

# Georgia Theatre Conference News

A Bi-monthly Newsletter of the Georgia Theatre Conference

Autumn 1997

## 1997 WINNING PLAYWRIGHT: Collin Mitchell Kelley

The winning entry in the 1997 GTC Playwriting Competition is "The Dark Horse" by Collin Mitchell Kelley. "The Dark Horse" is a three character, one-act set on the coast of Prince Edward island in 1925. The winning play will be read at the GTC Convention on November 7th

8:30 p.m. A reception will follow. Mr. Kelley will be the guest of GTC for the evening and will receive a \$200 prize.

Mr. Kelley is a writer for the Marietta Daily Journal and Neighbor newspapers. He was recently commissioned to adapt "Run With the Horseman," Ferrol Sams' best-selling novel, for the stage.

His other works include "Porcelain," that was staged by the Plaza Playhouse in Douglasville in 1993. He has performed and directed at Georgia State University, Stage Door Players, Agnes Scott College, and the Southside Theatre Guild. He has written two programs for WREK Radio's "Advise and Dissent" program. He has recently signed with Stanton and Associates to represent his screenplay, "Conquering Venus." Mr. Kelley was awarded the Paul T. Nolan Award for Playwriting at the 1994 Deep South Writers Conference at the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

## JEKYLL ISLAND CONVENTION SET FOR NOVEMBER 6 - 9

The Georgia Theatre Conference gears up for the 33rd Annual Convention in Jekyll Island. Hosted this year by Chuck NeSmith of the Island Players, this year's convention is sure to be a great one.

You will see in the convention schedule on page 4 that the work of our host and the various divisions is evident. One new focus included in this year's convention is developing secondary scholarships for students with Georgia colleges in mind. From the division play festivals, workshops, and exhibits to the awards banquet, the GTC convention is the place to be November 6-9.

SETC (Southeastern Theatre Conference) will be represented at the convention by Mark Malinauskas, Director of the Honors Program at Murray State University.

A few workshops on the schedule are:

Tackling the Technical Interview Keith Pugh  
(VSU) scene designer  
Stage Combat Steven Earl-Edwards  
Grant Writing Rick George

And to all in attendance and especially those of you planning to present a play in the festival, the Saturday night awards banquet should top off the weekend. Good luck and watch for a complete listing of the winners in the next edition of GTC news.



## A Message from the President

DEAR G.T.C. MEMBERS & FRIENDS:

On September 12-14, your G.T.C. Board attended a board retreat. I have to tell you that this organization has some of the best leadership around. In attendance were several past presidents who shared insight, history of the organization, and their infinite wisdom! I believe that the Georgia Theatre Conference will experience growth in the best three to five years that will exceed our expectations due to the dedication of this group of people. As you are all aware, we took a giant step forward this past year when we hired a part-time Administrative Director. In the past year we have seen the development of Regional Representatives. These people are a direct link between G.T.C. and your community. We also applied for and were awarded our first grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts. At the convention in November of 1996, we oversold the banquet and had to scramble to accommodate the many ticket buyers. All of these are definite signs of growth, and it is just the beginning.

I encourage you to become involved. Attend the annual convention to be held on Jekyll Island November 6th through the 9th. I guarantee you will not leave empty handed. There is always someone there who can offer advice for new theatre groups that are forming or established groups that are going through changes. Someone has traveled that road before you and is willing and anxious to share what they have learned. I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage you to become more actively involved in the Georgia Theatre Conference.

There are several committee positions that need to be filled and some board positions that are open this year as well. Please plan to attend the All Convention Business Meeting (Friday, November 7 at Villas by the Sea) to find out more about how you can get involved.

