair of season tickets to the 2007–2008 Mainstage.

Winners will be announced in August. Hartford Stage will contact them individually.

For more information please call Hartford Stage’s Education office at 860-520-7206.

Type up your idea and email it to education@hartford-stage.org or use the online form.

Hard copies of the form may be mailed to:

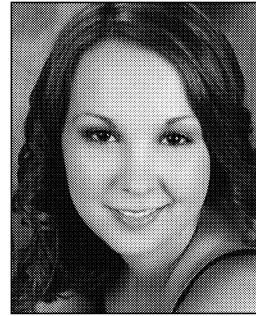
Write On! Playwriting Competition
 Hartford Stage
 50 Church Street
 Hartford, CT 06103

Personal Narratives Sought for 9-11 Documentary

Bridgette Doucette, in her first year as a member of the NETC board, is chairperson of the Children and Youth Division. She holds a B.A. in Theatre from the University of New Hampshire and is presently studying for her Master of Art in teaching. She has been working with children's theatre for the past five years, including PAPA (Portsmouth Academy of Performing Arts) and numerous high schools where she has directed and choreographed. Currently she seeks support from the New England community on a unique playwrighting venture.

She is writing a play about September 11, 2001, the individual lives that were lost and how people banded together to get through it. The process is modeled on that employed by Tectonic Theatre in *The Laramie Project*. Her company, Rising Star Theatre, is composed of students, who will be weaving stories with original music as well as pictures that have been donated and purchased on-line. The play will follow the timeline of events, starting with the moment the first plane hit the tower. This play will follow a documentary form, presenting the lives of American people. It will talk about

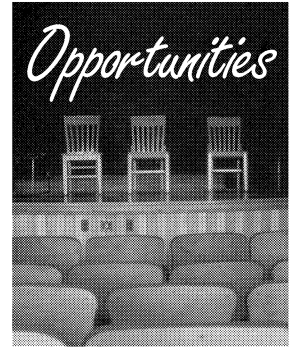
the courage of those who were willing to give their own lives in order to serve others. It will talk about the bonds that were created with neighbors of lost loved ones and the strength that came from within the nation to help people cope.



Bridgette Doucette of New Hampshire, chair of Children and Youth division, one of the newest members of the NETC board

Bridgette will value contributions from anyone who has a personal story about that day or events surrounding it. If you would be willing to share your story with her, she would be most appreciative. She may be contacted at bridgettemariadoucette@yahoo.com.

Rising Star Theatre is scheduling the play for September.



"All the World's A Stage" at the NETC 2007 Annual Convention in Waterville Valley, NH

Please mark your calendars now for the 2007 New England Theatre Conference's Annual Convention. The dates are November 1-4, 2007.

This year's convention will be held at the Conference and Event Center, in the beautiful resort area of Waterville Valley, NH. The center boasts of being "every bit the modern conference facility as those big city hotels, but with one exception. The big city." The facility is surrounded by acres of pristine National Forest, and offers a distraction-free environment for ultimate in creative gathering. For more information and photos of the site, go to www.waterville.com/info.

This convention will take a new approach to the usual excellent events that convention participants have come to expect from NETC. Teenagers are invited to a new version (based on input from teachers and students) of the Theatre Olympiad on Friday. Throughout the weekend all members can expect a full schedule of interesting panels and workshops, as well as a greater

number of presentations from our member theaters and guests than normally seen at past conventions. These presentations will appeal to a wide range of theater practitioners—those working in the fields of Educational, Community, and Professional Theater.

The Exhibitors Hall will give members a chance to view current theatre technology, materials and literature. College representatives will be on hand to spread the word about academic theatre offerings in higher education.

If you or your theatre group is interested in presenting a workshop, panel, exhibit or performance, you may fill out the appropriate form on our website at mail@netconline.org and your inquiry will be directed to a contact person. Registration brochures will be made available to members later this summer. See you in Waterville Valley, NH!



Actors' Circle Theatre presents *Twelfth Night* and Its Music

Actors' Circle Theatre (ACT), Peterborough's (NH) award-winning community theatre troupe, will present one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies, *Twelfth Night* this July. This will be ACT's first Shakespearean production in its 20-year existence.

