

USITT Sightlines

september 1990

The American Association of Design and Production Professionals in the Performing Arts

FUTURE CONFERENCES

1991: Boston, MA

18-23 February 1991

Hynes Convention Center, Boston Sheraton

1992: Seattle, WA

2-7 March 1992

Washington State Convention & Trade Center
Seattle Sheraton Hotel and others

1993: Wichita, KS

15-20 March 1993

Century II Convention Center

1994: Washington, DC

16-20 March 1994

Sheraton Washington Hotel & Conference Ctr.

1995: Western North America

Dates TBA, Site TBA

1996: Central North America

Dates TBA, Site TBA

1997: Atlanta, GA

Dates TBA, INFORUM Conference Center

USITT Summer Meetings

Three Days of Institute Business Meetings held in Chicago



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USITT concluded three intensive days of business meetings with a Board of Directors Meeting at Mundelein College in Chicago on 12 August 1990.

During the long weekend there were meetings of the Commissioners, the Finance Committee, the Priorities and Planning Committee, the Publications Committee, the PQ'91 Steering Committee, the Nominations Committee, the Membership Committee and the Executive Committee.

In addition to the tri-annual Board meeting, a major activity of the Summer meetings was the program planning session for the 1991 USITT Conference and Stage Expo to be held in Boston 20-23 February 1991. The Boston Conference promises to offer an exciting schedule of programs and activities.

The actions and activities of the August 1990 Board of Directors meeting included:

- Approval of a new membership category. The "Senior" membership class is "open to members who have been individual, joint or professional members of the Institute and who

have retired from active work in the performing arts. Dues will be set at 80% of the individual rate..."

- Approval of the proposal for a Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology (CITT) and authorization of the President to make appointments and arrangements as necessary to facilitate the membership administration, publications distribution and other services as outlined in the proposal.

- Approval of a Board-designated fund to support special commission activities. The fund would be the excess of income less expenses of the commission sponsored pre- and post-conference workshops and events.

- Approval of a By-Laws change stipulating that "All officers shall be members in good standing of the Institute and a Regional Section."

- Approval of the slate for the 1991 Institute elections (see report on page 2).

- Approval of the 1990-91 USITT Budget.

The next Institute business meetings—the USITT Winter Meetings—will be held 15-17 November in Orlando, FL. ■

CALENDAR

- 14-15 September 1990 ▪ CITT Conference, Toronto, ON ▪ Contact: Ken Hewitt, 303-220-4900
- 8-10 September 1990 ▪ South East Theatre Conference, Atlanta, GA
 - 9-12 September 1990 ▪ Light + Sound Show, London, England ▪ Contact: David Street, 081-569-9742
- 5-7 October 1990 ▪ Institute of Outdoor Drama Conference, Cherokee, NC ▪ Contact: Judy Via, 919-962-1328
- 1-4 November 1990 ▪ International Convention Center Conference, The Woodlands, TX
- 15-17 November 1990 ▪ USITT Winter Meetings, Orlando, FL ▪ Contact: USITT National Office, 212-924-9088
- 17-19 November 1990 ▪ LD'90, Orlando, FL ▪ Contact: Lighting Dimensions International, 212-353-1951
- 1-13 January 1991 ▪ Costume Society of America Study Tour of France ▪ Contact: Kaye Boyer, PO Box 73, Earleville, MD 21919
- 20-23 February 1991 ▪ USITT Conference & Stage Expo, Boston, MS ▪ Contact: USITT National Office, 212-924-9088 or Events Production Group, 212-677-5997
- 10-30 June 1991 ▪ Prague Quadrennial/ PQ'91, Czechoslovakia ▪ Contact: Joel E. Rubin, USITT International Liaison, 212-757-5646 or Eric Fielding, 801-226-3258

SIGHTLINES

VOLUME XXX NUMBER 9

USITT SIGHTLINES [ISSN 1048-955X] is published monthly (except bi-monthly May/June and July/August) by the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc., 10 West 19th Street, Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011. \$15 is deducted from membership dues to cover the cost of publication. Second class postage pending at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: USITT, 10 West 19th Street, Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011-4206.

SIGHTLINES is published from editorial offices at 966 East 1030 North, Orem, UT 84057. Phone: 801-226-3258 Fax: 801-226-5342

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Editor ▪ Eric Fielding
Editor ▪ Cecelia Fielding

News From The National

David Diamond, USITT General Manager

We hope you have all received your 1990-91 Directory issue of *TD&T*. If there is any information in your listing that is incorrect, please contact the National Office immediately. Also, if you have not already done so, please fill out the employment information survey you will find in the Directory and return it to the office.

The Directory also includes a form for your donation to the USITT Endowment Fund which supports projects of USITT members that advance the field. You will be helping your colleagues with important projects by making a donation. If you have a project you need funded, fill out the application form in this issue.

New Membership Cards have just arrived for the new season! The new cards will be mailed to all renewing and new members. They include a detachable list of Membership Benefits, which can be posted for easy access to information about National Car Rental, Applause Theatre Books, THEatre JOBLIST, etc.

USITT will be taking part in "A Day Without Art '90" which will be held on 1 December 1990. The national event—sponsored by Visual AIDS, a collective of visual arts professionals—gives artists an opportunity to make their constituencies aware of AIDS' effect on the arts community. The organizers hope this year's event will in-

clude the visual and the performing arts.

Participating institutions are encouraged to reach beyond their traditional constituencies and coordinate efforts involving people with AIDS, schools, homeless shelters and AIDS service organizations in order to promote discussion about the prevention and treatment of the HIV virus. Participants may call the National AIDS Information Clearinghouse at 800-248-5231 for information about AIDS-related organizations in their communities. For more information about "Day Without Art," contact Patrick O'Connell at 212-513-0303.

