

GTC Conference 2003 Goes to the "Dawgs"

GTC Theatre News

April 2003 Spring Edition

GTC Welcome in Dawg's House

The city of Athens, GA and the University of Georgia have opened their hearts and facilities to host the 2003 Georgia Theatre Conference. Thanks to the organizational efforts of Dr. Stanley Longman, the 2003 version of the conference will be held on October 16 through 18 on and about the campus of UGA. Dean Slusser, president of the Georgia Theatre Conference said, 'we have been waiting to visit the Athens area and the UGA campus for many years. I am thrilled that all the elements are coming together for this 2003 conference.'

The major theme of the October conference will be professions in the theatre. Professionals from all aspects of the theatre industry will be on hand to offer ideas, suggestions and opportunities to broaden our horizons and help expand our knowledge of professional opportunities in the theatre business.

The board and Dr. Longman is looking for your suggestions as to what workshops would be valuable at the 2003 conference. If you have any ideas as to what kind of workshop you would enjoy or suggestions as to outstanding workshop presenters, please share your thoughts and ideas. You can visit the GTC website at www.georgiatheatreconference.com and locate a workshop proposal form or use the form included in this publication. The form was placed on the web on March 18 and can be filled out in your web browser or in MS Word and emailed to Dr. Longman. You can also locate the names and email addresses of all Board members at the www.georgiatheatreconference.com site and email any of them with your suggestions. Remember, this is your conference and you should feel free to contribute ideas.

The 2003 conference promises to be an outstanding opportunity for all adults and students. Please mark your calendars now for the October 16 to 18 dates.

Wanted!!! Your Summer Theatre Plans!

Do you have a summer theatre season you would like to promote? Many of our members like to travel in the summer and would enjoy seeing a show. Go to the GTC website at www.georgiatheatreconference.com and join the yahoo group. Once you are a group member you are welcome to visit the calendar link and see what other groups around the state are doing this summer. Send your dates to the GTC site moderator, Kevin Patrick patrick_kevin@colstate.edu and he will post the information to the website calendar.



Electronic Newsletter brings GTC into 21st Century

This newsletter, delivered by post, is soon to become a thing of the past. This will be the next to last edition of the GTC newsletter that will be printed and mailed to our membership. With almost every member having access to the internet, the Board made a recent decision to convert to an all electronic communication system. Expectations include having all registration forms on line for the 2003 conference. All announcements and events will be listed on the website. The website includes a calendar where members can list their production dates and others around the state can locate performances they might enjoy seeing. There will be constant updates concerning the 2003 conference in Athens and valuable deadline information. As a resource, the internet is always available to you so you won't have to rely on getting mail or possibly misplacing that important reminder about conference events. The Board feels this change will benefit the entire membership in ways we haven't even discovered as yet.

Please do the following:

1. Go to www.georgiatheatreconference.com
2. Bookmark the site as one of your favorites
3. Join the GTC Yahoo group by clicking on this link: groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiatheatreconference/ and then click on the "Join This Group" link at the top of this page
4. Subscribe to the GTC Yahoo Group email by sending an email to: GeorgiaTheatreConference-Subscribe@yahoo.com
5. Beginning with this newsletter, you will receive it electronically via email.

Your feedback on this new effort would be greatly appreciated. Those of us who communicate on a regular basis have accepted this as a great idea. If you want to share your thoughts and feelings, please feel free. Board members email addresses are at www.georgiatheatreconference.com. Use the site to keep current with the state organization.

