

Revised 1/24/20

NPP CHAIRS & VICE-CHAIRS:

David Crespy, University of Missouri, NPP Chair

Buzz Herman, University of Central Missouri, NPP Vice Chair

Patrick Carriere, Bemidji State University, Minnesota, NPP Vice Chair-Elect

(The Region 5 NPP Chairs/Vice Chairs served as the readers for Regional Script Exchange)

FESTIVAL DATES & SITE:

KCACTF Region V, Festival 41, January 18-23, 2009, Lawrence, KS;

Hosted By University Of Kansas

REGION 5 FESTIVAL NPP HIGHLIGHTS & YEAR IN RETROSPECT

Process – Ten-Minute Play & One-Act Play Festival; David Mark Cohen Award, Alternative Forms Writing Workshop

A “Call for Scripts” for for our Ten-Minute Play Festival and our One-Act Play Festival went out in August of 2008 and a reminder in Fall of 2008. This was sent out via our KCACTF Region V Listserv and was published on our Region V Website.

The regional deadline for all original scripts (ten-minute, one-act, and full-length associate/participating production scripts) was Monday, October 27. The scripts were then sent in hard & electronic copy to Region VIII for the November 1st deadline Regional Exchange Deadline, with a reading team led by the Region VIII Playwriting Chair, Char Nelson. The scripts were ranked by the Region VIII reading team by Monday, November 27, and the same was true of our team. We will be moving to ALL electronic copy in 2010.

This year we received a total of 83 (up from 65) ten-minute plays and 34 (up from 27) one-acts for a total of 117 scripts for our short play festivals. This represented a slight increase in scripts in both the one-act and ten-minute play categories. These, along with our 19 (down from 20) David Mark Cohen scripts (which represented an increase in produced full-length original scripts in our region) were subsequently blinded and sent via electronic submission and hard copy to Char Nelson, NPP Chair of Region VI who then distributed them to her own script selection committee to determine our top ten-minute plays for the Ten-Minute Play Festival, one-act plays for the John Cauble One-Act Plays, and David Mark Cohen scripts. The following plays were then selected:

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ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL

SECRET POLICEMAN

David Bury, *Washburn University*

Faculty Mentor: Penny Weiner

HOW WILL YOU KNOW US, NOW OR ANYTIME

Richard Paul Klein, *Minnesota State University-Moorhead*

Faculty Mentor: Craig Ellingson

WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS

Jeremy Frazier, *University of Central Missouri*

Faculty Mentor: Richard Herman

TEN MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, 1:00 P.M.

WHEN LAST WE SAW PADDY

David Bury, *Washburn University*

Director: Aaron Sawyer,

University of Nebraska Lincoln

Mentor: Jayme McGhan, *Ridgewater College*

MOMENTOUS

E.A. Eichenlaub,

Southwest Minnesota State University

Director: Zachary Kloppenborg, *Doane College*

Mentor: Mark Kelty,

Central Methodist University

JIM MORLANG'S LAST DANCE

Chris Stroschein, *Minot State University*

Director: Isaiah Salmans,

Hutchinson Community College

Mentor: Richard Herman,

University of Central Missouri

MERMAIDS

Jessica Huang, *University of Missouri*

Director: Danielle Roos, *Dordt College*

Mentor: Keith Oliver,

St. Louis Community College-Meramac

FOOLISH WISDOM

Brian Blevins, *University of Kansas*

Director: Nick Juelsgaard, *Iowa State University*

Mentor: Patrick Carriere, *Bemidji State University*

MORNING SONG

Ashley Kuske, *University of Minnesota-Duluth*

Director: Noah Lelek, *University of Missouri*

Mentor: Susan Proctor, *Rockhurst*

University

These Ten-Minute & One-Act Play scripts, selected by the Region VIII selection team were subsequently sent to our respondents so that a national finalist and a runner-up could be selected for the National Short Play Festival, and two nominees selected for the David Mark Cohen award. Our respondents were Roger Hall, National NPP Chair, Char Nelson, Region

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VIII NPP Chair, and Hayley Finn, Artistic Associate, Playwrights Center. At the festival the following plays were selected as National Finalists and alternates:

Ten-Minute Play National Finalists

1. MERMAIDS by Jessica Huang, University of Missouri
2. JIM MORLANDS LAST DANCE by Chris Stroschein, Minot State University

One-Act Play National Finalists

HOW WILL YOU KNOW US, NOW OR ANYTIME by R. Paul Klein, Univ. of Minnesota Moorehead
Alternate: SECRET POLICEMAN by David Bury, Washburn University

The Ten-Minute Plays were then sent to directors by Buzz Herman, Region V NPP Vice-Chair who then coordinated the Ten-Minute Play Festival and did an enormously successful job, coordinating the auditions, rehearsals, and performances at Festival. We had auditions at Festival shortly after the Ryan Semis-were announced with over 120 actors auditioning in 3 hours. We worked with 6 faculty mentors assigned each to a playwright/director/mentor teams. Each play rehearsed one hour per day for three days of the Festival for a total of 3 hours. Also this year a sound designer was added to the ten-minute play festival and the results were excellent. We changed the time of the ten-minute play Festival to Friday afternoon, which with the new scheduling of our Festival, really helped our audience attendance which was just outstanding.

