

sightlines

M A R C H 1 9 9 4

Artist

NASHVILLE CONFERENCE

JOHN FROHNMAYER TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Keynote Address at the National Conference in Nashville, scheduled for 2 pm on Wednesday, April 13, will be delivered by John Frohnmayer, former chair of the National Endowment for the Arts.

During his tenure at the NEA, Frohnmayer was at the center of the controversy over public funding of art. He was heavily criticized by conservatives such as Sen. Jesse Helms and Patrick Buchanan over the funding of a very small number of controversial works, including the photography of Robert Mapplethorpe and the mixed

media work of Andres Serrano.

Notwithstanding his best efforts to balance the political realities of Washington-on the one hand, and the demands of free expression from artists and arts administrators on the other, he was fired by President Bush in the spring of 1992, a casualty of the Republican primary campaign. He has described his experiences in the book *Leaving Town Alive*, in which he asserts that the controversy was used as a tool by conservatives to blast moderate influences in the Bush administration—a hot-button issue to gain political advantage.

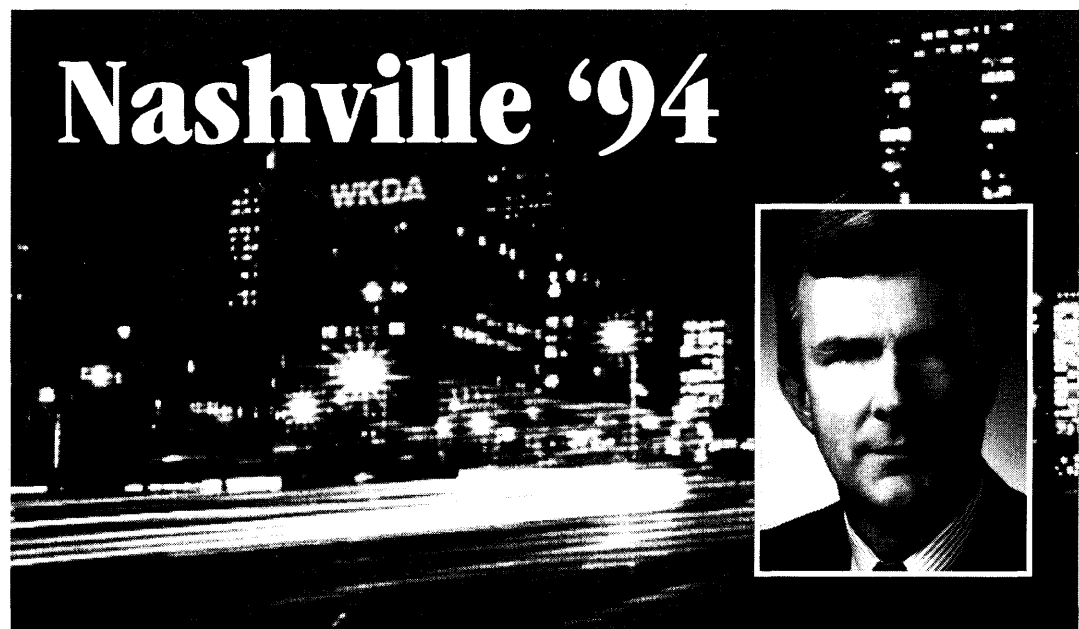
Frohnmayer is a noted speaker, writer, and ethicist. He has been included in *Representative American Speeches* for two successive years. Recent writing has appeared in *The New Republic*, *American Theatre*, *The New York Times*, *The*

Washington Post, and numerous other newspapers, journals and law reviews. He holds a BA in American history from Stanford University, a master's degree in Christian ethics from The University of Chicago, and a JD from The University of Oregon, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Oregon Law Review*. He also attended Union Theological Seminary as a Rockefeller Fellow.

He is also an accomplished singer, having appeared in recital, oratorio, musical comedy, and other musical performances in New York and elsewhere. Currently a senior fellow of the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center in Nashville, he is developing a course examining the "intersections of art, politics, ethics, and religion in our culture." ●

Leonard Harman
Conference Committee

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOHN FROHNMAYER & NASHVILLE CONFERENCE & VISITORS BUREAU

NOTICE

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USITT is very proud of its commercial members and the constant improvements of products and services used by USITT members in performing arts design and technology.

USITT encourages the research and development of new and improved products and is pleased to announce and report on these developments as well as reporting on the projects and success of its members. USITT does not recommend or endorse specific companies or products. ●

SIGHTLINES

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EDITORS •

**ERIC FIELDING &
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NASHVILLE CONFERENCE

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SET FOR APRIL 13

The Annual Meeting of the USITT membership will be Wednesday, April 13, in Ballroom E and C at the Stouffer Nashville Hotel during the Nashville Annual Conference and Stage Expo. The meeting will take place at 2 pm in conjunction with the Keynote Address. Everyone is welcome.

Members are also encouraged to attend the Institute Town Meeting on Friday, April 15, at 2:30 pm when USITT Officers and Board members will be available to discuss the status of events within the Institute and answer any questions from the membership. President Gates encourages all who would like to have input into the workings of the Institute and its future to attend. ●

Jean Montgomery
USITT Secretary

ENDOWMENT FUND

THEATRE ART AUCTION IN NASHVILLE

The Endowment Fund Committee of USITT will sponsor the 2nd Theatre Art Auction at the Annual Conference and Stage Expo in Nashville. The *Silent Auction* bidding will open at 9:30 am on Thursday, April 14, and continue through the close of Stage Expo on Saturday afternoon.

Scenic, costume, and lighting design renderings and plans will be auctioned through both silent and live auction. Among the works being offered are: a costume design from young designer Karen Ledges; a blueprint of the mission sign from *Gyps and Dolls* created by Joe Mielzner; and a watercolor by Ming Cho Lee.

The auction will occur right on the Stage Expo floor. To participate in the auction action, you must purchase a bid number in the auction area for \$5. Then write your bid and personal bid number on any of the 25 works of art. Forms on which to write your bid and personal bid number are provided for each item. Throughout the auction, keep an eye on the artwork you

desire; you bid and counter-bid using cunning and wily strategy to be the successful bidder at the auction close.

The *Live Auction* will take place at the annual banquet on Saturday night. A professional auctioneer will be on hand to make this a lively and entertaining event.

The auction promises to be fun and profitable for the Institute members and the USITT/Edward F. Kook Endowment Fund. Don't miss it! ●

Tim Kelly & Valerie diLorenzo
Endowment Committee

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

AID CALL FROM HUNGARY

We have received a request for assistance from one of our good friends, Éva Szendrőnyi, scene production supervisor of the Hungarian State Opera in Budapest. Many of you will remember Éva as one of our international presenters at the USITT Conference in Boston, 1990.

Éva writes that the son of the head carpenter of the Opera is gravely ill with a spinal tumor. Edmond Ludányi had one operation in Hungary that was unsuccessful and the family has searched for other alternatives. The pre-eminent surgeon in this field is Dr. Fred J. Epstein, professor and director of pediatric neurosurgery at New York University Medical Center. Epstein has met with Edmond's parents and has suggested that his team will do the surgery free of charge, but \$35,000 needs to be raised to defray the hospital costs and travel expenses to bring Edmond to New York.

Éva and our good friends in Hungary have asked for our help. The Hungarian State Opera is staging a benefit performance and the technical staff are donating their wages from the performance to the effort. They have contacted many Hungarian organizations and foundations for assistance.