GTC 10-Year Conference Planning Schedule

Mark your calendars now—not just for this year in Athens, but for the next several years. The board has already approved sites and dates for conventions through 2010. We ask you to mark your calendars and then plan your season to enable you and your students, companies or members to attend and participate in the annual convention of the Georgia Theatre Conference. *It's your organization, and we need you to make things happen.*

DATE	LOCATION	HOST
October 16 – 19, 2003	Athens	University of Georgia
October 14 – 17, 2004	Savannah	AASU
October 13 – 16, 2005	Gainesville (Gainesville College, Brenau University)	Gainesville Theatre Alliance
October 19 – 22, 2006	Macon	Macon Little Theatre
October 18 – 21, 2007	Vidalia	Three Guys
October, 2008	Marietta	Kennesaw College

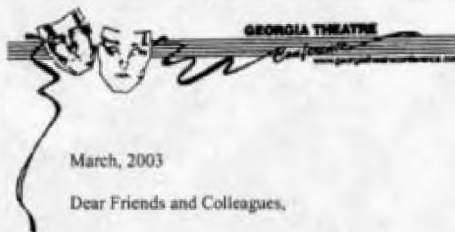
Proposed By Laws Revision

The Board of Directors of GTC has made a revision in the by-laws. This revision adds the Secondary Division Audition Coordinator as a voting member of the Board. Mary Norman currently holds the position of Audition Coordinator of the Secondary Division and the Board is pleased to include her as a voting member after passing the by-law revision at the August Board meeting.



In Sincere Sympathy

The Georgia Theatre Conference wishes to extend love and sympathy to Jacque Wheeler in the loss of her mother, Ms. Lauretta Szopinski this winter. We will keep Jacque in our thoughts and prayers.



March, 2003

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I bring you greetings from Georgia's Coastal Corner where I have just returned from a chilly convention of the Southeastern Theatre Conference in Arlington, Virginia. It was cold outside, but got progressively warmer as one of the largest and greatest regional theatre organizations in our country came together in the nation's capital to celebrate our art and learn what our colleagues are doing. I found a particular warmth and comfort from the many faces at our state meeting on Friday afternoon. There were some old and new faces there, and I hope we will see them again at our convention in Athens. At the state meeting I tried to share my vision of where I would like to lead the Georgia Theatre Conference over the next several months, and on the advice of some of my board members, I offer some of that vision to you now. I am not certain it as well in written form as it does when spoken in person, but I'll do my best.

My story really starts with the infamous "presidential boxes"—a collection of archives, scrapbook materials and other records that have been accumulated and passed on from president to president since at least the 1970's, and possibly since the beginning of the organization. As it happened, the boxes were wearing out when I inherited them, and in the process of replacing the worn out boxes, I found myself reading a lot of history about Georgia theatre Conference. What I learned may surprise you. It hasn't always been about play festivals. In fact, the growth of the secondary school play festival has been a relatively recent event. In its earlier forms, the annual convention of the Georgia Theatre Conference was about coming together to celebrate and network with one another. We had guest artists, workshops, social events, and even performances—much like we do now—but the difference then was that the performances were showcased for the entire convention to attend. There may have been a college play, a secondary play or two, and a community theatre and children's show. The convention would involve break-out sessions on a variety of issues, pertinent to a variety of theatre disciplines, but the productions, like the social gatherings, were a time of coming together.

Somewhere along the line, through no fault of our own, we seem to have lost that connection. Georgia Theatre Conference became identified with play festivals and the networking that we did became less important—even bothersome. Beneath any specific issues we are addressing under my leadership in the organization is the desire to get reconnected—to establish an environment where the best and brightest theatre professionals, educators, researchers, performers and students can come together and share. In this regard, I want our organization to serve every constituency with whatever services or opportunities we can provide for our members to enhance and affirm their work in the theatre.

I am talking with the division leadership in GTC to explore how we might continue to serve our members with play festivals and other performance activities, while at the same time de-emphasizing the importance of the convention festivals and rebuilding interdivisional opportunities. It is my hope that as part of the fall convention in Athens, we will be able to come forward with a proposal for changing the format of our annual convention.

Alas, I digress. There is something about sharing with friends that rejuvenates us, isn't there? And like many of you, I have just come back from a week of sharing. More, next time. Until then, mark your calendar for Athens, Georgia, October 16-19, 2003.

Sincerely,

Dean Slusser, GTC President

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The annual convention of the Georgia Theatre Conference is coming to Athens October 16-19, 2003. We need your help in developing the best possible program to suit the needs of our membership. Please look over the questions below. If you have an interest, or even a possible answer to any of them, complete a program proposal form and send it to Dr. Stanley Longman at UGA. You'll find the address at the bottom of the form.

