



NEWS LETTER

Volume XIII Number 1

January/February 1974

U. S. INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE TECHNOLOGY, INC.
245 WEST 52nd STREET NEW YORK, N. Y. 10019 (212) 757-7138

National Conference

Full Speed Ahead

HOLD A SPACE OPEN FOR THE EVENT OF 1974...

The USITT National Conference
April 18 - 21, 1974
Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York

Registration forms and information have already been mailed to all members; if you didn't receive it, contact Pre-Registration Chairman Clyde Nordheimer c/o Jean Rosenthal Associates, 765 Vose Avenue, Orange, N. J. 07050.

More details just in on the 1974 Student Design Competition: there will be four categories judged, Graduate Scenic and Graduate Costume Design, and Undergraduate Scenic and Undergraduate Costume Design. "Graduate" includes professional schools and open categories; "Undergraduate" includes high school students. Judging will be done by a panel of professional and educational theatre people and in each of the four entry categories awards of \$75 (1st prize), \$50 (2nd prize) and \$25 (3rd prize) will be made. All entries will be displayed at the Waldorf throughout the Conference.

For a complete list of rules and entry forms contact USITT Design Competition c/o Jay Keene, Queens College Theatre, Kissena Blvd., Flushing, N.Y. 11367.

As part of the Conference program this year, there will be time set aside for a New Products Seminar. Commercial firms who wish to present any new items related to theatre technology will be able to give short demonstrations of their products during this Seminar. Any firm interested in reserving time for such a New Products presentation must contact Ron Olson, Strand Century, Inc., 20 Bushes Lane, Elmwood Park, N.J. 07407 no later than March 1.

Hail, Guardian Angels!

Three more blessed commercial organizations have joined the rapidly growing ranks of USITT's Sustaining Members. We're pleased and proud to announce that Associated Theatrical Contractors of Kansas City, Missouri, Electronics Diversified of Hillsboro, Oregon, and The Macton Corporation of Danbury, Connecticut have become our newest benefactors.

We think Mr. John F. Carr, Jr., Vice-President of The Macton Corporation, speaks for all three of these organizations when he says, "We appreciate the work your group performs to improve and aid the growth of the theatre and feel our participation as a Sustaining Member of USITT is a small contribution to make in light of your efforts. Your journal is an important step toward your objectives and hopefully we will be able to advertise in it in the near future. We look forward to an active participation in your group."

Thanks to all our new Sustaining Members...and welcome to USITT!

NEW THEATRE RESOURCE

NOW AVAILABLE

An invaluable new research tool has just begun publication -- The Theatre/Drama and Speech Index. Published by the Theatre/Drama and Speech Information Center, the Index is international and will index over 60 journals from fifteen countries, in addition to pamphlets, bibliographies, unpublished research and articles on theatre and drama appearing in speech journals. It also will feature a listing of play reviews and scripts.

Of special interest is the Center's desire to make unpublished materials (conference proceedings and papers, bibliographies, well-documented and creative student papers, illustrations of costumes, floor plans, stage designs, etc.) available to the theatre community.

For further information, write to Paul Adalian, Jr., Theatre/Drama and Speech Information Center, 1115 Crestline, Crete, Nebraska 68333.

COMMISSION CONTRIBUTIONS

OPEN LETTER TO ALL USITT COMMISSIONERS
from Second Vice-President Kook

I am taking this means of reminding you that your plans should be formulated for the annual meeting, at which time your reports should be presented in writing (including any addenda). If you don't anticipate a personal appearance, please consider sending a Vice-Commissioner and advise me of your choice. I'll be pleased to provide any assistance to you or your chosen representative.