There have been bank accounts set up for donations. If you can help, send your check to: Manufacturers and Traders Trust, 2443 Military Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304; Branch Number: 022 0000 46; Account Number: 150041907377176; Patient's Name: Edmond Ludányi. Thanks! ●

Richard Durst
USITT President-Elect

THE EXECUTIVE REPORT

A PUBLICATIONS QUIZ FOR MEMBERS

Consider for a moment the following questions:

1. How many publications does the Institute publish?
2. Are any of the periodicals juried?
3. How can you get your article[s], position papers, standards guidelines, compilation of information, and related design and technical materials published?
4. Can you name the Publications Awards?
5. Who was Herb Greggs?

If your response to the first question is "three," you are probably thinking of the three periodicals we publish: *TD&T*, *Sightlines*, and *Cutters' Research Journal*. However, the Institute also publishes books and monographs. Currently, we have 11 in-print publications. These are typically works generated through the activities of USITT Commissions, projects, and committees, such as position papers, standards guidelines, compilation of information, and related design and technical materials.

Furthermore, the Institute has published exhibition catalogs for Design Expo, Tech Expo, and for the Prague Quadrennial exhibits. We are active contributors to other published works such as *Theatre Words*. To augment our own publications, we offer selected pertinent works to the membership at a discount. All in all, the publications of the Institute provide the best means of keeping up with significant information and innovative practices in the performing arts.

Question #2 is a bit of a trick question. We now have **two** journals with juried sections. Beginning this year, *TD&T* will have a juried section. The submission criteria and statement of the process appeared in the Winter 1994 issue of *TD&T*. Additional copies of the guidelines for the juried section are available from the National Office and there

will be copies available at the USITT Booth on the Stage Expo floor in Nashville.

The juried section of *TD&T* will be committed to scholarly research including historical, critical, and aesthetic studies in all areas of theatrical design and/or technology (lighting, scenery, sound, costume, makeup, properties, and effects) and the area of theatrical consultation regarding new facilities or the renovation or restoration of old facilities. All types of manuscripts within these broad areas will be considered, including research reports, reviews of design activities, and papers related to USITT concerns. Papers are not restricted to any particular methodology or approach.

Traditional article submission for *TD&T* will continue. The juried section is an alternative route. If you wish to have your article juried, just make that notation on the envelope as directed by the Guidelines for the Juried Section of *TD&T*.

The other juried journal is *Cutters' Research Journal*, available through subscription. It is devoted to clothing, accessories, and textiles. Published quarterly, the *Journal* features articles on such subjects as costume history, costume conservation, textile history, period costume accessories, period patterns, costume sewing and construction details, and pattern conservation. For submission guidelines and/or to submit completed papers, contact: Whitney Blausen, associate editor, The Studio, 322 7th Ave., New York, NY 10001. Submissions are welcome at any time.

Question #3, "How to get materials published," has a couple of correct answers. One method for those of you attending the Nashville Conference is to make an appointment with the Publications Committee during its meeting on Friday, April 15, at 10 am. There will be an appointment sign-up sheet at the USITT Booth on the Stage Expo floor. The Committee has set aside this time to meet with potential authors to discuss projects and advise on the best procedures.

Another method is to call or write the National Office for the submission guidelines for the journals and for books. It is also appropriate to contact the editors of the journals

and/or any member of the Publications Committee for suggestions.

If you answered "two" for the number of Publications Awards, you got it! The Golden Pen Award is for an outstanding book published within the year which makes a significant contribution to the body of literature in the performing arts. This year the jury found the selection to be particularly difficult because there are several fine new books on the market. The winner will be announced in Nashville.

The Herb Greggs Award is in recognition of the outstanding article published during the year in *TD&T*. A 30-person panel selects the winning article. The members of the panel are the Publications Committee and the associate editors of *TD&T*. The eligible articles are those which investigate new areas or those that provide new insight into existing knowledge. Clear logical thought, artistic insight, good writing, and skillful presentation are required.

The award was created in 1979 to honor Herbert Dana Greggs. Herb was the administrative secretary of the Institute. As such, his job was to run the National Office, edit the newsletter, handle memberships, subscriptions, publications, billings, correspondence, section and commission mailings, and deal with questions from members and officers of the Institute. Officially, this was a part-time job which he held from 1974 until his untimely death in 1981.

Herb's full-time occupation was actor/playwright. His commitment to the written word and to publication make the *TD&T* award in his honor particularly appropriate.

There are two items I'd like you to remember: (1) A juried section of *TD&T* is in the works and awaiting your submissions. (2) Please join us at the Publications Committee meeting in Nashville on Friday, April 15 (an easy date to associate!) at 10 am. If you want to discuss potential publications prospects, please sign up on the appointment sheet at the USITT booth on the Stage Expo floor. We'll look forward to seeing you! ●

Joy Emery
Vice President
Communications

NATIONAL OFFICE

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL

Well, I know that while many of us are busy trying to recover from a whirlwind of natural disasters and freezing temperatures, others of us in the arts world are busy tending to other matters... like the Academy Award nominations and gearing up for Nashville for the USITT Conference & Stage Expo.

• Actors Alley has hired Los Angeles stage veteran **Elynmarie Kazle** to serve in the theatre's newly created position of associate managing director. Elynmarie will be responsible for fundraising, development, marketing, public relations, and overseeing box office and house management. She is leaving her position as resident producer of the Santa Monica Playhouse to join Actors Alley.

In addition to her administrative talents, Elynmarie brings extensive stage skills to Actors Alley. In addition to serving as a Board Member of USITT, she is also on the Board at Theatre LA. As an Equity stage manager, she has worked at The Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, The Pasadena Playhouse, The Mark Taper Forum, and the Los Angeles Classical Ballet.

Actors Alley is a 22 year-old theatre company in the San Fernando Valley. Its new facility, at the renovated El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood, has been designed to create a regional theatre center. Actors Alley provides an opportunity for actors, directors, designers, playwrights, and teachers of the theatre arts to be part of a creative environment that focuses on the artists' work and growth.

• Congratulations to **R. Michael Gros** who was recently named Dean of the Fine, Performing, and Language Arts Division at Ohlone College in Fremont, California. He will also be responsible for the operation of the school's Performing Arts Center, Radio Station KOHL and TV Channel 53. Gros has been active with USITT for many years, serving as Chair of the Southern California Section for three

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NATIONAL OFFICE

NEWS
FROM THE
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years and as current Commissioner of Theater and Production Management. He is also an instructor in the Institute's Management and Leadership Academy.

• **The Art Commission of the City of New York** has announced that the design for renovation and expansion of Dance Theatre of Harlem has been selected to receive an Award for Excellence in Design. The internationally recognized architectural firm Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates designed the project, which was chosen from several hundred submission reviewed by the Art Commission during 1992.

USITT member **Hugh Hardy**, an HHPA founding partner and principal-in-charge of the DTH project, accepted the award at a ceremony in December 1993. Hardy said, "The design joins elements both old and new to create an architectural composition that expresses continuity of time and place special to Dance Theatre of Harlem. A distinctive exterior face and sprightly interior palette of natural earth tones, highlighted by strong accent colors, help to reinforce DTH's progressive spirit. The building heads a new era for this most important New York City cultural institution."

The project, which officially opens this month, involves renovation of a 15,000-sq.-foot building originally converted by Hardy in 1971 from a two-story parking garage. New construction added space for a dance studio, dance support facilities, classrooms, and lounge.

