

2019 ACT Annual Meeting and Membership Event

Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

Pending approval by membership at 2020 Annual Meeting

Called to order by James Machamer at 2:05 PM.

2018 ACT Annual Meeting and Membership Event Minutes – Valerie Stratton presented the minutes. Brad Church motioned to accept the minutes; Tamra Mullens seconded; motion passed.

Our key accomplishments for 2018-2019 season: presented by James Machamer

- Presented 9 productions with total attendance of 3,455
- Continued the successful Studio Series for a second year
- Welcomed 46 actors who made their ACT debut
- Had a great showing in AACTFest with our entry *Dancing Lessons* - more on that later
- Received 3 Cloris Award nominations, and the cast of *Kiss Me, Kate* performed at the awards ceremony
- Received 8 nominations for Iowa Community Theatre Association Awards of Excellence
- Hosted the popular vocal group Tonic Sol-fa for two sold-out shows at ACT. And they're coming back on November 9 - tickets are on sale now!
- Did our first collaboration with The Cellar at White Oak winery, a murder-mystery dinner theater experience
- Continued our great partnership with Midwestix for ticket sales and business management
- Offered 5 adult and teen education workshops on acting auditions, musical auditions, stage intimacy, Shakespeare for actors, and makeup.
- Hosted a Halloween party for kids and families, hosted groups from daycares, did workshops at the YMCA daycare, and did two Ankeny Love Lunch programs.
- Grew our member and volunteer communities
- Received a grant from BRAVO Greater Des Moines
- Held community fundraisers for ACT at HuHot
- Participated in Ankeny Evening with the Arts. Involved with Ankeny Arts Council, Bravo Greater Des Moines, the Cloris Awards steering committee, and Iowa Community Theatre Association.

YOUTH EDUCATION DIRECTOR REPORT – presented by Lynn Arterburn

- Reviewed details of our participation in the Ankeny Love Lunch programs
- 20 acting workshops for ages 4 through 12th grade were offered during the school year with 228 attendees
- 3 weeks of summer camp with 13 camp options offered; 14 staff; 227 total attendees with 47 first-time attendees
- Broadway camp was held here at ACT during which the students learned 15 songs with full choreography!
- Participants came from several surrounding communities
- Halloween costume party was a success last year and will be back this fall

Treasurer – financial report

- Doug Moon the financial report from 2018-2019 season
- We made over \$15,000 this year – huge increases from the previous years! This included new events with Tonic-Sol-Fa and The Cellar dinner theatre, along with increased memberships, and show attendance.
- Copies of the report were distributed for members' review

- With no additional discussion needed, Whitney Welp motioned to accept the report; Barb Wagner seconded; motion passed.

Volunteers at ACT:

James and Whitney thanked all the volunteers for ACT this year with a special recognition of first-time volunteers.

New actors at ACT:

James recognized the 46 new actors who made their debut here at ACT this past season.

Recognition in the larger theater community: presented by James

AACTFest (American Association of Community Theatre competition) - ACT's entry *Dancing Lessons*

- Cast: Ali Kirwen and Joe Kirwen. Director: Michael Hollister.

State festival -ACT was one of two theaters selected to advance to regionals, and won individual awards:

- Michael Hollister won Outstanding Direction
- Joe Kirwen was named an Outstanding Performer

Region V AACTFest - ACT won 2nd place, and individual awards:

- Cast won Outstanding Ensemble
- Michael Hollister won Outstanding Direction
- Matt Tuttle won Outstanding Lighting Design

Cloris Awards:

The Cloris Awards are a regional awards program, like Tony Awards for the Des Moines theater community. Cloris Award nominations:

1. Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Musical: Mitchell Nieland as Paul/Gremio in *Kiss Me, Kate*
2. Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical: Ashley Rogers as Lucy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*
3. Best Choreography: Dee Bollinger for *Kiss Me, Kate*

ICTA Awards for calendar year 2018:

ACT received 11 nominations for the 2018 Iowa Community Theatre Association Awards of Excellence

