

# CUELINES



December 2019

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Newsletter of the Ohio Community Theatre Association  
[www.ohiocommunitytheatre.org](http://www.ohiocommunitytheatre.org)

## Happy New Year!!

By the time you get this, Christi says the holidays will probably be in your rearview mirror. We hope it was a heartwarming experience and everyone is looking forward to 2020. What a nice round number to be excited about.

While everyone is trying hard to write 2020 instead of 2019 for the new calendar year, OCTA's fiscal year is almost half over and the Board is working on all kinds of new and exciting theater experiences and ideas.

Dan Maloney and his Steering Committee are working on a bunch of great workshop ideas along with other events for the Roaring 20s State Conference in Cincinnati.

Due to some budget constraints, Aara Wise will not be getting paid as our Administrative Assistant effective January 1. However, she will still be doing a lot of the work and we're calling her the Volunteer Adm. Assistant. And, due to the resignation of Susan Metz-Guthrie as a Board Member, Aara has been appointed to fill that position, so will still be working with all of us into the next decade.



MTI has sent out emails to all theaters who have previously produced MTI shows to let them know that due to a recent Supreme Court decision, they need to collect sales tax; however, they will accept tax exempt forms from you for their files.

So, Happy New Year from the OCTA Board and we're all looking forward to the Roaring 20s.

Warm regards,  
*Joe Barton*  
OCTA President

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### 2019-20 OCTA Dates:

- January 18—Board meeting—Dublin
- March 21—Board meeting—Cincinnati
- May 1—Spirit of Community Theatre, Hall of Fame, and scholarship deadline
- May 16—Board meeting—Dublin
- July 25—Board meeting—Dublin

### FESTIVALS—tentative

- June 6 Central
- June 7 East
- June 14 North
- June 20 NE
- June 27-28 NW
- June 13 SE
- June 18-19-20 SW
- July 11 West
- August 1 OCTA, Jr.

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[www.octa1953.org](http://www.octa1953.org)

## Have you heard about the Penguin Project?

Our theater friend Morrie Enders, Executive Director at the Lincoln CommunityPlayhouse, loves to talk about The Penguin Project. Established in 2004, The Penguin Project has evolved into a National program, with Chapter sites throughout the United States. The program provides a supportive environment for children with disabilities to explore their creative talents. It has also demonstrated that participation in the performing arts has therapeutic value by enhancing social interaction, communication skills, self-confidence, and self-esteem. The impact of the program has reached beyond the stage to create a social network for children who previously had very few friends and limited social opportunities.

In Peoria, Illinois, once a year a group of children take to the stage to perform a modified version of a well-known Broadway musical. These productions are unique, however, because all the roles are filled by young artists with developmental disabilities including Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities visual impairment, hearing impairment, and other neurological disorders. They are joined on stage by a dedicated group of "peer mentors" – children the same age without disabilities who have volunteered to work side-by-side with them through four months of rehearsals and through the final performance. By providing access to community theater, *The Penguin Project* demonstrates that the special challenges of a disability should not handicap a child's ability to participate in life's experiences.

OCTA theaters who may be interested in this should check out [penguinproject.org](http://penguinproject.org) or contact Morrie on his Facebook page. He'll love to talk more about this special theater project.

*(The penguin pictured above is not their logo...just a graphic this editor found to go with the article.)*



*"Our penguins may not be able to fly, but that does not prevent their spirits from soaring."*

## It's a run for the races...

AACTFest 2021 is not that far away. Theaters need to be planning now for their 2020 excerpts. Those who are invited to OCTA State Conference in Cincinnati will be eligible to participate, be judged and then two will be chosen for the Region III AACTFest in April

**aact**  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF COMMUNITY THEATRE

2021 in Perrysburg, Ohio. From there, two theaters will be invited to go to Louisville, Kentucky for the national AACTFest in June. So be thinking about what your theater would like to enter in your 2020 Regional Festival.

## Regional Reports

**Central**—The Regional Rep is working on setting up their first meeting of the delegates. The regional festival is scheduled for June 6 at Licking County Players. —

*Timothy Pierce, Central Regional Rep*

**East**—The Region still needs to set up a delegates meeting. The regional festival has been set for June 7 in Coshocton. —

*Christy Rahrig, East Regional Rep*

**North**—The Region held their first meeting on September 28 in Bellevue with 4 theaters represented. Jason Chandler, Donna Jean Evans, and Deb Wentz were elected as Regional Reps. Topics of discussion were the regional festival, finances, fundraisers, and future meeting dates.