Hardy has directed a number of visual arts, performing arts, educational, restoration, and reconstruction projects throughout New York City as diverse as the Rainbow Room at Rockefeller Center and the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Majestic Theatre. His work has been recognized by civic, architectural, and preservation organizations for its rich expression of context and a masterful integration of new and old.

Hardy is currently working on

transformation of a 19th century landmark SoHo industrial building to a sophisticated publishing work space for Scholastic, renovations of Time Square's historic Victory Theatre, and creation of a new outdoor restaurant in Bryant Park.

• **Colortran** is proud to announce the unveiling of their new line of Studio Fresnels at the National Association of Broadcasters conference in Las Vegas in March 1994. The fresnels are available in either manual or pole-operated versions and in 1kw, 2kw and 5kw models. Also showing for the first time will be the state-of-the-art Medallion control console and their DMX Wall Station. Colortran, Inc. is an international leader in manufacturing and developing lighting and control equipment worldwide. For more information, contact Cameron Smith at 818-972-5534.

• **Vari*Lite, Inc.** is please to announce that Starlight Services in San Marcos, California, has been named as an authorized Series 300 Dealer. As a Series 300 Dealer, Starlight Services, Inc. will have a San Diego-based inventory of Vari*Lite equipment which currently includes the VL5 wash luminaire. Starlight Services will provide rental services to customers in its local and regional markets. For more information, call 214-630-1963.

• **The Great American Market**, Hollywood, is introducing a new production tool: the GamChek, a compact, multi-power testing tool for production personnel in theatre, television, and film production. This three-in-one electrical tester will check power supply, lamp continuity, and cable wiring. GamChek is compact and can fit easily in a tool kit or belt pouch. Bright and visible LEDs are recessed in the GamChek molded housing which is equipped with 20 amp male and female connectors. For more information, call the Great American Market at 213-4610200.

• **The Santa Fe Opera** (SFO) announces its 38th season will open on July 1 and continue through August 27 with 38 performances in nine weeks. SFO will present the following operas: *Tosca*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *The Abduction*, *Intermezzo*, and *The Story of Blond Eckbert*. The SFO Box

Office will begin accepting telephone, mail, and fax orders immediately. To receive a 1994 SFO brochure, contact their administrative offices at 505-986-5955. SFO has established itself as an international artistic treasure and is acclaimed as one of the premier opera companies in the US. SFO presents productions of the highest quality in its outdoor amphitheatre. Attendance for its 1993 season reached 73,661.

The 1994 Gala Opening Celebration will inaugurate the 38th season with four days of revelry from June 30 - July 3. Special events include a pre-Opera Ball (June 30), Pre-Opera Dinners hosted by local luminaries in private homes (July 1), and a Benefactor dinner on the lush Opera grounds with performances by SFO Apprentice Artists (July 2). Additionally, the popular Apprentice Artists Concerts will be offered on 14 and 21 August 1994. For more information about The SFO and its events, contact Yvette De La O at 505-986-5903.

• News from **The Seattle Repertory Theatre**: David Mamet's provocative new play, *Oleanna*, will have its West Coast premiere at The Rep's Mainstage; Christine A. Fiedler has just been named director of development; and Bill Irwin, actor, director and inspired clown (fresh from Broadway's *Fool Moon*), will be in residence at The Rep as part of the National Theatre Artists Residency Program funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts and administered by TCG.

• Please join me in welcoming two new exchange members—**Educational Theatre Association** (ETA) and **Themed Entertainment Association** (TEA). ETA is a national arts education association focusing its efforts on theatre in the schools, grades K-12. They sponsor one national and more than 20 state level student/teacher theatre conferences annually. They also publish *Dramatics* and *Teaching Theatre*. Themed Entertainment Association was formed by the suppliers of services and custom products to the leisure and entertainment industries. The goal of TEA is to address relevant issues which face their members, create professional standards, and positively influence the development of

successful leisure and recreation projects. Watch future issues of *Sightlines* for upcoming news about our new members and the joint opportunities available to *all* of our members.

• **Harry Donovan** reports that **Donovan Rigging, Inc.** has been very busy lately. Facility managers and sound contractors now recognize the liability and hazards involved in rigging and using professional riggers and rigging consultants more and more. Donovan Rigging, Inc. has recently designed, consulted on, or installed rigging at the Indianapolis State Fair, the Western Washington Fair, the Calgary Saddledome, The St. John, New Brunswick Education Centre, The Seattle Kingdome, the Phoenix Veterans Memorial Coliseum, the Phoenix America West Arena, The New Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena, the Washington State Convention and Trade Center, and the El Paso Astrodome. Donovan and **Jay Glerum**, author of *Stage Rigging Handbook*, are conducting nationwide three-day comprehensive rigging seminars. For more information, call 812-9958212.

• **Tanya Moiseiwitsch**, one of the most celebrated figures in theatrical design, will be honored this spring with a retrospective exhibition at The Smart Museum of Art, the fine arts museum of the University of Chicago. *The Stage is All The World: The Theatrical Designs of Tanya Moiseiwitsch* opens April 14 and will be on view through June 12 before embarking on a three-city tour. The exhibit will include more than 100 sketches, photographs, costumes, masks, and models from eight major productions from her half-century long career. Best known for her innovative design of the first open stage for the Stratford Festival in Ontario, Canada, she constantly experimented in all aspects of production design and created a unique unified look for all her productions. The David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art opened in 1974. For further information about the exhibit or the Museum, contact Rachel Lerner Rosenberg at 312-702-0176.

• **Theatrical Dealers Association** (TDA) announces that membership now stands at more than 160 and

includes dealers, manufacturers, production companies, service companies, designers, and scenic houses. Administrative director Lori Rubenstein reports that a variety of membership services have been added to assist members in running their business more economically and efficiently. This includes special rates on Dun & Bradstreet's Small Business Services and telephone service. They've established a standardized Credit Application, expanded the Credit Reporting Plan, and conducted a 2nd Annual Business Revenue and Expense Survey. Prior to LDI'93 in Orlando, members attended sessions on the Business Survey, on *Selecting and Building an Effective Team*, and almost 200 attended its annual dinner meeting. For more information about TDA, contact Rubenstein at 212-865-7147.

• **TLA Lighting Consultants, Inc.** has announced plans for a seminar, *Reflector Design—Theory and Practice*. The seminar will be held in Denver, Colorado, at the Stapleton Plaza Hotel on 14-16 March 1994 with a field trip to IITL in Boulder on March 15. The seminar is directed to all persons involved in the design and use of reflectors for illumination, electro-optical, and related systems. The content of this seminar will range from fundamental concepts to problem-solving workshops. Details about various sources and materials will be presented. The field trip to Boulder will provide the opportunity to see the IITL facility that provides laboratory testing of lighting systems and their computer capabilities including reflector design using FIELD. Cost for the seminar is \$675 and attendance is limited. Further information can be obtained by contacting TLA Lighting Consultants, Inc., 7 Pond Street, Salem, MA 01970; 508-745-6870.

• **The Sound & Light Source, Inc.** is moving into a larger facility. The Northern California-based concert sound and lighting company recent reorganization and rapid growth in the retail sales has created a demand for more space. Their new address is: 3429 E Street #18, North Highlands, CA 95660.