Actors' Circle theatre is a not-for-profit organization bringing award-winning theatre to the Monadnock Region. ACT's continuing mission is to foster enjoyment and participation in the theatre arts throughout the Monadnock region.

Twelfth Night showcases music throughout the play. It even begins with the renowned words spoken by Duke Orsino "If music be the food of love, play on..." ACT is very excited to have the multi-talented group, Seven Times Salt, the Boston-based renaissance group, as part of their cast. The group consists of Matt Wright (lute, cittern, guitar), Josh Schreiber Shalem (viola de gamba, bass), Karen Burciaga (renaissance violin, treble violin), and Dan Meyers (recorders, flutes, pipe and tabor, bagpipes). Seven Times Salt performs music from England and other European countries that were popular in the 16th and 17th centuries. The group was formed in 2003 and took their name from a famous line from *Hamlet*, "Tears seven times salt burn out the sense and virtue of mine eye."

Music played an integral part in Shakespeare's comedies and tragedies as a vehicle for moving the story forward. Using vocal and instrumental music that was popular during his time, he would often adapt existing songs to fit the mood of the play. Today most

Shakespearean productions do not use the original music of the 16th and 17th centuries and are modernized to the current music style or standards. ACT's production of *Twelfth Night* will capture the true music of the time and bring a bit of "Merrie Olde England" to New England.



Renaissance musicians Seven Times Salt will be an integral part of the Peterborough *Twelfth Night*. Players include Karen Burciaga, Josh Schreiber Shalem, Matt Wright, and Dan Meyers.

Performances of *Twelfth Night* will be July 13–15 at 7:30p.m. and the following weekend July 19–21 at 7:30p.m. with a 3:00p.m. matinee on Sunday July 22 at the Mondandock Country Club, Peterborough NH. For additional information regarding Actors' Circle Theatre or Seven Times Salt please visit www.actorscircletheatre.org or e-mail ACTInfo@actorscircletheatre.org.

Opening for Executive Director in Maine



The Grand Auditorium in Ellsworth, ME, is seeking an Executive Director. The Grand is a state recognized non-profit, community based arts center with extensive and diverse programming, an outreach education program for children, and summer theatre workshops for children and adults. Founded in 1965, The Grand is the oldest not-for-profit community arts center in the Ellsworth area. It houses 485 seats for community theatre. Concert performances and rental space. For more information, see our website at www.grandonline.org.

The successful candidate will have strength in Financial Development, Marketing and Public Relations and Staff Management. Understanding of theatre and concert programming is a plus. Degree is preferred, life experienced considered. 5–10 years management experience with operation and non-profit financial matters.

Applicants should send resume and cover letter to: Search Committee c/o Tim McCormick, 24 Laurel St., Ellsworth, ME 04605. No phone calls, please. Upon receipt of resume, a packet will immediately be sent to the applicant detailing job description and responsibilities, and salary and benefit package information.

Closing date for applications: June 30, 2007.

Workshops & Performances at the 16th Annual Ko Festival Of Performance

Ko Festival of Amherst, MA, announces its 2007 season of workshops and performances.

Workshops include:

July 2-7: *Beyond The Bars*—making theatre with incarcerated people and the recently released, with Julie Lichtenberg

July 9-14: *Theatrical Clown*, with Julie Nelson

July 16-21: *Breath, Voice And The Performative Self*—from inner experience to outer expression, with Leeny Sack

July 23-28: *Solo Performance*, with Michelle Matlock

July 30-August 4: *Creating Stage Texts For Our Times*, with Ruth Margraff

For full descriptions of the workshops and workshop leaders visit www.kofest.com.

Workshops will be held from 10a.m.–4p.m. in Studio II of Webster Hall on the Amherst College campus in Amherst, MA. Tuition is \$350. Early bird registration discount available, and a discount for members of the Network of Ensemble Theatres (N.E.T.), and Actor's Equity. Optional room and board are available on the Amherst College campus for an additional fee.

Performances include:

Friday-Sunday, July 6-9 at 8p.m.: *Matermorphosis*, by Lenelle Moise, performed by Serious Play, directed by Sheryl Stoodley, designed by Kathy Couch & Robin Doty, with Linda Putnam as Gregora/Mother, and Steve Balle, Billy Girand, Jeannine Haas, Glen Love, Alberto Peart, & Alexis Reid.