The Region held their second meeting on November 9 in Sandusky with 6 theaters represented. Deb and Donna Jean gave a summary of the OCTA Board Retreat and noted that Bucyrus is available on June 14 for their regional festival. The Reps divided up the North theaters for contacting and visiting. The next meeting is February 29 at Playmakers Civic Theatre. —

*Deb Wentz, North Regional Rep*

**Northeast**—The Regional Reps have been training with Dawna Kornick and will be scheduling a delegate meeting soon. Callboards and the Facebook page have been updated. They are talking with Hudson Players about hosting the regional festival on June 20. —

*Andrea Anderson, Northeast Regional Rep*

**Northwest**—The Regional Reps have met twice but have not yet met with the delegates. They are planning meetings in January, February, and March. The regional festival has been scheduled for June 27-28 at Owens Community College.

**Southeast**—The Region met on November 2 in Jackson with 5 delegates, a Regional Rep, 2 OCTA Board members, and 5 guests present. Items discussed were the 8 new regions, state meeting dates, job description of the theater delegates, OCTA Brochure, OCTA fee schedule, regional meetings, and theater seasons. The next meeting is December 14 in Jackson. —

*Frances Gibser, Southeast Regional Rep*

**Southwest**—The Regional Reps met on November 26 at St. Rita's School for the Deaf. The regional festival is scheduled for June 18-19-20 at Miami University Parrish Auditorium in Hamilton. —

*Kevin Noll, Southwest Rep*

**West**—The Region met on November 16 in Troy with 4 theaters represented. The Regional Reps have divided up the theaters including the 3 new theaters. They talked about the competitions, scholarships, Hall of Fame, Spirit of Community Theatre awards, and Guide/Respondent program. The regional festival is scheduled for July 11 in Sidney. The next meeting will be March 28 at Brookville Community Theatre. —

*Christi Thomas, West Rep*



### Welcome New Theaters

Jackson County Players—Ripley, West Virginia  
(Southeast)

The Star Theatre—Eaton, Ohio (West)

## Division Reports

**Administrative Division**—Members reviewed several policies and made some recommendations for changes which will be voted on by the Board at the January meeting. The Hall of Fame nomination form has been updated and is on the OCTA website.

**Fundraising Division**—Members reviewed suggestions for fundraising submitted at the Board Retreat. The patron letters were reviewed before they were sent out as well as the logo items. New levels in the Patron program were discussed.

**MM/PR Division**—The OCTA Brochure has been updated and it is the plan of the division members to visit all theaters to give them a listing of all of OCTA's resources. The Resource Directory has been updated and is on the OCTA website. It will be updated again next July. If you log on and see an error, let your OCTA delegate know so they can let the Regional Rep know who will pass the information on to Thom Ogilvie. A webmaster is still needed for OCTA's website. The division will be working on updating their policies, job descriptions, and long range plans at the January meeting. *[Note: The budget was adjusted for publishing the Brochure. Christi will have it printed and bring it to the January meeting.]*



**Programming Division**—In October, division members reviewed OCTAFest rules, Responder fees, OCTA Jr., fundraising for festival funds, 2020 Regional Festival dates, and came up with a bunch of brainstorming ideas.

At the December meeting, the division discussed policies, OCTA Jr. (location and funds), and a few potential rule changes for festivals.

Dan Maloney, 2020 Conference Chair, reported on tentative workshop ideas, a game that will be running all weekend so people can win door prizes, registration costs, and money saving ideas.

Also at the December meeting, the Board voted to hold the 2021 Conference at Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark (site of the 2019 Board Retreat) with Gladys Haney and Aara Wise as Conference Co-chairs.

### Meeting Notes:

- The 2020 Budget was approved. Aara reported that all the bills for 2019 have been paid except for one that is outstanding.
- The 2020 Membership Dues Invoices have been sent out, due back by January 31. Everyone needs to remind all their theaters to be sure and fill out the blue update sheet which will be included with the dues notices.
- Aara also reminded people that OCTA purchases are tax exempt, but you must use the Tax Exempt form as taxes paid will not be reimbursed.
- The 990 IRS form has been completed and filed along with the charitable registration report.
- The Board also voted to accept the contract from Cherry Valley Hotel for 2022. The Hotel has spent "big bucks" on renovations and is shaping up to be a great venue for OCTA State Conference.
- The Board voted to hire Betsy Willis to work on applying for grants for OCTA.