If you have concerns or ideas that are not listed below, please submit those to Dr. Longman as well. It's your organization. We want to make it serve your needs.

1. What Touring Companies travel across the state?
2. How do you break into the Atlanta Theatre Scene?
3. Who are Georgia's Theatre Professionals?
4. Should metro theatres be reaching out across the state?
5. What is successful in audience development?
6. Does the college and university training scene meet the needs of professional theatres?
7. What about planning a theatre trip to Atlanta?
8. Is theatre education vocational education?
9. How do you deal with public relations?
10. Can we develop a network of professionals across the state?
11. How do you track your audience?
12. What makes for successful scenic design? Costume design?
13. How do I pursue a career in: acting, directing, scene design, costume design, technical direction, stage management, lighting and sound, public relations, arts management, make up art, technical direction, etc.
14. What internships are available in Georgia?
15. Is there a career as road tech?
16. What networks already exist in theatre in Georgia?
17. How do you deal with a Board of Directors?
18. Do booster clubs really work?
19. How do I write a grant? Where do I find the funding?
20. Georgia Theatre Conference: What have we been? What are we now? What could we be?
21. How do we start a community theatre?



Celebrate our Winners Georgia Theatre Conference 2002 Georgia Southwestern State University

BEST SET - Harlem High School
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
BEST COSTUMES - Washington County High School
Guys and Dolls
BEST SET UP - Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School
Our Country's Good
BEST ENSEMBLE - McIntosh High School
Godspell

BEST OVERALL CONCEPT PRODUCTION AWARD - The Galloway School - The Butterfly's Evil Spell

ALL-STAR CAST:
Tyler Vickery (Buddy) The Diviners
Laura Keena (Mag) Lovers
Josh Burt (McMurphy) One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
Kylene Cepeda (Kara) Dancing Solo
Tom Reed (Adam) The Diary of Adam and Eve
Sarah Feldberg (Butterfly) The Butterfly's Evil Spell
Brittney Brettin (Cheerleader) Godspell
Patrick Anderson (Ali) Rowing to America...
Jimi Kocina (Seymour) Little Shop of Horrors
Taryn Giles (Adelaide) Guys and Dolls
Andrew Spratt (Nathan Detroit) Guys and Dolls
Sarah Smith (Daby) Our Country's Good

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR - Charlie Sanders (Bromdem)
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS - Pauline Paris (Norma)
The Diviners

BEST ACTOR - Anant Nyshadham (Sakini)
Teahouse of the August Moon
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BEST ACTRESS - Krista Hasinger (Nurse)
The Death of Bessie Smith

RUNNER UP PLAY - North Springs High School
Little Shop of Horrors

BEST PLAY - Greater Atlanta Christian School
The Diviners

TOP SCORE: (77 out of 84), SETC Screening Auditions
Nathan Suggs, of Valdosta State University

FIRST ANNUAL COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DESIGN COMPETITION

FIRST PLACE, SCENE DESIGN
Kraig Seichrist-All In The Timing
of Kennesaw State University

SECOND PLACE, LIGHTING DESIGN
Russell S. Sorrow-Baltimore Waltz
of Georgia College and State University

THIRD PLACE, LIGHTING DESIGN
Scotti Smith-True West
of Georgia College and State University

Make Plans Now For Convention 2003

**October 16 - 18, 2003
Athens, GA**

Mary Kraack
2139 Logan Drive
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Visit the GTC Website at

www.georgiatheatreconference.com

Follow the link to:

groups.yahoo.com/group/georgiatheatreconference/

Join the GTC Yahoo Group for:

GTC Email Announcements: upcoming events, forms, deadlines, and more

Calendar: put your season up on the calendar for others to see

Links: list your theatre website

Polls: respond to polls about workshops, auditions, etc.

To receive future electronic GTC Newsletters, send an email to:

GeorgiaTheatreConference-subscribe@yahoogroups.com