In this darkly ironic and comic adaptation of Kafka's masterpiece of isolation and human cruelty "Metamorphosis," award-winning, Haitian-American slam poet/playwright Lenelle Moise, reworks Kafka's Gregor into Gregora, a critically ill, menopausal mother who has supported her family by working in the sex industry.

Sunday, July 15 at 8p.m.: *Peace*, by Aristophanes, performed by Ralph Lee's Mettawee River Company.

Our annual favorites with a contemporary adaptation of Aristophane's comedy *Peace* that tells of a mortal who journeys on the back of a dung beetle to Mt. Olympus to complain to the gods about the situation on earth, only to learn that the gods have fled, leaving War and Greed in charge and Peace buried under a trash heap.

An all-ages event, outdoors on the Amherst College Observatory Lawn off of Snell Street. Bring blankets, lawn chairs and insect repellent, but leave the pets at home. Adults \$8.00, Children \$5.00. No reservations necessary.

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22 at 8p.m.: *The Mammy Project* created and performed by Michelle Matlock, co-developed with Joan Evans, directed by Amy Gordon, lighting by Sabrina Hamilton

Writer/performer Michelle Matlock uses original music, storytelling, multimedia documentary materials and her considerable comedic skills to explore the influence that the "Mammy" icon has had on contemporary American culture by re-imagining the cultural traditions from which the image was born—slavery, minstrelsy and advertising.

Friday-Sunday, July 27-29 at 8p.m.: *O, YES I WILL (I will remember the spirit and texture of this conversation)* written and performed by Deb Margolin, direction and dramaturgy by Merri Milwe, lighting by Sabrina Hamilton.

Deb Margolin, playwright, performer, and founding member of America's premiere feminist theatre company Split Britches, performs her new solo in which she reconstructs 5 possible monologues with which she may or may not have harangued a group of men in scrubs with knives in the O.R. while under the influence of sodium pentothal before surgery.

All performances except the outdoor Mettawee production of *Peace* will be held in Amherst College's Holden Theater. Mettawee tickets are \$8.00 Adults and \$5.00 Children.

Tickets for all other events are: \$18 General Admission; \$16 Students & Seniors A very limited number of \$8 special rush tickets will be available at exactly 1 hour prior to curtain. Box Office opens July 2. 413-542-3750. For information prior to the opening of the box office, visit www.kofest.com or call 413-427-6147.





Burlington Fringe Scores Homer

Rounding Third, Richard Dresser's play about the tumultuous journey of two Little League coaches through an entire season, from their first tentative meeting to the climactic championship game, kicks off the Burlington Players' Fringe Benefits series July 20–22 at the Park Playhouse in Burlington. The show is directed by Bennett Delatizky. Fringe Benefits is a venue for challenging and entertaining material that may not quite fit the main season requirements. Profits go towards renovation and maintenance of the Park Playhouse, the Players' intimate performance space on One Edgemere Avenue in Burlington. For more information call 781-229-2649 or visit www.burlingtonplayers.com.

The Burlington Players 2007–2008 Park Playhouse season includes the down home hilarity of *Dearly*

Beloved in September; the quintessential 60's hit, *The Graduate*, in November; Richard Greenberg's intriguing Victorian tale of the future, *The Violet Hour* in March; and the rousing musical, *Godspell*, in May. For more information, call 781-229-2649 or visit www.burlingtonplayers.com.

Auditions for *Dearly Beloved*, the Burlington Players 2007–2008 season opener, are June 24 and 25 at 7p.m. the Park Playhouse. Roles are available for a large number of women and men in a broad age range in this hilarious Southern wedding tale. Auditions will be readings from the script. The show is directed by award-winning director Christopher Rose. For more information, call 781-229-2649 or visit www.burlingtonplayers.com.

36th Annual NH Community Theater Association Festival

New Hampshire Community Theatre Association is accepting applications for entries for their festival of one-act performances, workshops, social events, and more, scheduled for August 4 and 5, 2007. The venue will be the Majestic Theatre, Cartier St, Manchester.