Festival 2000 is a celebration of cultural diversity that will fill the streets, parks, community and arts facilities of San Francisco 6-28 October 1990. More than 1000 performers will present over 200 productions emphasizing multiculturalism. The festival is designed to celebrate the artistry of these performers, and to allow them to work creatively with traditions within, as well as outside, their own cultural communities.

MEDART International's First World Congress on Arts Medicine will take place at the Hague in the Netherlands, 29 September to 4 October 1991. There is a "Call for Papers" dealing with the relationship of Arts and Medicine. Contact New York University at 212-998-5450 for more information. ■

1991 Nominations Slate

Richard Devin, Nominating Committee Chair

With the publication of the nominated slate of USITT officers for 1991, it's appropriate to remind the members that, since the last election, a By-Laws amendment has established two changes to the process:

(1) The committee on nominations may now place more than one name in nomination for one or more office when they find that appropriately qualified and willing candidates have been identified, and,

(2) The committee shall present to the members a slate of 12 candidates to fill six member-at-large positions.

As chair of nominations, I believe it is important to inform the membership that, although several additional members were solicited for inclusion on the nominated slate, the ballot includes only one name for each office. Although two nominees mentioned personal or professional reasons for declining, many of those contacted, though willing to serve, indicated that they felt the incumbent officer was doing excellent work and that they would not wish to challenge if the incumbent agreed to be placed in nomination.

Additional nominations for each elective office may be presented by petition, supported by

no fewer than fifty (50) signatures verified as those of members in good standing in the Corporation. Additional nominations shall be accompanied by written approval of the nominee and a brief biographical description. Petitions must reach the Chair of Nominations, Richard Devin, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Box 261, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0261 by 1 November 1990.

Nominees for all offices and directorships shall have been Individual or Student members of the Institute or the individual designated as the voting representative of an Organizational, Sustaining or Contributing membership for at least one (1) year as of September 1 of the year of their nomination.

1991 Election Nominations:

President-Elect: Sarah Nash Gates

V.P. Commissions: Leon Brauner

V.P. Projects: Willard Bellman

V.P. Development: William Byrnes

Secretary: Jean Montgomery

Directors-At-Large: Whitney Blausen, Kay Coughenaur, Al Cushing, Randall Davidson, Dennis Dorn, William Flynn, David Hale Hand, George Jacobstein, James Moody, Carolyn Ross, Rick Stephens, Zelma Weisfeld. ■

The President's Report

Donald Shulman, USITT President

The new fiscal year is off to a fast start. The August Board Meeting has already come and gone, and because of the timing of the Board meetings this year—August, November and February—it appears as if everything will be on a “hypertrack.”

The August Board meeting and Commissioners retreat was most productive. The officers, commissioners, committee chairs and Board members are all to be commended for the long hours they worked, both in preparation for the meeting, and for their endurance during that weekend.

A number of long-standing administrative projects were brought to completion at this meeting. Vice President for Relations Norm Bouchard released the newest edition of the *Section Officers' Handbook*. Dick Durst, Vice President for Conferences, unveiled the most recent revision of the *USITT Conference Manual*. Both of these documents have been in development for many months.

Also presented at this meeting was a new pamphlet created by Chris Kaiser with the assistance of Leon Brauner, Jean Montgomery and Sarah Nash Gates. This is a collection of financial policies and procedures as well as a concise description of the budget process. This is the first compilation of financial policies in written form in one place. Institute members who would like a copy should contact the National Office.

A parallel document outlining other adminis-

trative policies is now in preparation by USITT Secretary Jean Montgomery. The first draft of a *USITT Board Manual and Policy Compendium* was given to the Executive Committee for review during the meeting. Many thanks to Gino for taking the initiative in this area.

As you can see, the Institute is well on the way to having good documentation for its policies and procedures. Any members who have any questions about our programs or policies are urged to contact the appropriate officer or me.

In other reports in this issue of *Sightlines* you will read more about the ongoing work of the Institute. I know you will be interested in the new cooperation and initiatives between USITT and IATSE. Dick Durst met with the Stagehands Caucus during the recent IATSE Annual Meeting in Hollywood, FL. This meeting was the result of many prior meetings by Bill Flynn, National Liaison Chair, and Jared Saltzman, our liaison with IATSE.

A great deal of work during the USITT Summer meetings was directed at planning for the upcoming 1991 Conference and Stage Expo in Boston. Led by vice president for Commissions Leon Brauner, the commissioners and vice commissioners worked with the leaders of Boston Conference Committee, VP for Conferences Dick Durst and with Events Production Group, the Institute's Conference Management firm to plan much of the program for February's meeting in Boston. ■

IATSE Presentation

Richard Durst, USITT Vice President for Conferences

I was very pleased to be able to represent Don Shulman and the Institute at the 60th biennial convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) in Hollywood, Florida on 24-25 July 1990.

I was asked to be one of the three speakers to the international delegates to the Stagehand Caucus on the theme of “Educate, Communicate and Organize.” Judging from the response after the caucus, I believe the information about USITT and its programs was received very well.

IATSE has recently approached us with an interest in cooperative projects and International President Al DiTolla is sincerely concerned about “educating” and upgrading the union personnel's skill in new technology. I believe USITT can help with those goals.

The other two speakers, Jeremiah Harris (whose company built all the automation for the *Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Misérables*) and John Paul III (production manager for Cameron Mackintosh, producer of the above shows), both spoke of the need for highly trained workers on the tours of Mackintosh shows. The complexity of

the scenery required special training that is beyond the scope of the traditional union member. They urged both the union officials and delegates to encourage this education of IATSE workers or the companies would be forced to hire non-union labor. Their focus fit nicely with my presentation on the programs that USITT sponsors. After the meeting I handed out all the membership brochures that the USITT National Office had and could have used twice that many.

IATSE has requested permission to publish my presentation in its international *Bulletin* and John Petrafesa, assistant to the IATSE president, said they were very interested in publishing information about USITT in the *Bulletin* as well.