# Callboard

Callboard items should be sent to the Cuelines Editor.

The February issue will have the Callboard items for February, March, and April.

## **Central Region**

12/06-12/15	<i>The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays</i>	Out of the Box CT	614-992-2930
12/06-12/22	<i>The Mousetrap</i>	Curtain Players	614-360-1000
12/13-12/15	<i>Bah Humbug!</i>	Worthington Comm Theatre	614-431-0329
01/17-01/26	<i>Our Town</i>	Licking County Players	740-349-2287
01/17-02/02	<i>Gypsy</i>	Little Theatre Off Broadway	614-875-3919

## **East Region**

12/05-12/15	<i>Junie B in Jingle Bells</i>	Batman Smells	LTTC	330-308-6400
12/06-12/14	<i>A Medieval Christmas Carol</i>	Stage & Steel Productions		412-337-8813
12/06-12/15	<i>Disney's Frozen Jr.</i>	Carnation City Players		330-821-8712
12/06-12/15	<i>A Charlie Brown Christmas</i>	Coshocton Footlight Players Youth		740-622-2959
12/12-12/15	<i>Angel Tree Benefit</i>	Zanesville Community Theatre and Zane Trace Players		740-455-6487
12/13-12/15	<i>Babes in Toyland</i>	Orrville Community Theatre		330-439-2051
01/04-01/12	<i>The King and I</i>	WACPAC		330-845-3634
01/10-01/10	<i>Barefoot in the Park</i>	Zane Trace Players		740-453-8481
02/07-02/16	<i>The Beloved Dearly</i>	Zanesville Community Theatre		740-455-6487
02/07-02/23	<i>Legally Blonde</i>	LTTC		330-308-6400
02/28-03/08	<i>Matilda</i>	Zane Trace Players		740-453-8481

## **North Region**

12/06-12/15	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Bucyrus Little Theatre		419-562-0731
12/06-12/14	<i>Oliver</i>	Olde Towne Hall Youth Theatre		440-327-2909
12/13-12/15	<i>Go Back Home for the Holidays</i>	Bellevue Society for the Arts		419-484-2787
01/10	<i>Lullabies of Broadway</i>	Bellevue Society for the Arts		419-484-2787
01/31-02/08	<i>Death and Taxes</i>	Harlequins, Inc.		419-621-1311
02/07-02/16	<i>The Producers</i>	Ritz Players		
02/14	<i>Love is Love</i>	Bellevue Society for the Arts		419-484-2787
02/14-03/07	<i>Sister Act</i>	Olde Towne Hall Theatre		440-327-2909
02/21-03/01	<i>Old Ringers</i>	Playmakers Civic Theatre		

## **Northeast Region**

12/06-12/07	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>	Dynamics Comm Theatre		234-738-3281
12/06-12/15	<i>A Christmas Story</i>	Medina County Showbiz		330-722-5776
12/06-12/21	<i>The Christmas Express</i>	Stow Players		234-206-0128
12/06-12/21	<i>Jingle Bell Follies</i>	Theatre 8:15		330-896-0339
12/06-12/21	<i>Happy Hollandaie</i>	Western Reserve Playhouse		330-620-7314
01/09-01/26	<i>Matt's First Thanksgiving</i>	Stow Players		234-206-0128
01/10-01/11	<i>As Seen on TV</i>	Chagrin Valley Little Theatre		440-247-8955
01/10-01/26	<i>Deep in the Heart of Tuna</i>	Trumbull New Theatre		330-652-1103
01/17-02/08	<i>Art of Murder</i>	Chagrin Valley Little Theatre		440-247-8955
01/24-02/08	<i>Blithe Spirit</i>	Western Reserve Playhouse		330-620-7314
01/24-02/15	<i>Boeing Boeing</i>	Aurora Community Theatre		330-562-1818
01/31-02/15	<i>Love, Loss and What I Wore</i>	Twin Masks Perf Arts		330-888-3211
02/07-02/16	<i>Every Babysitters Nightmare</i>	Stow Players		234-206-0128
02/07-02/29	<i>Company</i>	Hudson Players		330-655-8522
02/21-03/01	<i>Matilda, the musical</i>	Theatre 8:15		330-896-0339
02/21-03/07	<i>The Taming</i>	Chagrin Valley Little Theatre		440-247-8955
02/27-02/29	<i>Murder on the S.S. Amore</i>	Wolf Creek Players		234-281-7964

