2018 SETC Convention • March 7 - 11 • Mobile, AL

READY FOR MOBILE?
Here’s the Info You Need to Hit the Ground Running!

HOW CAN I GET A PROGRAM BEFORE I ARRIVE?
You can view all of the events happening at SETC 2018 online at 2018setcconvention.sched.com or via SETC’s mobile app on your phone or tablet now. Where can you find changes after arriving at the convention? The app!

WHERE CAN I GET SETC’S MOBILE APP?
Look for the SETC mobile app now in the Google Play Store (Android phone and tablet) here or in the Apple App Store (iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch) here. The app is powered by Sched and sponsored by Arts People, software for the performing arts.

WHERE IS REGISTRATION?
Head to the lobby on the Concourse Level in the Mobile Convention Center to find Convention Registration. This is where you’ll pick up your convention packet, get answers at the Info Hub, buy convention gear, and place Silent Auction bids.

WHERE CAN I PARK FOR EVENTS?
SETC members can park for $5 per day at the Mobile Convention Center or the Mobile Civic Center. There also is a city parking garage (Park First Garage; 8 Water Street, Mobile, AL 36602) attached to the Renaissance Mobile Riverview hotel, which offers hourly rates, as well as a $16 daily rate.

Registration: setc.org/convention
WHERE CAN I GET FOOD/DRINK IN THE CONVENTION CENTER?
Grab quick food and beverages at concession stands in the Exhibit Hall and in the lobby area on the Concourse Level. Plus, on Thursday and Friday, Chick-fil-A will have a lunchtime grab-and-go cart in the lobby area on the Concourse Level.

WHAT OTHER DINING OPTIONS ARE NEARBY?
Click on the map above to see more than 40 restaurants located within walking distance of the convention center. The convention hotels also have restaurants.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE EVENING?
On Thursday night during the convention, Visit Mobile will provide a complimentary Dine-Around Trolley from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The trolley will stop at the designated places on the map (click map above) and loop continuously through the Dauphin Street Entertainment District. The trolley will have a sign that says SETC. Just show your convention badge to ride.

On Friday night during the convention, visit downtown Mobile art galleries, institutions, studios and unique shops as they open their doors and welcome you inside to see beautiful artwork, sample delicious foods and hear the sounds of LoDa ArtWalk, now in its ninth year. [www.facebook.com/LODAartwalk](http://www.facebook.com/LODAartwalk)

Also, check your convention schedule for times and locations of the many festival performances, social events, staged readings and workshops in the evening.

HOW CAN I GET AROUND IF I DON’T WANT TO WALK OR DRIVE?
Via Pedicab – it’s how we roll, y’all! Mobile Pedicab will be providing transportation via “bicycle cab” among three of our venues – the Convention Center, the Civic Center and the Saenger Theatre – from Wednesday, March 7 through Friday night, March 9. The ride is free, as the drivers pedal for tips only. [www.facebook.com/mobilepedicab](http://www.facebook.com/mobilepedicab)
2018 SETC CONVENTION: FREE MASTERCLASSES

Paint the scene below on this wall!

SETC 2018
March 7 - 11, 2018
Mobile, AL

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

CHRIS CHALK
Actor for Theatre, Film and Television
2:30 p.m., Thursday

SUZAN ZEDER
Playwright
2:30 p.m., Friday

JANE GREENWOOD
Tony Award-Winning Costume Designer
SETC Distinguished Career Award Winner
2:30 p.m., Saturday

MURAL IN MOBILE:
Scenic Painting Masterclass with Scott Bradley

Leave your mark on Mobile with this two-part masterclass that will culminate in a finished mural on a wall in the Mobile Convention Center’s parking garage. Above is a rough sketch of the mural, which will feature Mobile’s Azalea Trail Maids, divided into blocks for painting. Tony Award-nominated scenic artist Scott Bradley (above, left) will take participants through the process of gridding a wall, blowing up the design, and putting paint brush to wall. Come to paint or just observe!

Part 1: Friday, March 9, 10 a.m. – Noon
Part 2: Saturday, March 10, 10 a.m. – Noon
Location: Convention Center Parking Garage (Take elevator to Level 1)
FREE to convention attendees

CONQUERING THEATRICAL STYLE:
Masterclass with Timothy Mooney

Drawing from his book Acting at the Speed of Life: Conquering Theatrical Style, acclaimed solo artist Timothy Mooney (left) will guide participants through hands-on exercises exploring the nature of language, “realism” vs. “believability,” and more.