Please let me have your report by March 15 so that sufficient copies can be xeroxed for attendants; my address is 234 West 44 Street, New York, N. Y. 10036.

p a t e

(PERFORMING ARTS TRAINING AND EDUCATION)

All PATE projects are operating at full speed now, in anticipation of presenting final reports at the National Conference. Chairman Randy Earle has urgently requested assistance from the entire USITT membership in order to complete two of PATE's major projects:

(1) Send ground plans from productions which you have designed (for PATE's project on Ground Plan Symbol Standardization), along with any symbol specification sheets which you may use in your institution or firm, to: Paul Camp, Dept. of Drama, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30601. To date, only one plan has been received -- despite this same plea's appearance in the past two NEWSLETTERS. Please, PATE needs everyone's help in order to complete this project.

(2) Technical theatre educators: PATE needs copies of plans of study for programs in technical theatre, design and management on the B.A., B.F.A., M.A. and M.F.A. levels. Additionally, descriptions of course content, when available, would be of great value to various subcommittees of the Minimum Standards project. Please send two of each document, so that PATE can forward copies to the OISTT Education Commission via its liaison, Will Bellman. All available materials should be sent to: James R. Earle, Jr., Dept. of Drama, San Jose State Univ., San Jose, CA 95192. NOTE: a number of schools sent materials last spring, which were forwarded to the OISTT meeting. If you did so, you need send only one copy of each document for the PATE files.

Tom Beagle, Chairman of PATE's Secondary Education Technical Theatre Training Project, reports that the Vocational Education Dept. at Antioch (Calif.) High School has submitted a proposal for an Interdisciplinary Distributive Education Model which will include the Theatre, Commercial, Art, Home Economics and Industrial Arts Depts. This means that Theatre Design, Technical and Business programs can be developed which may provide curriculum models for other secondary schools. Here's an active demonstration of PATE's function -- to expand and develop performing arts training and education in as many ways as possible.

m e m b e r s h i p

The Committee on Membership recently made a study of the distribution of membership throughout North America. Using the information supplied by the 1972-73 Membership Directory, members were charted on maps of the continent. Clusters of the membership were studied and membership within a 100-mile radius of a major city or group of cities was identified. A sampling of the results:

Washington, D.C.-Baltimore.....	25 members
Cincinnati-Louisville.....	20 members
Toronto-St. Catherines.....	14 members
Indianapolis.....	20 members

Given USITT By-Laws' requirement of fifteen members needed to establish a Regional Section, it's clear to the Committee that there is considerable potential for the development of new Sections in many areas. It's been found in the past that interest developed by the activities of a Regional Section has usually doubled or tripled membership in a given area. Those interested in more details of the study (find your fellow USITT'ers!) may contact the National Office; information on establishing a new Regional Section may be obtained from 1st Vice-President Charles Williams, Dept. of Drama, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.

REGIONAL REVIEW

new england

New England Section will sponsor a program on "Sound in the Theatre" on February 1 from 4:00-6:00 PM at Rhode Island College, Providence. Erwin Stuart of Theatre Sound will conduct the presentation, which is to be jointly hosted by the Section and the University and College Theatre Association (UCTA).

February 16 is the date for the full day of theatre activities to be held at the Trinity Square Repertory Company, Providence. Check the Nov./Dec. NEWSLETTER for details on this program.

Finally, New England is planning to hold another of its popular "mini courses" in Exeter, N.H. More details as we learn of them.

nor-cal

A busy schedule in the offing:

Feb. 2 - 1:00 PM - Calif. State College at Stanislaus: Nor-Cal Section meeting, facility tour and discussion of "Contemporary Design Concepts for Period Plays."

Feb. 23 - 9:00 AM - Burbank Studio: Joint Nor and So-Cal meeting; tours of Burbank Studio, Berkeley-Colortran; optional tours of Calif. Institute of Art or Universal Studios; new products demonstration at the Berkeley plant. Contact Chairman Randy Earle (408-277-2767,8) immediately regarding charter flights to So. Cal.

March 9 - 10:00 AM - Univ. of Calif., Berkeley Dept. of Dramatic Art: "Theatrical Unions, What You Always Wanted to Know...But Were Afraid to Ask." Business agents and members of IATSE, AEA and USA will answer any and all questions on this timely topic.