Entry forms for one-act performance competition are available at www.nhcommunitytheatre.com. Or, for information, call A. Robert Dionne at 603-669-7469.

Submit forms to:
NHCTA Festival c/o The Majestic Theatre
381 Cartier Street
Manchester, NH 03102

Festival chairs, A. Robert Dionne and Jeff Caron, may be contacted directly at: rob@majestictheatre.net or jeffpcaron@comcast.net, respectively.

Just When You Thought Acting Couldn't Get Any Weirder...

CoCo Key Water Resort, Danvers, MA, New England's first indoor water park, is looking for outgoing, enthusiastic actors to play the CoCo mascot.

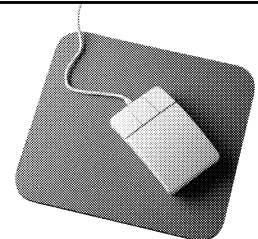
You must be at least 16 years old, and 5' 4" tall. The mascot is an important player in all CoCo Key parties, both onsite at the resort and offsite and various public events.

Pay is \$9 per hour plus lots of cool perks!

The resort is located at the Sheraton Ferncroft Hotel in Danvers, MA. Visit www.cocokeywordsort.com to see the park and the mascot in action.

If interested, please email ebeutel@sheratonferncroft.com. There are multiple positions to fill, so please tell a friend!

Check out the NETC webpage for the latest in upcoming events, awards, and competitions!
www.NETCOnline.org



NSMT Honors High School Achievers

The 2nd Annual **North Shore Music Theatre (NSMT) Spotlight Award** winners were announced on May 15th at a star-studded black tie ceremony at NSMT. Fifteen awards were presented to area high schools and high school students for excellence in musical theater and the 10 nominees for Best Musical each performed a number on the NSMT stage.

Congratulations to all of the **North Shore Music Theatre Spotlight Award** recipients:

- BEST DIRECTION: **Dorrie-Lenore Parsons** (Lawrence High School) *Once Upon a Mattress*
- BEST CHOREOGRAPHY: **Henry Dembowski** (Marblehead High School) *The King and I*
- BEST MUSICAL DIRECTION: **Steve Black** (Salem High School, (MA)) *Les Misérables School Edition*
- BEST SCENIC DESIGN: **Bill Endslow** (Reading Memorial High School) *Seussical the Musical*
- BEST LIGHTING DESIGN: **Greg Dana** (Marblehead High School) *The King and I*
- BEST ORCHESTRA: **Bishop Fenwick High School** *Disney's High School Musical*
- BEST COSTUME DESIGN: **Mary Franklin** (Marblehead High School) *The King and I*
- BEST ENSEMBLE/CHORUS: **Marblehead High School** *The King and I*
- BEST TECHNICAL CREW / EXECUTION: **Pembroke High School** *The King and I*
- BEST LEADING ACTOR: **Christian Hoots** as Tevye (Dracut High School) *Fiddler on the Roof*
- BEST LEADING ACTRESS: **Meghan Haskins** as Anna (Pembroke High School) *The King and I*
- BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: **Devin Jeffers** as Javert (Salem High School, (MA)) *Les Misérables School Edition*
- BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS: **Pareesa Charmchi** as Johanna (Salem High School, (NH)) *Sweeney Todd*
- BEST FEATURED PERFORMER: **Owen Grover** as Marius (Salem High School, (MA)) *Les Misérables School Edition*
- BEST MUSICAL: **Dracut High School** *Fiddler on the Roof*

In more news from NSMT, the 2007 season continues *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers*. This fresh new take, based on the MGM blockbuster film of the same name, includes a revised script, new orchestrations, and some of the most energetic and acrobatic dancing ever to be seen on the NSMT stage. *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers* runs May 29–June 17, 2007.

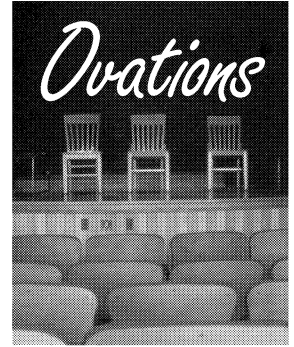
NSMT joins forces with two leading regional theaters, Theater Under the Stars in Houston, Texas and Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, New Jersey for this co-production which is already receiving raves across the country.