• Attention all you music people—mark your calendar now for the

Musikmesse 1994, an international fair for musical instruments, sheet music, sound and lighting equipment, and musical accessories. More than 1,200 exhibitors from 40 countries will attend the show on 16-20 March 1993 in Frankfurt, Germany. For further information, contact the North American headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, at 404-984-8016.

• **SIB International Exhibition of Equipment and Technology for Discoteques and Dancehalls** will be in Rimini, Italy, from 27-30 March 1994. More than 400 exhibitors have signed up and 25,000 visitors are expected. Also making its debut at SIB will be *Concert World*, an exhibition and informative section dedicated to equipment, technology, and services for the live entertainment sector. For more information, contact Rimini Trade Fair/SIB Secretariat in Italy at 541-711-711.

• **The Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT)** announces the *16th ABTT Trade Show of Backstage Equipment, Services and Supplies* at The Royal Horticultural Halls in Westminster on 21-22 April 1994. More than 100 British exhibitors will display lighting and sound equipment, scenic paints and fabrics, scenery fittings and hardware, special effects, and more. For more information about the show, call ABTT at 071-403-3778.

• **New England Theatre Conference** will hold its annual auditions for non-equity actors on 19-21 March 1994 at Tufts University at Mulford, Massachusetts. Auditions include sessions for musical theater as well as straight drama. There are opportunities for technical personnel to interview with producers. For more information, contact New England Theatre Conference c/o Northeastern University at 617-424-9275.

• **The International Theatre Festival of Chicago** will be held May 24 thru June 19. The city-wide event features artists from all over the world. Productions will be staged at DePaul University's Merle Reskin Theatre, the Vic Theatre, the Wellington Theatre, and the brand

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NATIONAL OFFICE

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL

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new Navy Pier Park Pavilion Theatre. Festival audiences will be the first to enjoy the North American Premiere of Alan Ayckbourn's newest play, *Communicating Doors*. For more information and a full schedule, call 312-664-FEST.

- The League of Historic American Theatres announces its 18th Annual Conference and Theatre Tour in Los Angeles from 14-18 June 1994. The conference will be hosted by the Los Angeles Historic Theatre Foundation. Conference headquarters is the Historic Biltmore Hotel.

- A four-day **Broadway Lighting Master Class** conducted in October 1993, which offered the chance for top theatrical and television lighting consultants to explain the philosophy behind their work, proved to be a success at its initial presentation. Most of the attendees were USITT members. The majority of the students came from college and high school theatre departments and regional theatre companies although there was representation from commercial theatre and theme parks.

The idea of having a class on how Broadway theatre lighting is done came from Sonny Sonnenfeld, a veteran manufacturer's rep of stage lighting equipment for the New York area. And when lighting consultant Jules Fisher, well known for his work on *The Will Rogers Follies* and *Jelly's Last Jam*, agreed to be creative consultant for the project, other professionals accepted the invitation to be faculty members. Course subjects included: color and light, dance lighting influences, timing and rhythm for cueing a musical, the use of projections, special effects, adapting show lighting for television, design documentation, and the use of computers. If you would like information about future classes, call 212-645 4977.

- A very informative and enlightening evening was had by more than 30 attendees at the **Lighting Designer/**

Director Relationship roundtable discussion co-sponsored by USITT and the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF) on Dec. 7. Charles Cosler, Marc Weiss, and Terry Schreiber shared stories of their careers and collaborations in the theatre. A transcript of the discussion will be available shortly. USITT and SDCF are planning a series of roundtables, the next one being The Scene Designer/Director Relationship scheduled for Spring 1994. For more information, please call the National Office.

- The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) recently released its updated *Guide to the NEA*, 1993-94. This is a must for anyone needing information about funding for the arts. If you would like to obtain a copy, write to Public Information Office, Room 803, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

- USITT members may find funding for their dream project through the **Design Arts Program of the NEA**. This program funds work of exceptional merit that will advance design and benefit the public by funding projects such as conceptual and schematic designs, feasibility studies, competitions, collaborations, research and theory, demonstrations projects, exhibitions and communications tools, including publications, audio-visual programs, films, and conferences. There are eight disciplines that can receive funding: Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning and Design, Historic Preservation, Interior Design, Costume and Fashion Design, Industrial and Product Design, and Graphic Design. Grants are available to individuals and organizations. For guidelines and application, call the NEA at 202-682-5400.

- The ArtsLink Partnership is pleased to announce that applications are currently being accepted from US arts organizations for the *Fall 1994 ArtsLink Residency Program*. ArtsLink provides the opportunity to collaborate with an artist or arts manager from Eastern Europe, the Baltics, or the former Soviet Union ("the Region") at your institution. ArtsLink residencies provide support to US arts

institutions which seek to engage in joint international projects by hosting an artist or arts manager. Your organization can apply to either host a Fellow with whom you may have an established project or be matched with a Fellow with similar interest and expertise. In addition, the ArtsLink Collaborative Projects program provides travel grants to US artists in all disciplines who wish to pursue creative collaborations in Eastern Europe, the Baltics, and the former Soviet Union. For questions and further information, call the Citizen Exchange Council at 212-643-1985.

- Theatre teachers and their students throughout the United States are gearing up for the fourth annual **March is Theatre in our Schools Month**. This nationwide event is jointly sponsored by the American Alliance for Theatre & Education (AATE) and the Educational Theatre Association (ETA). Estelle Getty, well known to TV audiences for her roles in *Golden Girls* and *Empty Nest*, will serve as honorary chair for the 1994 event.

Special events are being planned in classrooms and in-school theatres to celebrate the excellence of theatre programs across the country. The celebrations are also a way of congratulating administrators and school boards for supporting theatre programs in their schools. Information packets, start-up promotion kits, posters, buttons, and T-shirts are now available. For further information, contact AATE, at 602-965-6064.

- The Arts Extension Service of the Division of Continuing Education and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst announced the *AES Summer Program in Arts Management* from 6-8 July 1994. Program fee of \$295 includes text, handouts, meals, and guest presenters from the arts, corporate, and community service sectors. For more information, call 415-545-2360.

- The Center for Arts Administration at Florida State University announce two upcoming graduate seminars: *4th Annual CAA Arts Management Institute* and *London Arts Administration Courses*. The theme of the CAA Arts Management Institute is *Promoting Community Development Through*

Cultural Heritage and Ecological Tourism and will take place from 5-7 May 1994 at the Hotel Sheraton Tallahassee in Florida. The 1994 Summer Study Programs in London are offered in a three-week session from May 27 - June 16 or a nine-week session from May 27 - July 28. Morning lectures and discussion are followed by afternoon visits to prominent London cultural institutions. For further information about both programs, contact Florida State University at 904-644-5473 or 904-644-2158.

• **The National Trust for Historic Preservation** is pleased to announce the publication of *Curtain Up: New Life for Historic Theaters* by Grey Hautaluoma and Mary Margaret Schoenfeld of The League of Historic American Theatres. This Information Booklet provides an overview of the challenges commonly encountered in rehabilitating historic cultural facilities and the major issues that people involved in all types of theater restoration projects will need to address. The publication is available for \$5, including postage and handling. Bulk discounts are available. Please call the National Trust for Historic Preservation at 202-673 4189 for further information.