I think this is a marvelous opportunity to make a big push for cooperation within the two organizations. I would hope that those of you who are or know IATSE members spread the word to others in the International Alliance. We can be of great service to them as well as tapping their knowledge. I was made to feel very welcome and appreciated the opportunity to represent USITT to this organization. ■

CONTRIBUTING

MEMBERS

- Associated Theatrical Contractors**
- Avolites, Inc.**
- Chicago Spotlight, Inc.**
- Country Roads, Inc.**
- General Telephonics Corporation**
- Gerriets International, Inc.**
- Great American Market**
- Interstate Consolidation Service**
- KM Fabrics, Inc.**
- Kryolan Corporation**
- Lee Colortran, Inc.**
- LightSync, Inc.**
- Malabar, Ltd.**
- Osram Corporation**
- PanCommand**
- Precision Controls, Inc.**
- Ride & Show Engineering**
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.**
- Sacramento Theatrical Lighting**
- Samuel H. Scripps**
- Sapsis Rigging, Inc.**
- StageRight Corporation, Inc.**
- Staging Concepts**
- Strand Electro Controls**
- Strand Lighting**
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.**
- Teatronics, Inc.**
- Theatrical Dealers Association**
- Wenger Corporation**
- Wybron, Inc.**

NEW C&S MEMBERS

Sightlines welcomes the following new Sustaining Member—Kenneth Snipes Engineering & Design.

Our sincere thanks to all the Contributing and Sustaining Members of USITT who do so much to support the ongoing activities and the continuing growth of the Institute!

**SUSTAINING
MEMBERS**

Adirondack Scenic
Adirondack Scenic, Inc./JCH
Peter Albrecht Corporation
Amecon, Inc.
American Seating
Artec Consultants, Inc.
Automatic Devices Company
B.N. Productions
Backstage, Inc.
Baer Fabrics
Bash Theatrical Lighting
Bayview Technology Group, Inc.
Brannigan-Lorelli Associates, Inc.
Broadway Press
Cal Western Paints, Inc.
Cam-Lok, Inc.
Canvas Specialty Company
Celco, Inc.
Centre Theatre Group
Cinemills Corp.
J.R. Clancy, Inc.
Clear-Com Intercom Systems
Columbine Fabricators
Desco Theatrical Equipment, Inc.
DesignLab Chicago
Desisti Lighting Equipment
Dove Systems
East Coast Theatre Supply
Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.
Entertainment Technology, Inc.
Events Production Group, Inc.
FM Productions
Feller Precision, Inc.
Foy Invention Enterprises, Inc.
Gagnon Laforest, Inc.
GE Lighting
Peter George Associates, Inc.
Goodspeed Opera House
Grand Stage Lighting
Grosh Scenic Studios
GTE/Sylvania, Inc.
A. Haussmann International USA, Inc.
Hawkeye Scenic Studios, Inc.
H & H Specialties
Hoffend and Sons, Inc.
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Sound Commission

John L. Bracewell, Commissioner

School's started and that always makes me feel that it's time to say, "Welcome back." Yes, I know I'm saying just what I said last year at about the same time. I realize that I may be the one who's been gone, having taken a somewhat unintended break from writing for *Sightlines*. One way or another, however, most of us, commercial as well as educational theatre people, are set to start into a new season.

As I'm sure a number of you will remember, a small storm blew up last Spring about USITT's service to professionals. One mission of USITT, possibly its most important service, is to facilitate the dissemination and exchange of information. But information for whom, exchanged among what venues? One of the complaints voiced last Spring centers around information and services that seem primarily intended for the educational sector.

Educators are always in the business of information exchange, of course. We need information to pass on to our students. But we're not alone. Professional designers and technicians are in need of information to keep working resources current. From whom do we get our information? What sources generate the information that USITT should make available to all of us?

An advanced theatre technology can only be driven, it seems, by profit. Commercial theatre—and that includes the concert industry, industrials, and the like—must reach for novel effects, because without those effects audience and revenue will go elsewhere. Achievement of an effect is a matter of application, but when an effect is needed over and over again, with no convenient way to achieve it, then the matter transcends the individual application. Real problems are defined by difficulties that recur with some frequency. To those problems entrepreneurs, and their engineers address themselves. Who provides the information needed to address the real problems?

Sound is probably one of the best bellweathers of the dilemma. Audio is a daughter of electronics which, in turn, is a daughter of the physical sciences. The pure research that brought about

silicon chips and wireless technology is far removed from our momentary applications.

If we have an information gap in theatre technology, I suggest that it lies here—in the fact that no publication in theatre has a consistent practice of reporting developments in research in the parent areas that underlie all of our technical resources. Educators, professional designers and technicians, engineers and entrepreneurs are all potentially interested in such information. Here, potentially, is a niche that USITT could fill as part of its mission of information dissemination.

If we have a lack in fundamental research reporting, I certainly don't mean to suggest that the fault lies with USITT's editorial staff. The Institute's journal can only publish what someone will write for them. A project as large as basic information research requires a lot of time and effort. I suggest that the commissions need to take on this challenge. Right now, I'd say that only the Costume Commission is anywhere near meeting the need.

So far as sound is concerned, the upcoming Boston conference presents us with a unique opportunity. Boston is a rich resource in audio technology and in applications research. Sound Commission programming will attempt to make use of as many of those riches as possible. I'd like to propose that we also use the impetus of the conference as the start of an information bank for the theatre and entertainment audio industry, which includes all of us who make up the various aspects of USITT sound interests. The commissioner alone cannot make any proposal take shape, of course. If you find the suggestion worthwhile, I encourage you to help out. As noted, information research is a labor and time intensive effort. To begin with, I need sound interest people—in the Boston area especially. So if this appeals to you, get in touch with me. You can reach me through the following addresses:

John L. Bracewell, USITT Sound Design Commission, c/o Dept. of Theatre Arts, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY 14850; O: 607-274-3929; H: 607-272-8128; Callboard PersonID: JLBracewell; Compuserve: 73737,1003. ■

Flea Market Reminder

Gary Miller, Manager of Membership Services

We are still looking for merchandise that we can sell at the USITT Booth in the 4th annual Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS Flea Market held in Shubert Alley in October, items like theatre art, design renderings, sketches, theatre memorabilia, posters, Halloween masks or even small properties which might be of interest to the general public.