Workshops, performances, awards, recognition and networking—that is what you will find at Jekyll this year. I look forward to seeing you and on behalf of the Board, welcome you to the Georgia Theatre Conference

Connie J. Fritz, President

**Georgia Theatre Conference  
News**

Georgia Theatre Conference  
106 Anderson Ave.  
Fort Valley, GA 31030  
888/825-0500

*This quarterly newsletter is an effort to keep everyone informed. We include news of interest about the activities of the GTC and members. If you have information about business and personal triumphs, ideas and family news, please submit to Susie Hammond, c/o GTC.*

*Executive Board*

- Connie Fritz, President*
- Jay Willis, VP Membership & Community Vice Chair*
- Chuck NeSmith, VP Programming*
- Mary Norman, Secretary*
- Christy Costello, Treasurer*
- Roy Horne, SETC Representative*
- Sue Jordan, Administrative Director*
- Susie Hammond, Publications Editor*
- Julia Matthews, Auditions Chair*
- Dan Robbins, University Chair & Auditions Vice Chair*
- Shelly Elman, University Vice Chair*
- Mark Costello, Community Chair*
- Mike Beecham, Professional Chair*
- Kathleen McMannus, Professional Vice Chair*
- Roy Lewis, Secondary Chair*
- Shirley Burkhalter, Secondary Vice Chair*
- Mary Paula Hodnett, Youth Chair*
- Amy Atwell, Past President*
- Jacque Wheeler, Past President*

**REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- Jerry Dorriety, Shelly Elman,*
- Lorrene Fey, Bolton Lunceford,*
- Ron Martin, Dr. A. Clifton Myles,*
- Dean Slusser, Ray Stowers, Lisa Tierney and Pam Ware*

what you need, and what you would like to see in GTC news.

**CALL FOR ENTRIES:  
FESTIVAL POSTER  
COMPETITION**

Who is eligible? Professional, Community, College & University, Secondary and Theatre for Youth producing organizations that are members of GTC.

Requirements? The poster should be from a show produced between November 1996 through October 1997. Please submit actual poster at convention and limit two per organization.

For more information, contact:  
Mark Costello at (912)439-7139

**Cast Party Recipe**  
\*\* Extraordinaire \*\*

**FRENCH COCONUT PIE**

- 2 cups sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2 T. flour
- 2/3 c. milk
- 4 T. butter
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 cans coconut (7 oz.)

Melt butter, add sugar, flour, eggs, milk, vanilla and coconut. Pour into uncooked pie crusts. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. (Use 1/2 for small pie.)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PIEDMONT COLLEGE TO HOST  
CONVENTION 1998**

...and so it is official. Dr. Richard Stafford at Piedmont College in Demorest, Georgia has agreed to host the 1998 Georgia Theatre Convention.

**REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES  
ROSTER COMPLETE**

Welcome to Dr. A. Clifton Myles of Albany State University who has accepted the position of Regional Representative for the Plantation Trace area.

Also, welcome to Bolton Lunceford of Washington Little Theatre, who has accepted the position of Regional Representative for the Classic South area.

With the addition of these volunteers, all areas of the State are served by Region Reps. They serve GTC in a grassroots effort to involve and inform, across divisional lines, of GTC's programs and activities; and to allow GTC to better serve the interests of theatres across the Georgia. A complete listing of the representatives may be found in the Resource Guide, which will be distributed at the GTC Convention in November. For your copy, please contact the GTC Office.

**NOMINATION COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS.....**

The Nomination Committee presents nominees for three positions on the Executive Board. The nominees are:

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| President      | Connie Fritz  |
| Secretary      | Susie Hammond |
| VP Programming | Dick Stafford |

Nominations will also be received from the floor. All members are welcome to attend.

An intended regular feature of this publication is a bulletin board/swap shop for Georgia theatres to network, and by doing so enhance communication and resources available. With "regional reps" spanning the state, the services and support of this organization is a valuable resource. Please let us hear from you as to what is happening, what you have,

## October

### Augusta Players

(706) 826-4707

*Greater Tuna (Dinner Theatre)*

OCT. 17-18, 24-25

### Colquitt County Arts Center Theatre

(912) 985-1922

*An Evening of One Acts*

*Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp (Youth)*

*Taming of the Shrew (High School)*

*The Dining Room (Community)*

OCT. 23, 24, 25

### Valdosta State University Theatre

(912) 333-5973

*All That Jazz*

OCT. 23-26

## November

### Theatre Albany

(912) 439-7193

*A Couple's White Chicks Sitting Around Talking*

NOV 1-2, 7-9, 13-15

### Valdosta State University Theatre

(912) 333-5973

*The Good Doctor*

NOV. 14-20

### PACT (Peach Area Civic Theatre)

(912) 825-0097

*Night Mother*

NOV. 14-15

Be sure and submit your calendar for the next edition.