• Deborah Torres and Martha Vander Kolk of The School of Information and Library Studies at University of Michigan announce the release of *The Guide to Theater Resources on the Internet*. The guide is the product of a course entitled *Internet: Resource Discovery and Organization* taught by Joseph W. Janes and Louis Rosenfeld. Students in the course were instructed in Internet total usage and resource discovery approaches with the goal of creating ASCII text guides identifying and evaluating the quality of the resources in specific subject areas. For more information, contact Deborah or Martha at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor at 313-764-7433.

• Jill Charles, editor of *Theatre Directories* announces the publication of latest edition of the *Summer Theatre Directory, 1994*. This is a handy, up-to-date employment guide for students and professionals in all areas of theatre seeking summer work. Performers, directors, design-

ers, technicians, and administrators looking for summer time work will find the vital statistics on 390 summer theatres. To order a copy, call *Theatre Directories* at 802-267-2223.

• **The Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT)** had published a *Code of Practice for Flying* as part of its series of codes of safe practice for the theatre industry. This code relates to equipment used for the purpose of flying, rigging, or suspending scenery, lighting, or other materials or equipment in any part of the auditorium, stage, flytower, or ancillary spaces associated with the performance. The *Code of Practice for Flying* is available from the Association of British Theatre Technicians for 10 British pounds. Other codes of practice published by ABTT are: *Pyrotechnics and Smoke Effects*, *Advice on Standards for Occasional Licenses*, *Design Guide-Guard Rails*, *Health & Safety in the Theatre "Factory,"* and *Firearms and Ammunition*. To order copies or for further information, contact ABTT at 47 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3XT, 071-403-3778 or fax 071-378-6170.

• Publishing news from **Theatre Communications Group (TCG)**: The first paperback edition of Richard Foreman's *unbalancing aCTS: foundations FOR A tHEATRE* is now available. This is an entertaining and provocative collection of essays and plays from one of the most influential innovators of the American avant garde. In addition, TCG announces a new two-play volume of South African playwright Athol Fugard's latest passionate drama, *Playland*, appearing with an earlier, more personal work, *A Place With The Pigs*. TCG Books are exclusively distributed to the trade by Consortium Books Sales & Distribution, 1-800-283-3572.

• **Theatre Arts Video Library** celebrated its fifth year of operation this past October. Based in Leucadia, California, this video production company produces professional quality video programs related to the instructional needs of the large theatre community. The company serves college and university theatre departments, libraries, high school districts, and small community theatres. TAVL's mission statement is to help teachers and

theatre professionals improve the quality of theatre in North America by providing videos of presentations of specialty topics in the theatre featuring prominent speakers. TAVL is also involved with "distant education" offered by satellite TV. Three of TAVL's video programs are broadcast via satellite by the "Classroom Channel" to as many as 10,000 high schools. Among the video titles available are: *Fundamentals of Scene Painting* and *Firearm Safety Onstage*. For more information, contact TAVL at 174 Andrew Avenue, Leucadia, CA 92024; 800-456-8285 or 619-632-6355.

• Please update your listing for the **OISTAT** office in Berlin: OISTAT, c/o Ingenieurburro Biste und Gerling, Schorlemerallee 20, 14195 Berlin. Telephone: 49 (30) 89-77-01-0 and Fax: 49 (30) 89-77-01-70.

• On the government front: The House Ways and Means Committee recently passed the Tax Simplification and Technical Corrections Act of 1993. This bill contains a provision that would reinstate all nonprofit organizations eligibility for 401 (k) plans. Stay tuned for more information.

• Did you know? **tdf** is Theatre Development Fund, the organization responsible for the **tkts** booth in New York City where you can buy low-cost tickets. tdf helps theatre and dance productions by buying tickets in advance and selling them at low cost to qualified participants; it helps off-off Broadway theatre, music, and dance through other programs; it helps the physically challenged to attend arts events in the city and operates *NYC Onstage*, the 24-hour phone-in directory of arts events in the city at 212-768-1818. For information, write 1501 Broadway, New York, NY 10036.

• There is an open call for artists in all disciplines to show their work with the OIA (Organization of Independent Artists) at the upcoming exhibition, *The Spring Salon Show*. The OIA is a membership organization run by artists. For more information regarding the OIA and how to participate in The Spring Salon Show, contact them at 212-219-9213. ●

Valerie diLorenzo
Manager, Marketing & Public Relations

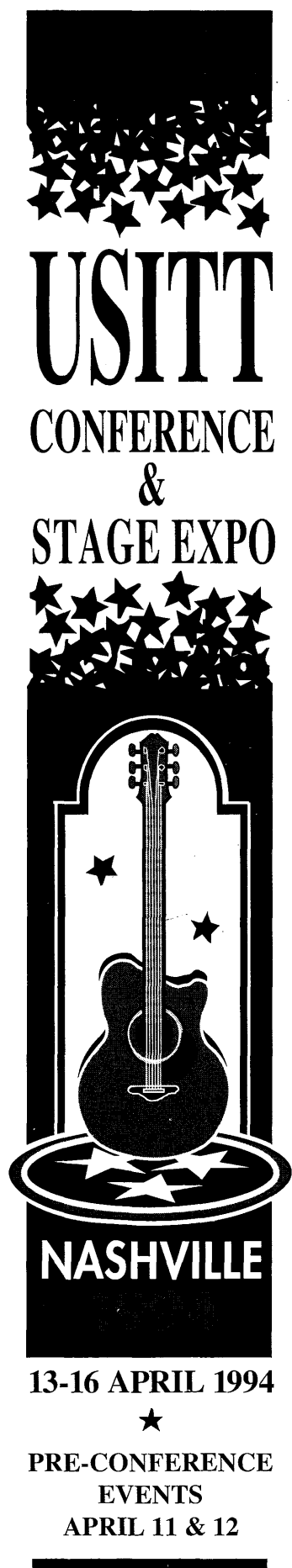
**YOUR USITT
MEMBERSHIP
ENTITLES YOU
TO:**

National Car Rental Discounts

★
As part of your membership in USITT, you are eligible for savings at National Car Rental. These rates are 25% off National's daily business rate, and 5% off their weekend, weekly, and monthly rates.

★
To take advantage of these savings, you must use USITT's special recap number: 5204543.

To make a reservation, or to find the nearest National Car Rental nearest you, call 1-800-CAR-RENT.



USITT
CONFERENCE
&
STAGE EXPO

NASHVILLE

13-16 APRIL 1994

★

**PRE-CONFERENCE
EVENTS
APRIL 11 & 12**

LIGHTING DESIGN

HANDS-ON LIGHTING EVENTS SET IN NASHVILLE

On Friday of the conference, the Lighting Commission has scheduled events using a full-scale rig in the Stouffer Hotel Ballroom. These sessions include a "Light Lab in Education" session and the double session titled "Live Lighting Designers" that commission members demanded at the Wichita Commission meeting.

The truss and lighting equipment for this lighting laboratory are being donated by numerous manufacturers and vendors. Volunteers are needed to load-in on Thursday night and to strike this equipment on Friday night. Advanced students also have the opportunity to participate in the actual sessions on Friday as master electricians, light board operators, and focus crews.

We are also trying to identify any USITT members with practical experience programming intelligent fixtures who are interested in volunteering.

If you are interested in working on these projects, please contact Ellen E. Jones, 312-338-5212; or you may write her at the National Office care of Lighting Commissioner Craig Wolf. If you leave a phone message, be sure to indicate your full name, phone number, and address including state and zip code.

1994 USA Examination

The Chicago Local of United Scenic Artists #829 has tentatively selected 4-5 June 1994 as the dates for the Track B examination. The application process begins in March.