So take a moment and look around that studio, clean out that closet or that portfolio. You will not

only be helping to fight AIDS but increasing the public awareness of the collectibility of theatre art at the same time.

Please send your tax deductible donations to the USITT National Office, 10 West 19th Street, Suite 5-A, New York, NY 10011 or call 212-924-9088 if you have any questions.

AIDS is a killer. No one can sit on the sidelines and say it's not my problem. There is something you can do! ■

THEATRE TECHNOLOGY EXHIBIT '91

The next Theatre Technology Exhibit is scheduled for the 1991 USITT Conference in Boston (20-23 February 1991). The success of the previous two exhibits has prompted the Institute to make this a regular biennial event.

The objective of the Exhibit is to recognize and display the work of practicing theatre technicians in all areas: scenery, props, electrics, costumes, sound and painting.

The Exhibit is your opportunity to share your successes and help all of us avoid reinventing the wheel. Don't delay—fill out the entry form today!

RULES AND REGULATIONS

✓ Each exhibit should focus on one of three categories:

1. **Device**—a demonstration of theatrical ingenuity or engineering.
2. **Material**—a description of how to use a new material to solve a common problem, or a familiar material used in a new application.
3. **Process**—a procedure used to solve a technical problem.

✓ Entry forms must be accompanied by a one- to five-page paper, including drawings, photos, etc. The papers for those exhibits selected for presentation in Boston will be assembled in a catalog and made available to those viewing the exhibit.

✓ The space set aside for each exhibit includes bulletin board area and table space (see "Display Options" on the Entry Form). Exhibits may include drawings, photos, data sheets, actual devices or models, samples of finished products and the like.

✓ The entry fee is \$25. Make your check payable to USITT.

✓ Six prizes of \$300 each will be offered. An Awards Committee will review the Exhibit in Boston. Prize recipients will be announced at the Convention.

✓ Exhibit Schedule:

1. All entry forms, fees, and papers must be received by 16 November 1990. They should be mailed to:
Ben Sammler
Yale School of Drama
222 York Street
New Haven, CT 06520
2. The Exhibit Coordinators will be solely responsible for the selection of the entries to be included in the Exhibit. Those invited to submit completed displays for inclusion in the Exhibit will be notified no later than 7 December 1990.
3. Completed exhibits must be received by 25 January 1991. Exhibits should be sent to:
Alan Hendrickson
Yale School of Drama
222 York Street
New Haven, CT 06520

✓ All deadlines are final.

TECHNOLOGY EXHIBIT ENTRY FORM

A separate entry form and fee must be submitted for each exhibit. Copy this form as necessary.

EXHIBIT DATA

Entrant's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Theatre or Organization: _____

Exhibit Title: _____

Exhibit Category (check one): Device Material Process

DISPLAY OPTIONS

Check One:

- 2'-6" x 8'-0" table space with 3'-0" x 8'-0" bulletin board backing
- 2'-6" x 4'-0" table space with 3'-0" x 4'-0" bulletin board backing
- 4'-0" x 4'-0" table space with 3'-0" x 4'-0" bulletin board backing

A 115 Volt AC power outlet will be needed (check one): Yes No

AWARDS

Any prizes awarded to this entry should be made payable to (name of individual or organization):

RETURN MAILING LABEL

Following the Convention, each display will be shipped via UPS, prepaid and insured for \$100, from New Haven, CT to the address given below.

✓ **Please Note:**

Each entry form must be accompanied by a one- to five-page paper describing the device, material or process, and a \$25 check made out to USITT.

USITT ENDOWMENT FUND

The United States Institute for Theatre Technology established an Endowment Fund in 1978 as a means to foster the goals and objectives of the Institute and have funds available to support the work of the Institute. Since its establishment, many individuals and corporate members of the Institute have contributed funds to increase the corpus of the fund; this, along with judicious investment of the Endowment, are allowing the announcement of awards to be made from the Endowment Fund.

The Endowment Fund is managed by a committee of the USITT Board of Directors. All applications are reviewed by this committee and decisions on all awards are made by this committee. The committee members are: Tim Kelly, Chair; Richard Devin, Donald C. Shulman, Richard Arnold, Randy Earle and Sylvia Hillyard.

The following "Statement of Purpose and Award Guidelines" will give the needed information so that you will be able to apply for support for your programs.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The goal of the USITT Endowment Fund is to further and perpetuate the objectives of the Institute. Accomplishment of this goal will be achieved through the financial support of specific undertakings of Institute members. Only new projects and research with the expressed purpose of the advancement of the industry will be given consideration by the Trustees of the Endowment Fund. Grants awarded are intended for the complete project or as seed money for a given project, not as ongoing support.

TIMETABLE

September 1990	Announce Guidelines and Application Forms in <i>Sightlines</i>
31 October 1990	Application Deadline
November 1990	Announce 1990-91 Grant Awards at November Board Meeting
1 January 1991	Starting date for projects
31 December 1991	Ending date for projects

GRANT AWARD(S)

The committee will make one or more awards totaling approximately \$5,000. Projects requiring more than this level of funding will need to secure those additional funds from some source other than the USITT Endowment Fund or the USITT annual operating budget.

While there are no requirements for projects to provide matching funds, the Endowment Committee is desirous of making the most effective use of its available funds.