## The Academy Theatre for Youth Tours

The Academy Theatre for Youth, Artists in School Tour will resume in October 1997. The tour, which since 1961 has brought original, though-provoking plays to thousands of students throughout the Southeast, will this year concentrate on the issues of teen pregnancy, violence, decision-making and race relations.

The 1997/98 repertoire is as follows:

*It's Mine, I Had It First!* For grades Pre-K2 is a new play about sharing decisions, and consequences.

*When I Feel Angry.* For grades 3-5. Is about recognizing and controlling anger and violence.

*Mixin' at the Mall.* For grades 6-8. Addresses the power of bystanders to affect incendiary situations.

*Facing the "Other."* For grades 6-12. Play about encountering differences that examines the disabled and elderly within the context of a school reunion.

*Thurgood Marshall.* By Ed Montgomery. For grades 6-12. Chronicles Justice Marshall's life from his boyhood to the Supreme Court.

*Baby Blues.* For grades -12. Is a careful, challenging examination of the psychological patterns that contribute to teen pregnancy.

Except for *Thurgood Marshall*, all plays in the repertoire are company-developed, and directed either by Frank Wittow, Founder & Artistic Director or Robert Waterhouse, the Academy Theatre's Artistic Education Director.

All performances are followed by workshops in which the Theatre's specially trained actors lead students in exercises and games to further an understanding of the issues addressed in the plays. For more information call 404/525-4111.

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

December 10, 1997

## Make-up Workshops Featured

Dana Nye, President of Ben Nye Make-up, Inc. will present two workshops on Theatrical Make-up during the Convention. Make room either Friday afternoon from 1-3, or Saturday from 12-2. Mr. Nye will offer instruction on how to design realistic characters with professional make-up. Topics will include: Straight male character (no age), Special Character with bruises, black-eye, wounds, scrapes, and beard. Also included will be, Beauty and Old Age design for close up and broad staging.

Ben Nye, Sr. Founded the well known make-up company which bears his name, and became known as one of Hollywood's most prominent make-up artists. Following in his father's footsteps, Dana Nye has been in charge of make-up for at least one television sitcom each season. His credits include: "Murphy Brown", "The John Laroquette Show", "Dear John", and "Boston Commons". He has also been in charge of the make-up for hundreds of national TC commercials. Operating from his headquarters in Los Angeles, California, Dana has become a frequent college lecturer on contemporary make-up techniques.

The Georgia Theatre Conference is pleased to be able to provide guest artists of Mr. Nye's caliber at our conventions. Attendance at one of the make-up workshops led by Mr. Nye is recommended to all divisions. Regardless of the level of your own expertise, the workshop will offer information and explanations based on professional experience and expertise.

## *Tentative Convention Schedule*

### *Thursday*

6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.	Secondary Schools	Hartley Auditorium
11:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.	Reception	Apartment-Villas by the Sea
11:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.	Student Social	Breakout room-Villas

### *Friday*

8:00 a.m.	Exhibitors Set-up Lobby-Convention Center	
8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.	Secondary Schools	Hartley Auditorium
10:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.	Seminars	Break-out rooms-Villas
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Presidents Luncheon	Apartment-Villas by the Sea
4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Community Theatre-Tech	Beachside Hall
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Reading of winning play	TBA
9:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m.	Reception	Apartment-Villas by the Sea
9:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m.	Student Party	Breakout room-Villas

### *Saturday*

8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Secondary Schools	Hartley Auditorium
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Community Theatre	Beachside Hall
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	Theatre for Youth	Convention Center, Room #4
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	SETC Auditions	Convention Center- Villas
10:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.	Seminars	Break-out rooms-Villas
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Social Hour	Convention Center- Villas
8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.	Banquet	Convention Center- Villas
10:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.	Student Dance	Convention Center- Villas
10:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.	Adult Social	Convention Center- Villas

### *Sunday*

9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	Apartment-Villas by the Sea
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