Anyone interested in taking the test in the Midwest should contact the Chicago office for more information.

The address is:

United Scenic Artists Local #829
176 West Adams Street Suite 1712
Chicago, IL 60603.

The phone is 312-857-0829 and the fax is 312-857-0819.

See you in Nashville! ●

Craig Wolf
Lighting Commissioner

SOUND DESIGN

THE CATCH-22 OF USITT SOUND DESIGN

There has been a lot of scurrying around by our vice-commissioners to get the programming ready for Nashville and it seems like it might be a good time to let everyone know how hard these people are working, and to describe some of the problems they have been trying to resolve. First, however, I would really like to publicly thank Raul Gonzalez and Eileen Smitheimer for doing an outstanding job as vice-commissioners for Sound Reinforcement and Sound Score Programming this year. They have labored long and hard against a "sea of troubles" to make some good things happen, and I think that, regardless of the problems they have labored long and hard to resolve, you will be pleased at what Nashville will have to offer anyone who works in sound in theatre.

Perhaps the biggest problem we face is still the "Catch 22" of USITT sound: We need many more members who express an interest in sound in order to make the needs of sound better addressed by USITT, but we won't get more members until USITT offers those involved in sound for the theatre something significantly different or better than what is currently being offered by AES, NSCA, or even NAMM or NAB. The plain fact of the matter is that there is very little competition for theatre practitioners in other areas (e.g., costuming), but a great deal of alternative conferences and organizations to which to belong if you are doing sound in the theatre.

Add to this the generally poor working conditions of sound personnel in the country, and you get an

additional group that is either apathetic or so overworked and underpaid that the idea of attending a conference or belonging to an institution to improve their capabilities seems to be a pipe dream at best.

The vice-commissioners of the Sound Commission have been working very hard to change that, as they all believe that USITT has something to offer that all of the other trade organizations don't, something that resonates to the very soul of USITT: outstanding professionals who volunteer their services solely to improve the quality of theatre in this country. We believe that this year's conference in Nashville will go a long way to helping those who come to understand exactly what the USITT potential advantage is. However, those who don't come will not even have a chance to make the

choice.

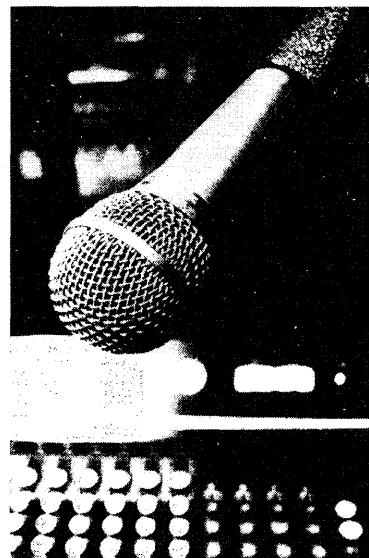
So, yes, this is a plea for all who are interested in sound to come to Nashville and check it out. If, after attending, you don't think that your investment in USITT doesn't substantially improve your work in sound in the theatre, so be it.

But, if you find out, like we have, that people who work

in sound in the theatre need a chance to get together and share ideas, problems, and solutions, and that a forum that specifically targets a very small, yet sophisticated segment of the theatre community needs to exist to bring that community together, then stick around and get involved. But, please, don't make that decision without giving it a shot.

And, whether you do or don't decide to come, pass the word on to others you may know who have an interest in sound in the theatre. Our mailing list is always far from complete, and we are always looking to add new names to it. ●

Rick Thomas
Sound Commissioner



COSTUME DESIGN

COSTUME
ACTIVITIES
ANNOUNCED

Dennis Parker reports that costume programming for Nashville is right on schedule and looking great. (See the November *Sightlines* for programming specifics.)

Suzy Campbell could still use a few more volunteers to serve as on-site assistants to session chairs. If you are willing to introduce a speaker, handle the light switch, and be a gofer for one session, drop a note to Suzy at 4754 Lakewood Road, Ravenna, OH 44266; or call her at 216-325-7926.

Jeff Lieder announced the dates for next summer's symposium, a three-day exploration of Shakespearean costume at the Utah Shakespearean Festival. Mark your calendar now for 21-23 July 1994. See three productions at the festival, experience the Royal Feaste, and learn all there is to know about peascod belles, bombasting, Elizabethan corsetry, and designing for Shakespearean festivals. There is more! Jeff will share the details in this column next month.

According to Kathleen Gossman, we are in good shape with program ideas for Las Vegas. The 1995 Las Vegas conference will be different from previous conferences in several ways.

First, the dates are Monday through Thursday rather than Wednesday through Saturday. Second, there will be no programming in the evening so there will be fewer slots. And third, because of the exceptional opportunity to include international guests (all of whom will be costume designers or technicians) in our programming, all costume programming will have an "international" focus.

Kathleen is looking for resource people. Please identify yourself to her if you have any foreign language skills. (An understanding of costume terminology is more important than fluency.)

Also, if you have names of people to suggest as international guests or if you have worked outside of the United States, please contact

Kathleen at 9707 Jefferson Plaza, #12, Omaha, NE 68127; or call her at 402-339-6890.

Please take the time to look over the insert in this issue concerning the resource book of costume projects. What a great opportunity to get involved! See you in Nashville! ●

Diane R. Berg
Commissioner

EDUCATION

EDUCATION
HIGHLIGHTS
AT NASHVILLE
ANNOUNCED

The Education Commission has rounded up a host of interesting presentations for the Nashville Conference. Here are just a few highlights of what's in store:

John Harris, Jr. is once again hosting a "Workshop on Creative Teaching." This double session will continue to explore new and innovative teaching methodology for the classroom as well as the studio.

Harry Lines will be chairing a panel presentation, "Introducing Cultural Diversity into your Theatre Program." This year the panel will focus on strategies and techniques to introduce and develop a more diverse and dynamic nature to your theatre program.

The Education Commission is focusing as well on promotion and tenure this year at Nashville with three sessions covering three distinct concerns in higher education. They are: "Promotion and Tenure Mentoring," "Scholarly Research vs. Creative Activities in Promotion and Tenure," and "How to Get Published."

Finally, a workshop session on "Photography for the Theatre" (a Light Lab demo) will present a hands-on opportunity for members to experiment with techniques that will improve their results when attempting to record that moment on stage when the light was just right...but. The session will take place in the Light Lab where actual conditions can be simulated (sans the drama, of course).

Looking forward to seeing you all in Nashville! ●

Konrad Winters
Co-Commissioner

NASHVILLE '94

CHILD CARE
PROGRAM
OFFERED

The travel industry classifies our 1994 USITT conference city as a "family destination." If this is going to be your spring break or if you are finally going to succumb to your family's urging to "take us along," this is a good time. Nashville is not only a good conference site, it is a great family venue.


If you are an avid reader of recent *Sightlines*, you have noticed the articles extolling the wide range of attractions in the Nashville area. Between the stimulating conference events, Nashville's exciting activities and historic sites, you will find plenty to engage you—kids and parents.

In order to provide you with as much planning flexibility as possible, USITT has engaged *Kids Konventions USA* to provide its unique program that allows parents to attend meetings, exhibits, special events, and entertainment during the conference hours. While parents are engaged their children will be well cared for and will attend their very own *Kids Convention*. There will be on-site care for children, ages infants through 13, at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Kids Konventions USA has a *Kid Safe Security System* for your peace of mind that has the endorsement of law enforcement throughout the country. Each of their *Activity Koordinators* are bonded, certified, and given specialized training. *Kids Konventions USA* is both enriching and entertaining, and goes well beyond a regular sitting service.