1. Ensemble in a Play: The cast of *Almost, Maine*
2. Lead Actress in a Play: Nicole Titus as Joanne Galloway in *A Few Good Men*
3. Lead Actor in a Play: Josh Zirkle as Matty in *Passing Notes*
4. Lead Actor in a Musical: Asher Suski as Ugly in *Honk!*
5. Supporting Actor in a Play: Scott Nielsen as Narrator in *Passing Notes*
6. Music Direction: Mindy Breaux for *Honk!*
7. Choreography: Mindy Breaux for *Honk!*
8. Technical, Lighting, and Sound Design: Matt Tuttle and Joe Kirwen for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*

Memorial tributes of members of our ACT family:

Polly Taylor – presented by John Claes

Kevin Sprague – presented by Lynn Arterburn

Patricia Wilson – presented by Doug Moon

Jeanne Hopson – presented by John Claes

Darel Hildreth Awards: presented by Whitney Welp

- Darel first appeared on our stage in 1989 in a small, supporting role at the young age of 59 in “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum”. In the following years, he stepped into a few other supporting roles (including a witch in the Wizard of Oz) and served as ACT Board President in 1993. What you won’t find in the programs, however, is what Darel took greatest pride in: being the guy you could count on to do anything at any time, without any recognition at all. When Darel died quite suddenly at age 65 while still serving on the Board, ACT lost a tireless volunteer, a member who had a lot to do with our move into this building in 1994, and a real character. And the Board never wanted to lose what he stood for, so the award was created in his name.
- 2018-2019 Darel Hildreth award winners recognized:
 - Kathy Polson, Joe Kirwen, Adam Haselhuhn

ACT Outstanding Performance Awards – presented by Whitney Welp and Valerie Stratton

- Lead Actor nominees:
 - Winner: Adam Haselhuhn as Charlie Brown in “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown”
 - Nominees: Ryan Ingram as Creature in “Frankenstein” and Josh Curtis as Victor in “Frankenstein”
- Lead Actress nominees:
 - Winner: Grace Smithey as Anne in “Diary of Anne Frank”
 - Nominees: Maia Talarico as Robin/Puck in “A Midsummer’s Night Dream” and Ashley Rogers as Lucy in “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown”
- Supporting Actor nominees:
 - Winner: Levi Frazier as Bottom in “A Midsummer’s Night Dream”
 - Nominees: Michael Porche as Kyle in “Happily Ever After” and Thomas Lecaque as Schroeder in “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown”
- Supporting Actress nominee
 - Winner: Allyson Martens as Sally in “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown”
 - Nominees: Kay Mueller as Adele in “Happily Ever After”
- Studio Actor nominees:
 - Winner: Josh Zirkle as Matty in “Passing Notes”
 - Nominees: Josh Sampson as Hal in “Proof” and Colton Buell as Gavin in “Elevator Family”
- Studio Actress nominees:
 - Winner: Riley Devick as Mae in “Passing Notes”
 - Nominees: Beth Fellmeier as Catherine in “Proof” and Ava Gifford as Whitney Wilson in “The Elevator Family”

Outgoing board member recognition: presented by James

- **Stacie Bendixen** - served as President, Membership and Sales chair, and Data Management chair
- **Doug Moon** - served as Treasurer and Finance chair
- **Becky Harden** - served as Production chair
- **Valerie Stratton** - served as Secretary and managed our actor awards program

Outgoing and incoming board presidents:

- James, president of 2018-2019 season, presented Susan Casber as the incoming board president for 2019-2020

Incoming board members elected: presented by Susan

- Brad Church, Joe Kirwen (treasurer), Allyson Martens, Robert Uy
- Cheryl Clark was approved to serve as president-elect.

- Returning board members were also recognized: John Claes, Cheryl Clark, Ali Kirwen, Tamra Mullen, Tammy Sposeto, Matt Tuttle, Whitney Welp

Early-bird member drawing: prize drawings was held for members in attendance who donated by our early-bird deadline. Thanks to Ankeny Diner, Vanessa's Essential Oils, Cafe Diem, and Sorriso Grille for donating these prizes, and Whitney Welp for rounding them up.

James Machamer made the motion to adjourn; Scott Hamilton seconded; motion passed, and meeting was adjourned at 3:21 PM.

After the meeting, entertainment and food continued with a game of Family Feud presented by John Claes, and a special musical surprise courtesy of John and Anne Claes and Adam Haselhuhn that the entire audience participated in!