The One-Act Plays were produced as concert readings by the schools affiliated with the playwrights. Each playwright/director team had a brief amount of time before their performance to rehearse. We changed the time of the one-act play Festival to Thursday evening, which, with the new scheduling of our Festival, really helped our audience attendance, which was just outstanding. We were particularly thrilled to be able to use the Lied Center on the KU Campus, and our One-Act Play Festival was really a tremendous success.

Our entries for the John C. Cauble award were our top six original one-acts submitted for the one-act play festival, and one additional one-act produced as an associate entry. These are listed below:

JOHN CAUBLE SHORT PLAY NOMINEES

SECRET POLICEMAN

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David Bury, *Washburn University*
HOW WILL YOU KNOW US, NOW OR ANYTIME
Richard Paul Klein, *Minnesota State University-Moorhead*
WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS
Jeremy Frazier, *University of Central Missouri*
WARPAINT
Benjamin Graber, *University of Nebraska at Omaha*
HOW IT WAS, HOW IT COULD HAVE BEEN
Whitney Rowland, *University of Kansas, 2nd Runner Up*
THE ISLANDER
Derek Trautwein, *Northwest Missouri State University*
MIRKS
Luke T. Harwath, *Buena Vista University*

ORIGINAL PLAY PRODUCTIONS – ASSOCIATE AND PARTICIPATING ENTRIES

There was a total of 171 Associate and 42 Participating productions. Of these, we had a total of 26 original productions this year (16 associate, 10 participating), and we invited two original play productions to the Region V Festival this year. These included *TERROR TEXTS; HAIR-RAISING TALES FROM ANCIENT ISRAEL*, written and directed by Jeff Barker, Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa and *AN OLD ALBUM* by Richard Paul Klein, University of Minnesota Moorehead. Of these, we had a total of 19 submissions for the David Mark Cohen Award and of these submissions the following two plays were selected as our nominees for the national David Mark Cohen Award:

DAVID MARK COHEN NATIONAL FINALISTS

TAG TEAM, Robert Aufrance, *Waldorf College*
THE IRISH ROGUE, Mary Barile, *University of Missouri*

Alternative Forms Writing Workshop.

This year there was also an Alternative Writing Forms Workshop which was held from the Tuesday of the Festival with a performance late night on Thursday evening. It was

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coordinated by Haidee Heaton (Culver-Stockton College), Alternative Forms Theatre Coordinator, and was an evening of sketch comedy. It was well-attended, and it was much better than the previous year.

Presentation of National KCACTF Award-Winning Plays & Playwrights

Through the very special efforts of Tom Woldt, our Region V Chair, we presented two plays and a solo performance project from University of Iowa students whose plays had been selected last year as national award winning plays in the KCACTF Kanin National Playwriting Program. Two of these productions were presented as concert performances and were presented in the Lied Center with terrific performances and strong attendance; the solo performance piece, *Killadelphia* was performed at the Lawrence Arts Center. The shows included:

KILLADELPHIA

Constructed from interviews with inmates, victims, politicians, rap artists, conservative talk show hosts and more- the piece examines the violence of the urban centers of our country while demanding a response to them as well. A new one-man show written and performed by Sean Lewis, author of The Aperture

Director: Matt Slaybaugh

Lawrence Arts Center Wednesday, Jan. 21, 11:00 a.m. (Q&A immediately following) (Run Time: 70 minutes_

NATIONAL KCACTF AWARD-WINNING PLAY CONCERT READINGS

Directed and Performed by Region V Faculty and Festival Special Guests

THE ATLAS OF MUD

A flooding city; a boat full of birds; and a mother and child trying to find each other in a global flood. The Atlas of Mud is a compelling mythic allegory exploring the human dimensions of global warming.

by Jennifer Fawcett, *University of Iowa*

2008 Winner, National KCACTF *Science Playwriting Award (Global Warming)*

Directed by Ann Bergeron, *University of Minnesota-Duluth*

Lied Center Wednesday, January 21, 3:00 p.m. (Run Time: 80 minutes)

THE APERTURE

In the woods outside Baltimore, Maryland, a former Ugandan child soldier is being made to pose as the murderer he once was. A tale of exploitation, art, responsibility and the absurdity of child warfare in the U.S. and the horror of it abroad.