For USITT to offer *Kids Konventions USA* to our conference families will require a minimum registration of 20 children all day, each day. The cost is tentatively set at \$4.50 per hour per child. If you are interested in having your children attend this exciting, fun-filled *Kids Konventions USA* program, please call: 407-648-0454. This will allow *Kids Konventions USA* to finalize the activities to be provided, and to determine exact parent costs. Pre-registration will end 1 April 1994. ●

Leon Brauner
USITT VP-Conferences



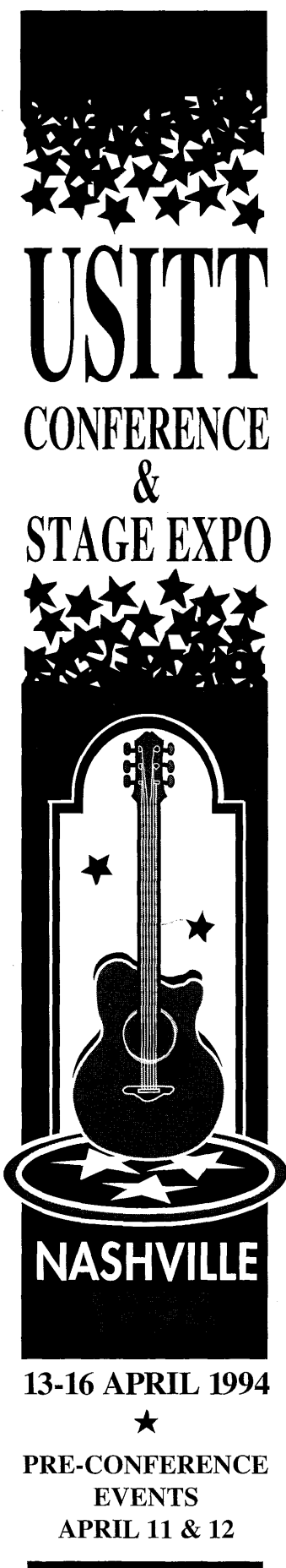
**USITT
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EVENTS
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MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP ACADEMY IN NASHVILLE

"Quality is Job One"

"The quality goes in before the name goes on."

America's focus on quality, whether it is total quality management or continuous quality improvement, is a response to intensified international competition and a growing understanding that a satisfied customer is a repeat customer.

While corporations, universities, and service industry operations have all moved to implement quality training, there have been few documented attempts to implement a quality management approach in the arts and entertainment industry.

USITT's Theatre and Production Management Commission has provided pre-conference workshops since the Oakland conference in 1986. Now in its ninth year, the Management and Leadership Academy in Nashville will focus on the concept of "Total Theatre Management," utilizing the principal techniques of Total Quality Management (TQM).

Theatre and Production Management Commissioner Michael Gros will be joined by the originators of the Management Skills Workshop, Larry Christiansen, president of Mesa Community College, and Bill Flynn, USITT's National Liaison Officer.

In addition to presenting pre-conference workshops at USITT national conferences since 1986, Flynn and Christiansen have also taken their programs to college and universities, USITT regional sections, as well as professional organizations in the arts and entertainment industry.

Enrollees in this year's academy will have their choice of two tracks. The first track is designed to focus on newcomers to the academy or new managers seeking to improve their skills. Topics will include Dealing with Change, Cross-training Staff, Working with Volunteers, Employment Law, and Identifying and Negotiating Priorities with your Staff and your Boss.

Alumni of previous Management Skills Workshops or academies, or those interested in learning about the quality initiative can focus on the TQM track, which will include a review of major quality management techniques, how to identify and satisfy internal and external customers, the principle of continuous improvement, understanding the culture of your organization, and empowerment of work teams. A special TQM

handson session will enable enrollees to work through the steps of mounting a production utilizing TQM principles.

All enrollees will come together for the final hour of the academy when the three presenters will focus on the topic "Technology, Organization, and Culture—Survival Techniques for the '90s."

The Academy will begin at 6 pm on Monday, April 11, allowing attendees to have a full day for travel on

that day. Tuesday's sessions will run from 8:30 am to 6 pm. In all, you'll experience 12 hours of information designed to keep managers and supervisors current and in charge during these tough economic times.

More than 800 people have proudly worn their "DO IT!" buttons, the symbol of previous workshops and Academies. Make sure that you get your very own DO IT button in Nashville.

Register today! ●

Bill Flynn
Management Commission

The USITT
Management and
Leadership
Academy is one of
the only
documented
attempts to
implement a quality
management
approach in the
arts and
entertainment
industry

CLASSIFIED AD

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Academic year staff position for liberal arts college theatre program, mid-August through late May, beginning August 1994. Responsible for constructing, mounting, and running 8 to 10 productions a year in two theatres (320-seat proscenium and variable configuration black box). Train and supervise student technical staff. Oversee plant and equipment maintenance. Participate in planning, budgeting, and purchasing. Opportunity to design. Must be skilled in carpentry, rigging, lighting, sound, drafting and working with students. MFA or BA and equivalent experience; previous experience working with undergraduates desirable; BA required. Vita and three letters of recommendation by March 25 to Nancy Simon, Harper Joy Theatre, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA 99362. BOE. ●

IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING OLIVER SMITH & WILLIAM AITKIN NELSON

January saw the passing of two major figures in the design and technology field: Oliver Smith and William Aitkin Nelson.

Smith was one of the most prolific and imaginative designers in the history of American theatre. He died on 23 January 1994 at the age of 75 from emphysema. His prolific career included such Broadway hits as *West Side Story*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Camelot* as well as major ballets by Jerome Robbins, Agnes de Mille, and Eliot Feld. He was also a professor of design at New York University until his death.

Nelson was professor emeritus of lighting design at Carnegie Mellon University. He died on 13 January 1994 at the age of 74. During his career he designed for such theatres as ACT and the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival. His students at CMU include Jules Fisher, Roger Morgan, Imero Fiorentino, and Peggy Eisenhower. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**RENTAL
DEPARTMENT
MANAGER**

Never a dull moment! Theatrical lighting rental house seeks experience rental department manager. Experience required: leadership, sales, computer literacy, knowledge of lighting, two years in rental industry. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume and cover letter to Designlab Chicago, Dept. UR, 806 North Peoria St., Chicago, IL 60622-5438. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**SHOP
FOREMAN**

Tired of the ol' grind? Theatrical lighting rental house seeks experienced shop foreman to oversee orders and maintenance.