GRANT AWARD GUIDELINES

A. Projects Supported by the Endowment Fund

To receive consideration for an Endowment Fund award, a proposal must:

- (1) Establish that it clearly seeks new knowledge through experimentation, research or collection of resources for research or study purposes. Projects which only perpetuate available existing information will not be considered.
- (2) Primarily benefit members and interest areas of USITT and advance the industry in general, directly relate to the goals and purposes of the Institute, serve a cross section of the Institute, and not be merely a parochial benefit to a limited region, group, organization or individual.
- (3) Provide results which are made available to Institute members through direct presentation/demonstration, publication or visitation.

B. Award Criteria

In giving full and complete consideration to the applications that are received, the committee follows certain criteria in its review process.

The criteria are:

- Ability to successfully implement the proposed project
- Creativity and innovation
- Impact on USITT and the industry
- New project
- Relationship to areas of Institute involvement
- Sponsored by and critically involving Institute members

C. Areas Not Supported by the Endowment Fund

- Activities for which academic credit is being sought
- Scholarships or tuition
- Bad debts
- Investments of any kind
- Capital expenditures unrelated to a specific project
- Creation of new organizations
- Expense incurred before starting date of grant period
- Projects whose ending date extends beyond the closing date of period
- Receptions and refreshments

D. Eligibility

Any member of USITT is eligible to apply for assistance. Also eligible to apply are groups of members, such as sections, student chapters, commissions, committees and groups of individual members.

E. Filing Applications

All proposals must be submitted directly to the Endowment Fund Committee in care of the USITT National Office using current application forms. Additional copies of the forms are available from the National Office (10 West 19th Street, Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011-4206; 212-924-9088).

F. Application Deadline

The deadline for this year shall be 31 October 1990. Applications **received** after that date will not be reviewed by the Trustees. The starting date for projects receiving Endowment Fund assistance shall be no earlier than 1 January 1991 and the ending date shall be no later than 31 December 1991.

G. Award Letter

When an award is approved, a letter and/or contract is forwarded to the applicant specifying the terms of the award. After the applicant agrees to the terms, no major changes should occur either in activities, personnel or budget unless approved in writing in advance by the Endowment Committee.

H. Reports

A final narrative and financial report is required of all award recipients. Final reports are due within sixty (60) days after the end of the project period. The form for these reports will be supplied by the Endowment Committee to all award recipients.

I. Credit Line

All award recipients must include the following credit line in all advertising, news releases, reports, publications, and printed programs:

This program/project/event (or other appropriate words) was made possible in part through a grant from the United States Institute for Theatre Technology Endowment Fund.

J. Application Forms

Applications for support from the USITT Endowment Fund shall be made on current application forms. All applicants should submit one original and four copies of each application filed. All applications should be sent to the USITT National Office (10 West 19th Street, Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011-4206). Should you need more space to answer any of the questions on the form, you may continue on another sheet of paper. Please be as concise with your responses as possible. Also, please attach a copy of your detailed budget to the application form.

Part I: Applicant's General Information

1. Project Title _____
2. Project Director(s) _____
3. Address _____
4. City, State, Zip _____
5. Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____
6. USITT Unit: Individual Member Organizational Member
 Corporate Member Commission
 Section Student Chapter Committee
- Specify Unit _____
7. Starting Date of Project _____
Ending Date of Project _____
8. Total Project Cost \$ _____
9. Amount Requested from USITT Endowment \$ _____

.....

Part II: Project Description

1. Project Title:
2. Description: Give a brief but specific description of the proposed project, stating (1) What the proposed activities are; (2) Who will be involved; (3) Where the project will take place; (4) Who will benefit; (5) What impact the project will have on USITT or the industries affected by USITT; and (6) Other pertinent information.
3. How, specifically, will USITT funds be used in implementing the proposed project?
4. Are there other similar projects being undertaken by others? If so, how is this project different?
5. Will you and your team be affiliated with any other organization, company, institution or group in working on this project? If so, what are their anticipated contributions to this project?
6. List the qualifications which make you and your team suitable to undertake this project.

Engineering Commission

Mitch Hefter & Jerry Gorrell, Co-Commissioners

Electrifying Event Currently in Development: Electrical Safety Workshops Planned for Boston—The Engineering and Health & Safety Commissions announce two workshops on Electrical Safety in the Entertainment Industry to be held in Boston just prior to the 1991 USITT National Conference. Workshop I will be offered on Monday, 18 February 1991 and again on Tuesday, 19 February 1991. Topics will include basics of electricity, electric shock, first aid, the National Electrical Code, cable, inspection and more. On Tuesday, Workshop II will be offered only to those who complete Workshop I on Monday, and will cover company switch tie-ins, generators, connector wiring, including hands-on work in these areas. Presenters include manufacturers, code writers and professionals in the entertainment industry who deal specifically with electricity.

Dimmer Data Transmission Standards Now in Single Volume—The new printing of USITT's data transmission standards for dimmers and controllers is now available from the USITT

National Office. AMX192—the Analog Multiplex Standard issued in 1986 (with editorial revisions in 1987) is reprinted and combined into one volume with the Digital Multiplex Standard—DMX512/1990. DMX512/1990 is a revision of the DMX512 Standard issued in 1986.

Engineering Commission Leadership Changes—Jerry Gorrell has taken on the position of Co-Commissioner for Engineering. He is taking over the Procedures for USITT Standards project, and will be assuming other responsibilities in the coming months. Jerry is technical director for the Phoenix Civic Plaza. He can be contacted as noted below:

Jerry Gorrell
Phoenix Civic Plaza
225 East Adams, Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: 602-262-7364, Fax: 602-495-3608

Mitch Hefter, the other Co-Commissioner, has new work and Fax numbers (his employer, Macro Electronics, moved to larger quarters). The new numbers are:

Phone: 512-837-5100, Fax: 512-837-1040. ■

Dr. Doom's Hall of Shame

Randall Davidson, Health & Safety Commissioner

A competitive exhibit of photographs of past and/or potential accidents specifically aimed at technical areas of the entertainment industry (rigging, orchestra lifts, stages, lighting equipment, scenery, etc.) is currently being organized.