ATTENTION! If any California USITT member is interested in joining a charter flight to New York for the National Conference, talk to Randy Earle at once -- reservations must be made as early as possible to guarantee the flight.

midwest

Reminder Feb. 2; 1:30 PM; Illinois Theatre Assn. Convention (Peoria) -- the important facts re Midwest's "Panel: Sources in Theatre."

Friday, March 8 is the date to hold open for Midwest's "Kennedy-King College Theatre, Dinner-Performance-Tour." The program will include a 6 PM dinner, 7:30 performance by the College's resident professional company, and a 10 PM tour of the new stage. Location: Kennedy-King College, 6800 S. Wentworth, Chicago.

Saturday, April 1, 1:30 PM Midwest members will tour the Pabst Theatre, Milwaukee and, hopefully, attend an evening performance.

TECHING FOR ATA

The American Theatre Association's 1974 Annual Convention will be held August 11-14 in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn. As in the past, USITT plans to play an active role in the Convention's theatre technology sessions and therefore both ATA and the Institute have named Van Phillips, Vice-Chairman, USITT National Liaison Committee, to plan and coordinate all technical theatre programs. Anyone interested in working on the ATA Convention program in any capacity should contact Van at Dept. of Theatre Arts, TAR 230, Univ. of South Florida, Tampa, Fla. 33620.

Your NEWSLETTER Editor, Ellen Stodolsky, wishes to announce that the regularly-scheduled feature usually seen at this time and in this space will not be seen in this issue so that we may bring you the following special bonus.....
The long-awaited, desperately-needed INDEX OF ARTICLES AND BOOK REVIEWS APPEARING IN THEATRE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY NUMBERS 1-33.

If you wish to order back issues of TD&T, kindly send your check directly to the National Office (\$3 per issue for USITT members, \$3.25 for non-members).

NOTE: Unfortunately, we are out of stock on TD&T Nos. 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, and 27. If there is a great demand for a specific article in any of these issues, we will attempt to have these reprinted.

Our thanks to TD&T Editor Tom Watson and his assistant Aura Hill for the massive amount of work involved in compiling this Index.

And, finally, our regularly-scheduled feature, "Briefs on the Arts" (or a variation on that title) will appear once again in the next issue of the NEWSLETTER.

added attractions

Our newest members are legion in number -- we can't possibly list you all in this issue of the NEWSLETTER. We'll get you in next time, though (we hope). [Code numbers and letters in right-hand margin indicate class of membership and Commission interest.]

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|----------------|-----------------------------|
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| S Student | 2 Executive Council |
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Kirk Bookman 3242 Summit Ravenna, Ohio 44266	4-S	Chamizal National Memorial 620 S.W. National Bank Bldg. 300 East Main Drive El Paso, Tex. 79901	345678-0	Jim Elder S. L. U. Box 821 Hammond, La. 70401	45-I
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CALENDAR

- Feb. 1.....New England Section's "Sound in the Theatre" program, Rhode Island College, Providence
- Feb. 2.....Nor-Cal's Section meeting & seminar on "Contemporary Design Concepts for Period Plays, Cal. State College, Stanislaus
- Feb. 2.....Midwest's "Panel: Sources in Theatre," Ill. Theatre Assn. Convention, Peoria, Ill.
- Feb. 16.....New England Section all-day program, Trinity Square Repertory Theatre, Providence
- Feb. 23.....Nor. and So. Cal. Joint meeting
- Feb. 22-24.....Ladislav Vychodil Master Classes, U.C. Santa Barbara
- Feb. 22-24.....Univ. of Michigan's Invitational Festival of Experimental Theatre
- Feb. 28-Mar.3....Florida Section's costuming seminar
- March 8.....Midwest's program at Kennedy-King College, Chicago
- March 9.....Nor-Cal's program on Theatrical Unions, U.C., Berkeley Dept. of Dramatic Art
- April 1.....Midwest's Pabst Theatre tour, Milwaukee
- APRIL 18-21.....USITT's 14th ANNUAL CONVERENCE, NYC
- Aug. 11-14.....ATA Annual Convention, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.

Sustaining Members

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