Report of: Region III
Report Date: May 27, 2010
Report Submitted By: Ginny Morrison, Region Rep

Region Events/Activities:

Michigan – Joanne Berry, State Contact
Community Theatre Association of Michigan www.communitytheatre.org
- Scholarship auditions were held on March 7 hosted by Kalamazoo Civic Theatre
- March 20 a regional area workshop on Youth Program Development for Community Theatre was held in Lansing
- Community Theatre Association of Michigan’s (CTAM) annual playwriting contest had seven entries; the winner will be announced in the fall.
- CTAM’s Spring Convention was hosted by Flat River Players in Greenville on May 14-16. Four workshops were conducted, sharing of ideas and social events were encouraged and attendees saw the host group’s production of A Few Good Men.

Upcoming State Events/Activities:
- CTAM is sponsoring two outstanding master classes during the weekend of July 23-25 at the MacMullen Conference Center on Higgins Lake. “What's so Funny?” is a class in acting comedy conducted by Jim Carver. Larry Nielsen will lead a class entitled “Reaching for the Sky: Building Administrative Skill Sets for Board of Directors.”
- The last weekend in September brings CTAM’s annual Fall Conference at McGuire’s Resort in Cadillac. The theme is “The Magic of Theatre.” This conference kicks off CTAM’s 60th anniversary year.
- Last, but not least, our State AACTFest will be held sometime in Feb or Mar, 2011…dates and place to be announced.

ILLINOIS – Toni Higgins Thrash, State Contact
Illinois Theatre Association www.illinoistheatre.org/
Palatine will be the proud host of Illinois AACTFest. Dates are February 3-6, 2011 and will be hosted by Theatre Nebula of Palatine.

INDIANA – Marty Grubbs, State Contact
Indiana Community Theatre League
Kokomo and Steve Hughes will be the host for Indiana 2011 State Festival. Dates are March 25-27, 2011. Information: contact Steve at steven.a.hughes@sbcglobal.com

WISCONSIN - Lynn Ruhl, State Contact
Wisconsin Association of Community Theatres www.wact.org
February 25-27 are the dates for the State AACTFest which will be held in DePere at St. Norbert College. Darrell Wagner will be chair.

OHIO – Jerry Zimmerman and Eleanor Smith, Co-State Contacts
Ohio Community Theatre Association www.ohiocommunitytheatre.org/
Ohio Community Theatre Association (OCTA) has approved six new theatres for membership in OCTA and expect two others to join in July.
The OCTA Regional Excerpt Festivals are about to begin and from these Regions we will select 15 theatres to come to the annual conference and excerpt their show in September.

The OCTA annual conference is set for September 3-6, 2010 in Perrysburg. The theme is “Love, Peace, and Theatre – Ohio Salutes the 70’s.” All AACT board members and general membership are invited to attend. We will hold a Region III meeting on Monday morning, September 6 at 10am during the conference.

Several of the Executive Committee members of OCTA have been setting up “Town Hall Meetings” (THM) in most of Ohio’s regions. The THM is geared to the Board of Directors of each theatre who make the decisions about their own theatre. The attendance grew from each regional meeting and a lot of positive information was shared, incorrect information was clarified, and special meetings with some of member theatre’s Boards were set up. A win-win situation for all. The intent was to get more people involved in OCTA’s many programs and to get more participation from our theatres in both our regional and state festivals.

The OCTA Board has been updating all of our job descriptions and policies to reflect the changes we have made in our older programs, as well as the new competitions and award programs we have in place. We also plan to update OCTA’s By-Laws and Constitution in 2011.

Ohio is participating with the Ohio Arts Council in helping to compile the Ohio Cultural Data information from various arts organizations in the state. All data will be compiled and made available to organizations that are taking part.

OCTA Jr. Festival will be held August 7, 2010 at the Columbus Performing Arts Center. Seven to eight theatres from around the state are planning to excerpt. This program is so successful and over 200 youth are given the opportunity to shine and strut their stuff. Ohio says….the future of Community theatre is alive and well in our state!

The Ohio State AACTFest will be held March 4-6, 2011 in Findlay at Findlay College.

Ohio is the host of the Region III AACTFest and it will be held on April 29, 30, May 1 in Columbus at the Columbus Performing Arts Center. Lodging will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Columbus.

OCTA gives scholarships to worthy students each year, who plan to major in the arts, when attending colleges. We gave two this year to students from two small communities who have member theatres in OCTA….one in Galion, Ohio and the other from Hope, Ohio.