All photos should be mounted with a descriptive paragraph on the front and a return address on the back. Size range: 5"x7" to 14"x20". Color or black and white photos will be accepted. If possible, a slide should be submitted for the Health and Safety Commission records.

1st Prize: \$25 and a Dr. Doom T-Shirt

2nd Prize: Dr. Doom T-Shirt

Deadline: 15 January 1991.

Exhibit may be viewed at the 1991 USITT Boston Conference.

Send entries to:
Robert McCaw
University of Connecticut
Department of Dramatic Arts
802 Bolton Rd. U-127
Storrs, CT 06268. ■

Costumers Portfolio Review

Maribeth Hite, Project Coordinator

The Costume Commission announces a Technical Portfolio Review for Costumers to take place at the 1991 Boston Conference.

This review is intended to serve the needs of professional costumers who desire healthy criticism of their work to date and suggestions for improvement or change. The review is also open to students who are interested in pursuing a career in technical costuming and wish a professional opinion of their work to date and a focus for employment in the future.

The three reviewers will come from professional costume shops in the regional theatre and opera world and will evaluate the portfolios

based on content, presentation and job marketability.

If you are interested in being considered as one of the participants in the 1991 Technical Costume Portfolio Review, please send a brief letter of inquiry to:

Maribeth Hite
USITT Technical Costume Portfolio Review
University of Delaware
109 Mitchell Hall
Newark, DE 19716

Letters should be received no later than 30 September 1990. At that time detailed information as well as application materials will be forwarded to you. ■

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Hollywood Lights, Inc.
Holzmueller Productions
Hudson Scenic Studios, Inc.
Independent Theatrical Installations, Inc.
Irwin Seating Company
JCN
Joel Theatrical Rigging, Ltd.
Joeun Technics (Korea), Inc.
Joyce/Dayton Corporation
Lambda Platform
Lehigh Electric Products Co.
Leprecon/CAE, Inc.
Light Beams, NV
Lighting & Electronics, Inc.
Lighting Associates Templates
Lighting Dimensions Magazine
Limelight Productions, Inc.
Lite-Trol Service Co., Inc.
Little Stage Lighting
Luxout Products
Lycian Stage Lighting, Inc.
The Magnum Companies
Mainstage Theatrical Supply, Inc.
Man GHH Corporation
Mid-West Scenic & Stage Equipment Co., Ltd.
A. E. Mitchell & Co., Inc.
Musson Theatrical, Inc.
Mutual Hardware
L.E. Nelson Sales Corp./Thorn EMI
Norcostco, Inc.
NSI Corporation
Olesen Company
Pantechinon
Pook Diemont & Ohl, Inc.
Product Sales Associates
Production Arts Lighting
Quality Stage Drapery
Richmond Sound Design, Ltd.
Rigging Innovators
Risk International, Inc.
Rose Brand Textile Fabrics
San Diego Stage & Lighting Supply
Sanders Lighting Templates
Secoa
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SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Select Ticketing
Shopworks Incorporated
SICO, Inc.
Kenneth Snipes Engineering & Design
Spotlight, S.R.L.
Stage Equipment & Lighting
Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
Strong International Electric Corp.
Systems Design Associates
Technolight
Texas Scenic Company, Inc.
Theatre Crafts Magazine
Theatre House, Inc
Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.
Theatre Sound & Lighting, Inc.
Theatre Techniques, Inc.
Theatre Vision, Inc.
Theatrical Services & Supply, Inc.
James Thomas Engineering
Tiffin Scenic Studios, Inc.
TMB Associates
Tobins Lake Studio
Tomcat USA, Inc.
Union Connector Co., Inc.
Universe Stage Lighting
Veam
Vee Corporation
Vincent Lighting Systems
Jim Weber Lighting Service, Inc.
I. Weiss & Sons, Inc.
S. Wolf's Sons

TD&T INDEX READY

Great news! The CompuServe Online USITT Index is now **complete!** Access it by typing either "GO BPF-1" at any "I" prompt then pick Menu Choice #9, or just type "GO BPF-400" at any "I" prompt to get there directly. The index includes TD&T subject, author and book review indexes. Please take a look through it and let the Tech Theatre Section of the CompuServe BPFForum know what you think! It's a great start, and as it is developed further, the Online USITT Index will be an excellent service for all. Our appreciation and thanks go to USITT member and Tech Theatre Forum Sysop John Macpherson for coordinating this project.

Section Showcase: Alberta

Normand Bouchard, USITT Vice President for Relations

We are pleased to begin a new periodic feature in Sightlines—Section Showcase—where we will be recognizing the important contributions and activities of one of the key components of USITT, the regional sections. We encourage all members of the Institute to be active participants in their local section.

—Ed.

USITT's Alberta Section was incorporated in Alberta in the spring of 1980 as "the professional guild of artists and craftpersons" to "provide research, publications, exhibitions, networking and representation for persons working in the live theatrical production industry."

Toward that end the Alberta Section has, in the past ten years, hosted or supported more than 45 seminars, workshops, and conferences, and has published or distributed a number of informational documents, including a regular newsletter.

Our current membership includes more than 250 persons, mostly Alberta residents, from a wide variety of employment and theatre disciplines, including professionals, amateurs, educators, technicians, designers and administrators comprising individuals or organizations from both urban and rural environments.

Possibly one of the most exciting and successful activities undertaken in 1985 was the launch of the Alberta Section's "CallBoard" project. There are now more than 160 registered users of CallBoard, from Victoria to Newfoundland, and our services include electronic mail, bulletin boards and on-line, disk or hard-copy databases. The "Organizations" database is a listing of theatre and related arts organizations in Alberta, and the "Suppliers" directory is a listing of performing arts suppliers in Canada and the United States. We have recently received two financial assistance grants from USITT to further expand this project.

