



# The Institute of Outdoor Drama Newsletter

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## Letter from the Director

### THIS JUST IN...

“**The Lost Colony**” has become the first historical outdoor drama to win a Tony Award for ‘excellence in theatre’ it was announced on April 24 in Variety. Our heartfelt congratulations go out to the staff and board of the Roanoke Island Historical Association and all the 1,000’s of actors and technicians who have played in the drama since it began in 1937. This is rare honor indeed and richly deserved.



**In other news**, the extensive archives of the Institute of Outdoor Drama will be featured in a lead article in “Performance!” the newsletter of the Society of American Archivists this summer. With records, tapes, videos, blueprints, posters and correspondence related to over 600 outdoor dramas collected over 50 years; our archives are a unique repository of

## Announcements

### New Members:

The Institute welcomes the following new members since our last newsletter:

#### **A Company of Fools Theatre, Inc.**

Gertrude Wilkes  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

#### **Accademia Dei Licini - Teatro Licinium**

Luisa Rovida De Sanctis  
Erba, Como  
Italy

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

#### **Bard On The Beach**

Patricia Rowling  
St. Peters, New South  
Wales Sydney, Australia

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

#### **Free Will Players Theatre Guild**

Cadence Konopaki  
Edmonton, Alberta  
Canada

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

#### **Heart of America Shakespeare Festival**

Sidonie Garrett  
Kansas City, MO

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

#### **Jump The Sound**

Tab Ballis  
Wilmington, NC

information that is not duplicated anywhere. The IOD is currently partnering with the special collections department of the East Carolina University Joyner Library to apply for a major preservation grant from the National Archives in Washington, DC. The grant would enable the specialists at Joyner Library to properly index and preserve our collection and to eventually make it available for research online. In the past 40 years, 19 doctoral dissertations and masters theses have been written about different aspects of the outdoor drama movement.

*All IOD Members: we welcome your annual reports or other significant records to add to our archives.*

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference.** Plan now to join your colleagues as the IOD celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in Bardstown, KY at The Stephen Foster Story and the Pioneer Playhouse in Danville, KY. Members Johnny Warren and Robby Henson will be our hosts. The dates are October 3-6, 2013 and more information will soon be posted on our website. Thanks to member Marty Childers, we will also be able to offer a special pre-conference program in

Prestonsburg, KY where the Jenny Wiley Theatre is developing a new year-round theatre in addition to its primary outdoor venue.

IOD is in active conversations with several other theatre associations about how we may offer cross-association benefits to our respective memberships at little or no cost. The Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC), American Association of Community Theatre (AACT), Educational Theatre Association, and US Institute of Theatre Technology (USITT) met over several days at the recent SETC conference in Louisville at the general invitation of Betsey Baun, SETC's director. Stay tuned for more information.

**The 2013 Audience Surveys** are now being prepared and invitations will go out soon to all IOD members to participate. This is a service of the IOD in which your audience members are invited to participate in an online survey about their attendance experience, how they learned about your theatre and other key audience and tourism information. Participation is free to IOD members, and we will send you an analysis of your individual results together with the results of all our theatres. Look for our email offer in the next few weeks.

To clear skies and bright stars,

Michael C. Hardy  
Director



## **New Dean: College of Fine Arts and Communication**

Dr. J. Christopher Buddo has been

[Email](#)

**Marin Shakespeare Company**

Lesley Currier  
San Rafael, CA

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**Original Practice Shakespeare Festival**

Brian Allard  
Portland, OR

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**Shady Shakespeare Theatre Company**

Angie Higgins  
Santa Clara, CA

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**Shakespeare in Clark Park**

Marla Burkholder  
Philadelphia, PA

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival**

Ian Farthing  
Prescott, Ontario  
Canada

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**Terror of the Tug**

Jean Battlo  
Kimball, WV

[Email](#)

**The National Botanic Garden of Wales**

David Hardy  
Carmarthen,  
Carmarthenshire,  
United Kingdom

[Email](#)

appointed as Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at East Carolina University, which is the administrative unit of the University which houses the Institute of Outdoor Drama. Chris also serves on the Administrative Board of the IOD and is a great supporter of our work here.

He received his Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Arts from the University of Iowa and Bachelor of Music, magna cum laude, from James Madison University. We look forward to a long and successful association with the College as the IOD begins its international expansion and growth.