by Sean Lewis, *University of Iowa*

2008 Winner, National KCACTF *Rosa Parks Award for Social Justice in Playwriting*

Director: Beate Pettigrew, *Johnson County Community College*

Lied Center Monday, January 19, 8:00 p.m. (*See above-Marching Toward the Dream! Event*)

NPP Guest Artists & Workshops

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Our guest artists including our NPP respondents, Roger Hall, National NPP Chair; Char Nelson, Region VIII NPP Chair; Hayley Finn, Artistic Associate, Playwrights Center; Sean Lewis (University of Iowa), author of *Killadelphia* and *The Aperture* (2008 Winner, National KCACTF Science Playwriting Award); Jennifer Fawcett (University of Iowa) author of *Atlas of Mud* (2008 Winner, National KCACTF Rosa Parks Award for Social Justice in Playwriting); Martin Kettling, Dramaturg, Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center; professional playwright and director Rob Urbinati; and Judith Zivanovic, emeritus professor, Kansas State University, (former NPP and Region V Chair). All offered workshops at the festival which were well-attended—we had a total of 15 workshops in playwriting, new play development, directing new plays, etc. In general, this was an area where we had lots of growth and improvement, and all the workshops we presented were well-received and well attended.

Our NPP respondents offered critiques of the ten-minute, one-act play, and original play productions in addition to teaching workshops at the festival.

REGION V NATIONAL TEACHING ARTIST GRANT AWARD NOMINEES

We nominated Jeff Barker, Northwestern College (IA), as Region V National Teaching Artist Grant Award Nominee in the field of playwriting.

REGION V 2009 ORIGINAL PLAY PRODUCTIONS

No.	Play Title	Playwright	School	Part./Assoc.
1.	<i>An Old Album</i>	Richard Paul Klein	Minnesota State University Moorhead	Associate
2.	<i>Bottom of Everything</i>	Denver Little	Baker State University	Associate
3.	<i>Camp Angel</i>	Bruner, Jeffrey	Central College	Associate
4.	<i>Chantecler, Adapted from the original work by Edmond Rostand</i>	Jon M. Berry	Central College	Associate
5.	<i>Charlie Parker's Underpants</i>	Smith, Benjamin	University of Kansas	Associate
6.	<i>Citizen Project</i>	Mary Jo Sodd	Central College	Associate
7.	<i>Crimson Lake</i>	Jayme McGhan	Ridgewater College	Associate
8.	<i>Irish Rogue, The</i>	Barile, Mary	University of Missouri	Associate
9.	<i>Late-Nite Horrorshow</i>	Medved, Nick	University of Kansas	Associate

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10.	<i>Love and Honor</i>	Cox, Jane	Iowa State University	Associate
11.	<i>Mirks</i>	Harvath, Luke	Buena Vista	Associate
12.	<i>Tell Me the Truth</i>	Karen Barker	Northwestern College	Associate
13.	<i>The Essential Lunatic</i>	Jacob Kempfert	Bethany Lutheran College	Associate
14.	<i>The Girl, The Grouch And The Goat</i>	Jack Helbig and Mark Hollman	University of Kansas	Associate
15.	<i>The Music Box</i>	Napolitano, David & Graber, Elliott	Univ of SD	Associate
16.	<i>Theatre Physics</i>	Peter Bloedel	Bethany Lutheran College	Associate
17.	<i>To The Rescue</i>	Moses, Joel & Rothwell, T.W.	University of Central Missouri	Associate
18.	<i>Waltzing in Heaven</i>	Peak, Janie	Wichita State University	Associate
19.	<i>Wonderland</i>	David Wheeler	Minnesota State University Moorhead	Associate
20.	<i>A Good Friend</i>	Thompson, Ben	St. Cloud State U.	Participating
21.	<i>Antigone... A Riff on Sophocles, a new adaptation</i>	Hamilton, Allen	Metropolitan State University	Participating
22.	<i>Gathering Blue</i>	Richard Helleson and Michael Silversher	Independence Community College	Participating
23.	<i>Gedenken</i>	Alewyn, William	Wichita St.	Participating
24.	<i>Home Land Security</i>	Iversen	Metropolitan State University	Participating
25.	<i>Inheritance by</i>	Roger Moon,	Southwest College	Participating
26.	<i>Tag Team</i>	Aufrance, Robert	Waldorf College	Participating
27.	<i>Terror Texts</i>	Barker, Jeff	Northwestern College	Participating
28.	<i>The Bottom of Everything</i>	Denver Little	Baker University	Participating
29.	<i>When The Bird Takes Flight</i>	Amoussa Koriko	North Dakota State University	Participating