The 1989 USITT Annual Conference and Stage Expo was hosted by the Alberta Section 12-15 April 1989 in Calgary, and marks a sort of "achievement plateau" for the Section as one of the most successful conferences that the Institute has ever held. More than 2500 persons attended, including nearly 100 from overseas. The trade show, Stage Expo '89, was sold out, and the conference attracted a significant proportion of new Canadian exhibitors and delegates.

It is an understatement to say that the conference's success was due in no small part to the outstanding service, dedication and efficiency of the members of the 1989 Conference Committee. As well, many other members of the Alberta

Section worked as volunteers, and may feel proud of their efforts. This conference culminated seven years of planning and significantly raised the profile of the Section and of theatre technicians and designers in the performing arts industry in Canada. It will have a long-lasting and positive impact on the Canadian performing arts community.

The Alberta Section is just completing the fifth year of its joint program with the Alberta Culture and Multiculturalism in the Community Theatres Workshop program which provides workshops in various aspects of technical theatre throughout Alberta. Originally targeted to provide 10 to 15 workshops in its first year of operation, the program has now presented more than 150 technical workshops throughout Alberta in a wide variety of subject areas.

In 1990, the Alberta Section has concentrated on the development of programs and services resulting from the 1989 USITT Annual Conference. In particular, the following activities have been the Section's focus:

(1) **Technician Training and Certification:** Sessions at the 1989 Conference concentrated on the current skills and competence of theatre technicians in the province and on ways to maintain or improve

on these standards. These discussions were continued at a subsequent conference of performing arts groups in Alberta in October 1990, and at the Alberta Section's 11th Annual Conference in Edmonton. At this latter event, a new committee was formed to consider ways to facilitate the development of an overall training standard for theatre technicians in Alberta.

(2) **Pyro-Safety Standards:** Again, as an outgrowth of activities in 1988 and 1989, the Alberta Section's Pyro-Safety committee has been working with Alberta Occupational Health and Safety to develop new standards for the use of pyrotechnics in performing arts activities. Most recently, following the 11th Annual Conference, the Pyro-Committee met for two days in Banff, Alberta to produce the first draft of an Alberta Standard. During 1990-91, this standard will be circulated throughout Alberta for comment and revision towards adoption in 1991. This committee is leading the way in Canada in this area.

(3) **CSA Standards Committee:** Four members of the Alberta Section flew to Toronto in September 1989 to meet under the umbrella of the Canadian Standards Association in formulating a new construction standard for lighting instruments and fixtures. This standard is now before the Technical Committee of the CSA. ▼

**"One of the
most exciting
and successful
activities of
1985 was the
launch of the
Alberta Section's
CallBoard."**

Section Showcase: Alberta

(4) CITT Representation: One of the most exciting results of the 1989 Conference was the resolution of Canadian members of USITT to create a parallel organization to USITT in Canada—the Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology (CITT). On 7 June 1990, the Alberta and Algonquin Sections of USITT jointly submitted a formal application to the federal department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs to create the CITT. In September 1990, the CITT will hold its first series of meetings in Toronto to establish and confirm the proposals circulated during 1989 and 1990. The Alberta Section has played a pivotal role in establishing the CITT and its future activity in this area is critical.

•••

Section: Alberta
 Region served: Canadian province of Alberta
 Number of members: 250+
 Section Chair: Pat A. Christensen
 Other Officers: Monty Schneider (Vice-Chair South), Bruce Specht (Vice-Chair North), Peter Gerrie (Secretary), Ken Hewitt (Treasurer), Board Members: John Avery, Tim Clinton, Jeff Herd, Ross Hill, Mike McPhee, Doug Rathbun
 Section Newsletter: Alberta Section Newsletter (quarterly)
 Newsletter Editor: Normand Bouchard
 Section Address: Alberta Section, USITT, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
 Section Phone: 403-220-4900. ■

Student Chapter News

C. Elizabeth Lee, Student Liaison

It is time again to start your own Student Chapter. If you would like information on starting a chapter at your college or university, contact: C. Elizabeth Lee, 131 Boston Avenue, Medford, MA 02155; 617-488-3660.

If you are interested in participating in or

working at the USITT conference next February in Boston, please contact C. Elizabeth Lee.

Remember that being a student member of USITT does not mean being a silent member. We need you to get involved! ■

International Liaison News

Joel E. Rubin, Committee Chair

Following are several items of interest relating to our international activities:

USITT Tour to PQ'91: We have now received official word that the 1991 Prague Quadrennial will in fact be held during June 1991. We are currently seeking interested persons—particularly someone who has participated in a past PQ delegation tour—to assume leadership for the 1991 USITT Delegation Tour to PQ'91. Anyone wishing to volunteer for this position or anyone wishing to be considered for inclusion in the tour should send a note to that effect to:

Eric Fielding
 966 East 1030 North
 Orem, UT 84057-3463.

We hope to be able to announce further details of the dates, cost and activities of the USITT Tour to PQ'91 shortly.

American Exhibition for PQ'91: The USITT PQ'91 Steering Committee has determined to concentrate its entry on the thematic section of the international competition: productions of Mozart's operas. Anyone who wishes to submit their scenic, costume and/or lighting design for a Mozart production to be considered for inclusion in the US exhibit should send a maximum of six slides or photos along with a written fact sheet on the production to Eric Fielding at the above

address. Submissions for consideration should be sent no later than 30 September 1990.

American Delegation to USSR: As a result of the highly successful visit of the seven-member Soviet delegation to the US during April, the US Centre OISTAT has received an invitation from Georgy Gunya, President of the Soviet Centre OISTAT, to send a reciprocal US delegation to the Soviet Union in 1991.