Experience in lighting and leading a crew a must; other technical skills beneficial. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume and cover letter to Designlab Chicago, Dept. US, 806 N. Peoria St., Chicago, IL 60622-5438. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**ADMINISTRATIVE
INTERNS**

Steppenwolf Theatre seeks interns for the 1992-93 season in marketing, development, educational outreach, development, front of house, box office, business office, telemarketing, and general administration. Qualified individuals should submit a letter listing the area or areas of interest and outlining the reasons for requesting an internship, expectations of the internship, and eventual goals in theatre along with a resume and at least two references to: Leslie Holland, Director of Interns, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 North Halsted, Chicago, IL 60614. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**MANAGEMENT
INTERNS**

Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago seeks interns to work with the production manager and stage managers for the 1993-94 season. Our season includes *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*, *The Mesmerist*, *Libra*, and one show yet to be announced. There are also opportunities to stage manage for our Educational Outreach productions. Some experience in stage management is required. Qualified individuals should submit a letter outlining the reasons for requesting an internship, expectations of the internship, and eventual goals in theatre along with a resume and at least two references to: Leslie Holland, Director of Interns, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 North Halsted, Chicago, IL 60614. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**THEATRE ARTS
INSTRUCTOR**

Palomar College is seeking a theatre arts instructor who will contribute to the ethnic and cultural diversity. For an application form and complete position announcement, call Human Resources at 619-744-1150, ext. 2247; or fax: 619-591-4317. Closing Date: 11 March 1994. EO/AEE. ●

SIGHTLINES ADS

**SIGHTLINES CLASSIFIED
ADS ARE \$1 A WORD
WITH A \$50 MINIMUM
PER AD.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON ADVERTISING
IN USITT PERIODICALS,
TD&T OR SIGHTLINES
CONTACT:**

**DEBORA KINGSTON
212-924-9088
FAX: 212-924-9343**

CLASSIFIED AD

**FULL
PRODUCTION
STAFF**

Production staff for North Shore Music Theatre, an 1,800-seat arena theatre 1/2-hour north of Boston. Master electrician, sound engineer/department head, wardrobe supervisor, scenic charge, and various other staff and intern positions available for eight-month season of Shakespeare, full-scale musicals, and celebrity concerts. Most 1994 positions will run April or May through December and include electrics, sound, scene shop (particularly for carpenters with welding skills), props, scenic painters, wardrobe (maintenance/run only), and company management. State-of-the-art facilities will full on-site shops. All staff positions are salaried with benefits; interns receive weekly stipend. Letter and resume to: Production Manager, North Shore Music Theatre, PO Box 62, Beverly, MA 01915-0062; or fax to 508-921-0793. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**PRODUCTION
DEPARTMENT
INTERNS**

Steppenwolf Theatre seeks interns to serve in all production departments (costumes, scenic design, sound design, and lighting). Qualified individuals should submit a letter listing the area or areas of interest and outlining the reasons for requesting an internship, expectations of the internship, and eventual goals along with a resume and two references to: Leslie Holland, Director of Interns, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 North Halsted, Chicago, IL 60614. ●

**THE ADVANCE REGISTRATION
DEADLINE FOR THE 1994
NASHVILLE CONFERENCE IS
FRIDAY, MARCH 11. ●**

CLASSIFIED AD

**ASSISTANT/
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR
OF DESIGN**

Full-time, tenure track: teach undergraduate and graduate costume design courses, participate in work of department, maintain activity in production. Professional costume design experience for variety of theatres with broad understanding of theatre practice. The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Salary negotiable. Send letter of application, curriculum vita, three letters of recommendation, photocopies of three or four samples from portfolio by 25 March 1994, to John Russell Brown, Theatre & Drama Department, The University of Michigan, 2550 Frieze Bldg., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1285. ●

CLASSIFIED AD

**GRADUATE
ASSISTANT-
SHIPS**

The Kent State University School of Theatre announces its new three-year MFA program in the areas of acting, costume design, scenic design, and technology pending final approval by the Ohio Board of Regents. All full-time students in this new MFA program will be eligible for assistantships which include a stipend and tuition waiver. Graduate assistants teach in the various shops and/or the classroom. For information, contact Raynette Halvorsen Smith, Director of the School of Theatre, PO Box 5190, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242-0001; or phone 216-672-2082. ●

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE
APRIL SIGHTLINES -
THE LAST ISSUE BEFORE
NASHVILLE - IS
MONDAY, 7 MARCH
1994. ●**

HEALTH & WELLNESS STRATEGIES

CHECK POINTS

This month we will track the chemistry of stress in order to better understand the effects of stress on our bodies. Dr. Hans Selye, the father of stress research, mapped our hormonal pathways 50 years ago. In the recent past, researchers have continued to learn how stress triggers chemical changes in the brain.

In response to causes of stress—which can range from “fun” stress (*eustress*, e.g., a wedding, etc.) to “bad” stress (*distress*, e.g., quarreling, loss of a job, a death in the family, etc.)—chemical changes occur. These changes begin with chemical messages carried along neuron tracks in the outer edge of the brain to the hypothalamus. This stimulates the production of the chemical CRF (corticotropin releasing factor). The hypothalamus acts as a switching station and sends CRF down two tracks.

The first track goes to the pituitary where CRF stimulates the hormone ACTH. ACTH enters the bloodstream and travels to the outer layer,

or cortex, of the adrenal glands. Here ACTH initiates the production of cortisol, a chemical that increases blood sugar and speeds up metabolism.

On the second track CRF leaves the hypothalamus and triggers electrochemical impulses down the brain stem and spinal cord until the signals reach the core of the adrenal glands. The result is a release of two chemicals: (1) epinephrine—which helps supply extra glucose to serve as fuel for the muscles and the brain; and (2) norepinephrine—which speeds up the heart and raises blood pressure.

Stress also provokes a number of subtler chemical changes in the body that may have profound effects on health, both physical and mental. Particularly sensitive to emotional strains are the concentrations of potent chemicals called neurotransmitters which act as messengers between nerve cells. Among these messengers are serotonin, epinephrine (adrenaline), acetylcholine and dopamine. The body also produces its own painkillers, morphine-like chemicals named endorphins. Stress boosts the production of these analgesics, raising pain thresholds.

Because stress alters the body's chemical balance, it seems to influence the development of many dis-

eases, including psychiatric disorders. Depression has been associated with low levels of serotonin and norepinephrine. Similarly, schizophrenia seems to be related to an excess of dopamine. Researchers also know that the body's production of its own cancer-fighting cells—including natural killer cells, T-lymphocytes and macrophages—is inhibited by chronic stress.

Much of what we do in the pursuit of proper job execution creates stress which triggers the chemical reaction. Sadly, research now shows that many of us “get hooked” on fast-lane habits. We learn to become addicted to our own adrenaline secretions. This, of course, causes “wear and tear” on the body. As one researcher has put it, “Stress, in addition to being itself, and the result of itself, is also the cause of itself.”

Fred Goodwin at the National Institute of Mental Health says, “Humans have a fairly robust capacity to withstand a massive dose of acute stress. Where we fall down is in our ability to mobilize for recurrent stressful episodes.”

Learn coping strategies! ●

Stan Abbott

Checkpoints Editor

INSTITUTE BUSINESS CALENDAR

MARCH 1994

- 1 TRIENNIAL REPORTS DUE TO OFFICERS
- 29 BOARD PACKETS MAILED

APRIL 1994

- 11-12 PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS
- 12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING I, 7 PM
- 13 NASHVILLE CONFERENCE BEGINS—KEYNOTE AND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 2 PM
- 15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING II, 4:45 PM (PROVISIONAL)

JUNE 1994

- 15 CALL FOR REPORTS MAILED
- 30 CLOSE OF INSTITUTE'S FISCAL YEAR—ALL VOUCHERS AND RECEIPTS FOR 1993/94 ARE DUE TO THE TREASURER PRIOR TO THIS DATE.
- 30 TRIENNIAL REPORTS DUE TO OFFICERS

JULY 1994

- 30 BOARD PACKETS MAILED

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