Tickets for *Seven Brides For Seven Brothers* are priced from \$70 to \$35. Senior and youth discounts and rush tickets are available. Performances are May 29–June 17, 2007, Tue–Thurs at 7:30p.m., Fri & Sat at 8p.m., matinees Wed at 1:30p.m., Sat and Sun at 2p.m. For tickets: www.nsmt.org, 978-232-7200, or in person at 62 Dunham Rd. Beverly, MA 01915. The production is sponsored in part by the Boston Marriott Peabody. Comcast is the presenting sponsor of 2007 Musical Theater season.

Due to an overwhelming demand for tickets, five additional performances of the smash hit *Disney's High School Musical* have been added to the schedule this summer.

Disney's High School Musical runs from July 3–July 29. The added performance dates and times are:

- Tuesday, July 10 at 1:30p.m.** with Post-Show Meet and Greet
- Sunday, July 15 at 7:30p.m.** with Post-Show Meet and Greet
- Tuesday, July 17 at 1:30p.m.** with Post-Show Meet and Greet
- Sunday, July 22 at 7:30p.m.** with Radio Disney
- Tuesday, July 24 at 7:30p.m.** with Post-Show Meet and Greet



Deadline for the Fall issue of NETC NEWS is August 15.

Please remember to include all the necessary information in your releases—who, what, where (including STATE!), and when. Photos are always welcome.

Send all material in WORD format (jpeg for pix) to ashea@worchester.edu



Who's Who at NETC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Quinn, President and Clerk of the Corporation,
Bridgewater State College
Jeffrey Watts, Executive Vice President,
Lawrence High School
Charles Emmons, Vice President for Administration and
Finance, *New Hampshire Community Theatre Association*
David Frieze, Vice President for Communication
and Development, *freelance writer, director, critic*
Pamela McDaniel, Executive Secretary,
Western Connecticut State University
Joseph Juliano Jr., Manager of Operations,
Hamden Public Schools, retired
Tom Mikotowicz, Immediate Past President,
University of Maine, Orono

DIVISION DIRECTORS

College/University Theatre Division

Sabine Macris Klein, *Westfield State College*
Luke Sutherland, *Community College of Rhode Island*

Secondary School Theatre Division

Maureen Doucette, *Hopkinton Middle High School, NH*
Debra Susi, *Warsaw Middle School*

Youth Theatre Division

Bridgette Marie Doucette, *University of New Hampshire*
Nina Schuessler, *Harwich Junior Theatre*

Professional Theatre Division Directors

Bob Dolan, *Foothills Theatre Co.*

Community Theatre Division Directors

Tim Fitzgerald
Patricia White
Donna O'Bryant, *Actorsingers of Nashua, NH*

Directors-At-Large

Joe Doniger, *Hull High School*
Suzanne Ramczyk, *Bridgewater State College*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Annual Theatre Auditions

Joseph Juliano, Jr., *Hamden Public Schools, retired*

NETC/New England Theatre Journal

Stuart Hecht, *Boston College*

Long Range Strategic Plan

TBD

College of Fellows, Dean

Sigurd Jensen, *Southern CT State University,*
Emeritus

Annual Excellence in Theatre Awards

Tim Fitzgerald

Moss Hart Awards

Maureen Doucette, *Hopkinton Middle High School, NH*

John Gassner Memorial Playwriting Award

TBD

Aurand Harris Memorial Playwriting Award

Jay DiPrima

Marie Phillips Service to NETC Award

Bevie Lord, *Orpheum Theatre*

Leonidas A. Nickole Theatre Educator of the Year Award

Luke Sutherland, *Community College of Rhode Island*

Constitution and By-Laws

Sigurd Jensen, *Southern CT State University,*
Emeritus

NETC Newsletter

Ann Marie Shea, *Worcester State College, Emerita*

AACT Liaison

Patricia White

KCACTF Region 1 Liaison

Wil Kilroy, *University of Southern Maine*

Return service requested

NETC
275 Knob Hill Drive,
Hamden, CT 06518-2431

new england
NETC
theatre conference