In his letter Gunya writes: "I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the wonderful trip you organized for the delegation of the Soviet OISTAT Centre. I met and talked with all the participants. They brought back a lot of impressions, new contacts and the most cordial feeling toward your country and the people they met."

The US Centre OSITAT Steering Committee would be interested in having your thoughts about this visit: theatre disciplines to be represented, cities of interest, duration of visit, best timing, etc. With an understanding that due to the current economic and political turmoil in the USSR the realities of such a visit are uncertain, interested parties are urged to send their ideas and expression of interest as soon as possible to:

Joel E. Rubin
 US Centre OISTAT
 119 West 57th Street, Suite 911
 New York, NY 10019. ■

FACILITY DIRECTOR

Swarthmore College seeks nominations and applications for the position of Director, Office of Community Space. This new full-time, technical and administrative position reports to the Dean of the College. The Director will provide hands-on oversight and management of College public spaces including their allocation and scheduling. (These spaces include an 800-seat theater, lobby and court in the College's new Performing Arts Center, and the all-college spaces in the College's Social Center.) The Director will also serve as a liaison for negotiating the public use of performing spaces under the direct control of the academic departments of Music and Dance and the Theater Program, including Lang Concert Hall, a dance laboratory and an ensemble theater. He or she will coordinate the use of other performance and technical spaces under the oversight of various departments and will provide practical training and supervision of student crews in support of functions and events in these spaces. The Director will supervise an activities coordinator, an audiovisual services coordinator, an administrative secretary and student assistants.

Swarthmore College is a selective, co-educational liberal arts college with engineering. It has a student population of 1300, and is located in suburban Philadelphia.

Qualifications: The successful applicant must have vision concerning the role of public events in fostering a sense of community; and a thorough knowledge of, and a passionate interest in one or more of the arts disciplines of dance, music and theater. An MFA or equivalent experience in production management and technical theater is required. The ability to work closely with students and faculty with diverse interests across academic disciplines and extracurricular areas is essential. An awareness of the necessary balance between the academic experience and community cultural life in a liberal arts setting is also necessary. Excellent written and oral skills required; knowledge of audio and video recording required; creative uses of computer technology in scheduling would be a plus.

Application deadline: Applications should be received by 15 September 1990.

Submit: Qualified individuals should send a letter of application, resume and list of three references to:

Associate Director
 Office of Personnel Services
 Swarthmore College
 500 College Avenue
 Swarthmore, PA 19081-1397.
 An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Student Costume Award

Zelma H. Weisfeld, Award Committee Chair

The Costume Commission is pleased to announce that the Institute will select a qualified student to receive the annual scholarship provided by The National Costumers Association. The \$1500 award will be given to an outstanding student already making progress towards a graduate degree in costuming.

Eligibility—The student must already be participating in a graduate program in costume design and/or technology, with at least one additional year to go. Progress toward an MA or MFA must be demonstrated by portfolio and recommendation. The award will be made on merit; other forms of scholarship or support will not hamper a candidate's eligibility. The candidate must be a student member of USITT, national or regional chapter.

Award—A \$1500 non-renewable scholarship, to be applied toward tuition; in cases where tuition is fully paid by the institution, the award will be made to the student in the form of a tax-free grant.

Recommendations—Three recommendations are required, one of which is to come from the candidate's graduate advisor. Of the remaining two, one must be from the graduate faculty in which the student is enrolled. The other may be from an outside source, including design faculty from the candidate's undergraduate program or employer in the profession.

Deadline—Portfolio and letters of recommendation must be received by 14 December 1990. (We realize that this limits first-year students, but the February USITT Conference and ACTF conflicts necessitate.)

Application procedure—

1. A letter of application to include a statement of goals, aspirations and philosophy: one typed,

double-spaced page.

2. Resume (CV): preferably one page, but no longer than two.

3. Recommendations: three (3), as stated, to be enclosed in separate sealed envelopes.

4. Portfolio: *Design Portfolio* shall consist of at least 10 original drawings and must include production photos or slides of the finished work as well as a statement of intent and budget. *Technicians Portfolio* shall consist of copies of original designs, photos or slides of completed work, description of selected processes and budget, if appropriate. Process photos may be included.

Send portfolio with return postage and address labels enclosed to:

Whitney Blausen
Theatre Development Fund
1501 Broadway, Suite 2110
New York, NY 10036

Portfolios will be returned via Parcel Post. If UPS is desired, candidate must include prepaid UPS forms and exact wrapped weight.

Announcement of the recipient will be made at the USITT National Conference in Boston, MA 20-23 February 1991. The winner will be informed beforehand in hope that he or she may be able to attend the conference. The winner is expected to display portfolio at the annual NCA Convention in July 1991.

For further information, contact:

Zelma H. Weisfeld, Chair
Award Committee
1716 Charlton
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
313-665-7946

or

Whitney Blausen at TDF. ■

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Converse College. Full-time faculty appointment. Production responsibilities include: serve as technical director for three major productions and one opera per academic year; help train and work with student crews; supervise and maintain a fully-equipped scene shop, 270-seat proscenium theatre, a studio theatre, classrooms and storage areas. Teaching responsibilities: at least one section of Intro to Theatre; Technical Production; plus opportunities exist to develop courses in areas of particular interest or expertise. Design opportunities possible depending on qualifications.

Qualifications: MFA/MA in Design/Tech or equivalent professional experience. Must have solid background in all tech areas—aptitude in costuming very helpful. It is imperative that the applicant be committed to teaching and is able to work with students from all disciplines in the college.

Salary: \$19,000-21,000

Rank: Negotiable, dependent on qualifications

Submit: Letter of application and current resume to:

John Bald, Asst. Professor
Theatre Department
Converse College
Spartanburg, SC 29302-0006.
FAX: 803-596-9158.

Converse College is an AA/EEOE. ■

CURTAIN CALL

Deadline for the next issue of *Sightlines*:
Wednesday, 5 September 1990. ■

Sightlines

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