## Kentucky Shakespeare

On April 23 (the date on which Shakespeare's birth and death are traditionally celebrated), Kentucky Shakespeare's long standing arts education program will have performed for their millionth student, speaking both to the longevity and to effectiveness of the program within the community. They will be performing a variety of shows, including a production of *Julius Caesar*. To thank Fern Creek Traditional High School for their commitment and support of Kentucky Shakespeare, they will be providing \$5,000 worth of programs next academic year. Kentucky Shakespeare has had a tremendous influence in education, performing for students in Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

## Debut of Drums Along the Mohawk Outdoor Drama by Walter D. Edmonds

The August 6th, 2012 premiere of DATMOD ([www.datmod.com](http://www.datmod.com)) was delighted to have a member of Gov. Cuomo's regional staff in attendance. Charles Greco of Utica, NY delivered a letter from Gov. Cuomo highlighting his recognition of the theme of the weekend's activities. DATMOD debuted alongside an international anniversary reenactment of a historical battle that took place on Aug. 6th, 1777. The Battle of Oriskany had national significance as it helped determine the fate of our fledgling nation and was depicted in the drama as the climactic scene of ACT 1.

On October 7th, 2012 the cast of DATMOD premiered their first post production performance. Principles met at Old Stone Fort in Schoharie, NY to perform a dramatic reading from the show, complete with sound effects and a documentary recording of the event. Audience members consisted of re-enactors and public arriving to attend their bi-annual History Fair.

## Tablerock Festival of Salado

Tablerock Festival of Salado once again held their Annual

[Web](#)

**Theatre Under the Stars**

(NH)

Donna Devlin-Young  
Campton, NH

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**Theatre Under the Stars**

James Cronk  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**Washington Crossing  
Open Air Theatre**

Ginny Brennan  
Lambertville, NJ

[Email](#)

[Web](#)

**50th Anniversary  
IOD Conference:**

The 50th Anniversary  
Conference on Outdoor  
Drama will be held  
October 3-6, 2013 in  
Bardstown and Danville  
Kentucky. Check our  
website for more updates.

[Website](#)

**Next Newsletter**

Do you have something  
you want to share with the  
IOD membership in the  
next newsletter? Just send  
it to outdoor@ecu.edu  
and we will try to include  
it in the next newsletter.

Denver Mills-Tablerock Golf Tournament, at the Mill Creek Golf Club in Salado, Texas. This year, the tournament raised a total of \$3,964.50. In its eighteen year history, it has raised more than \$40,000 for the support of the Tablerock Festival of Salado, Inc. As of 2012, Tablerock has supported its cast and crewmembers with over \$100,000 in college scholarships, seventeen of which were given last year, totaling \$11,900.



(Denver Mills, Tablerock Festival of Salado)

## Utah Shakespeare

This past year has been a great and exciting year for Utah Shakespeare Festival, topping last year's attendance by seventeen percent, with attendance figures over 141,000 guests, an all-time record for Utah Shakes. The exciting news continued for Utah Shakes, receiving a six million dollar gift from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation. In addition, they will be receiving millions more from various other benefactors such as the Ralph and Betty Engelstad Family Foundation and the George S. and Dolores Dorè Eccles Foundation. Utah Shakes and Southern Utah University will use this money to build a new arts center. This building will house the new Shakespeare Theatre for the Utah Shakespeare Festival.



(Adams Theatre)

## Nebraska Shakespeare

Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman's proclaimed that April 23 would officially be "Talk Like Shakespeare Day"! Nebraska Shakespeare celebrated this with a series of events held on April 23. They accepted sonnets for their annual sonnet-writing contest. Some of the celebrations included free cupcakes, discounts if buying a book in "Shakespearean." The day ended at 9:30 in a "Sing like Shakespeare Karaoke" gathering.

## Season Announcements

See all of [Our Members](#) for information about the new production line ups for their coming seasons. Notifying us specifically have been the [Charlotte Shakespeare Festival](#) , the [Nebraska Shakespeare Festival](#) , [Serenbe Playhouse](#) ), [Lincoln Amphitheatre](#) and [Washington Crossing Open Air Theatre](#).

The Institute of Outdoor Drama (IOD) is a program of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. Since its inception in 1963, the Institute's scope has grown to provide services to a wide variety of theatrical organizations around the world who perform in outdoor settings including historical dramas, Shakespeare festivals and religious and contemporary theatrical presentations. These organizations are united by their common adventures in producing theatre in outdoor settings and their unique roles in providing exceptional values in tourism , education and entertainment. For more information please visit our website at <http://www.outdoordrama.org>.

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