## **Northwest Region**

12/05-12/15	<i>Making God Laugh</i>	Van Wert Civic Theatre	419-238-9689
12/05-12/15	<i>Miracle on 34th Street</i>	Fort Findlay Playhouse	567-525-3636
12/06-12/15	<i>A Christmas Carol...Live radio show</i>	Archbold Community Theatre	419-264-5717
12/28-12/28	<i>Broadway Comes to Napoleon</i>	Maumee Valley Civic Theatre	844-NCC-ARTS
01/10-01/18	<i>The Children</i>	Village Players	419-472-6817
01/10-01/19	<i>Laughter on the 23rd Floor</i>	Toledo Repertoire Theatre	419-243-9277
01/23-02/02	<i>Savannah Sipping Society</i>	Van Wert Civic Theatre	419-238-9689
01/31-02/02	<i>The Bridges of Madison County</i>	Perrysburg Musical Theatre	
02/14-02/22	<i>Arsenic and Old Lace</i>	Oregon Community Theatre	419-691-1398
02/15-02/16	<i>The Mountaintop</i>	Actor's Collaborative of Toledo	419-205-0408
02/21-03/01	<i>The Drowsy Chaperone</i>	Black Swamp Players	
02/21-03/01	<i>A Month of Sundays</i>	Fort Findlay Playhouse	567-525-3636

## **Southeast Region**

12/07-12/08	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> (radio version)	Actors Guild of Parkersburg	304-485-1300
12/13-12/15	<i>The Worst High School Play</i>	Mid-Ohio Valley Players	740-374-9434
01/24-02/01	<i>All My Sons</i>	Mid-Ohio Valley Players	740-374-9434

## **Southwest Region**

12/05-12/08	<i>Nuncrackers</i>	Greater Hamilton	513-737-7529
12/06-12/15	<i>Of Dragons and Dwarves</i>	Village Players	859-781-3583
12/06-12/15	<i>Humpty Dumpty is Missing</i>	Sunset Players	513-588-4988
12/06-12/15	<i>The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge</i>	Tri-County Players	513-471-2030
12/06-12/22	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> , Radio Drama	Drama Workshop	513-598-8303
12/12-12/14	<i>Weekend Comedy</i>	Beechmont Players	513-233-2468
12/14	<i>An Olde Fashioned Christmas</i>	Loveland Stage Co.	513-443-4572
01/10-01/26	<i>Evelyn in Purgatory</i>	Mariemont Players	513-684-1236
02/13-02/16	<i>Cheaper by the Dozen</i>	Greater Hamilton	513-737-7529
02/13-02/29	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	Footlighters, Inc.	859-652-3849
02/14-02/22	<i>Honk!</i>	Beechmont Players	513-233-2468
02/14-02/22	<i>Singables &amp; Swingables</i>	Cincinnati Music Theatre	513-621-2787
02/14-02/22	<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	Mason Community Theatre	513-398-7804
02/14-02/23	<i>You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown</i>	Fairfield Footlighters	513-867-5348
02/21-03/08	<i>A Catered Affair</i>	Drama Workshop	513-598-8303

## **West Region**

12/06-12/15	<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Amil Tellers of Dramatics	419-223-8866
01/10-01/19	<i>Glass Menagerie</i>	XACT	937-372-0516
01/17-01/26	<i>The 25th Annual Putnam County...</i>	Amil Tellers of Dramatics	419-223-8866
01/17-02/02	<i>Man of LaMancha</i>	Dayton Playhouse	937-424-8477
01/24-02/09	<i>Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting</i>	Dayton Theatre Guild	937-278-5993
01/31-02/09	<i>The Humans</i>	Beavercreek CT	937-429-4737
02/08-02/16	<i>Same Time, Next Year</i>	Sock & Buskin Players	
02/13-02/23	<i>The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940</i>	Brookville CT	937-883-6790
02/14-02/16	<i>The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza</i>	Amil Tellers of Dramatics	419-223-8866
02/14-02/23	<i>The Face of Emmett Till</i>	XACT	937-372-0516

***If your theater listing is incorrect or does not appear here...please be sure to send your season information to your Regional Rep for accurate information in the next issue.***

**Cuelines** is published online five times per year as the official newsletter of the Ohio Community Theatre Association. Material for publication should be submitted by the third Monday of January, March, May, and October, and by December 10, and will be printed as space permits. Send Callboard listings to both the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. Submissions without names will not be published.