Thursday, March 8, 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Location: Convention Center 201B
FREE to Convention Attendees

More info: setc.org/convention/keynotes
Get Social with SETC

#SETC2018
Join the SETC convention conversation on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter with the hashtag #SETC2018. See real-time updates, and share your photos and experiences.

#SETCtoME
Share what SETC means to you! Stop by Info Hub to add a note to our “SETC Wall,” then post a photo on social media using the hashtag #SETCtoME.

SETC on Sched
This year’s SETC app, powered by Sched and sponsored by Arts People, makes networking easier than ever. Create your profile to see who else is attending the sessions you’re interested in. Download the app and join the SETC community at 2018setcconvention.sched.org.

facebook.com/setc.org
twitter.com/setctweet
instagram.com/setc

Share Your Thoughts on the SETC Wall!

In an effort to understand the dynamic audiences SETC serves—constituents, members, partners and more—we are asking convention attendees to answer the question: “What does SETC mean to you?”

So, give us a word, a phrase, a list, or a description of how SETC fits into your working world. What is it we offer that helps you succeed? What comes to mind when you think of SETC and what we do to serve you and your part of the theatre industry?

Visit the SETC Info Hub on the Concourse Level in the convention center to share your thoughts in a collaborative and visual way! We’ll have you fill out a Post-it note and hang your answer on our collective wall. Follow up with a photo of your Post-it note on social media, using the hashtag #SETCtoME.

CONVENTION GEAR: Don’t Go Home Without It!

Look for lots of fun items this year in Convention Gear, including masks (right) to wear to Saturday night’s Masquerade Gala (details on Page 5), plus laptop bags, keychains, notebooks, sweatshirts, tank tops, T-shirts and more. Convention Gear will be for sale in the Concourse Level lobby in the Mobile Convention Center.

More info: setc.org/convention
Don’t Miss the Masquerade Gala

Plan now to join your fellow SETC members for a fabulous Masquerade Gala Awards Banquet at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 10, in Mobile. Buy, borrow or create a mask – or don your favorite costume!

This year’s gala plays off the SETC Silent Auction theme of Masquerade, designed to serve as a tribute to Mobile’s Mardi Gras heritage as well as embracing the many other styles of masquerade, from Commedia dell’Arte to Carnival to Steampunk.

Buy a Mask in Convention Gear
Masks such as those shown at right will be available in Convention Gear, which is located in the Concourse Level lobby in the convention center.

Bid on a Mask in the Silent Auction
Complete your ensemble for the Masquerade Gala and support SETC’s Endowment by bidding on a mask or costume item (see four items available below) in SETC’s Silent Auction, located in the Concourse Level lobby in the convention center.

Dance the Night Away at the Afterparty
Robert Lewis, aka Ya Boi Boi, returns for the seventh year to deejay the Afterparty following Saturday’s Awards Banquet. A disc jockey since 2008 in Huntsville, AL, Lewis is also a theatre geek. Bring your dancing shoes to the Riverview Bon Secour Ballroom! The fun starts at 10 p.m. Saturday night, March 10.
FESTIVAL BASICS: What You Need to Know

All of the festival venues are within walking distance of the Mobile Convention Center. Prefer to ride? Grab a Pedicab! (See Page 2 for details.)

Community Theatre Festival
The Community Theatre Festival will be held Thursday, March 8, through Saturday, March 10, at the Saenger Theatre at 6 S. Joachim St., four blocks from the Mobile Convention Center. Click here for more info.

High School Festival
The High School Theatre Festival will be held Thursday, March 8, and Friday, March 9, at the Mobile Civic Center, 401 Civic Center Dr., a 15-minute walk from the Mobile Convention Center. Click here for more info.

Theatre for Youth Festival
The Theatre for Youth Festival (more info here) will be held Thursday, March 8, in the Bon Secour Ballroom at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview hotel, which is connected to the convention center via a pedway. The Fringe Festival (more info here) will be held Thursday, March 8, through Saturday, March 10, and the Ten-Minute Play Festival performances (more info here) will be held Thursday, March 8, in this same location.

Community Theatre Festival Adjudicators

Anthony Christian Daniel
Director and Casting Director, New York City

Tammy Killian
Chair, Theatre and Dance, Western Illinois University

Katrina Ploof
Freelance Theatre Professional, Orlando, FL

High School Theatre Festival Adjudicators

Chris Bellinger
Actor, Director, Voice-over Artist and Coach

José Casas
Asst. Professor of Playwriting, University of Michigan

Christina Villaverde
Performer, Educator, Music Director and Pianist

Theatre for Youth Festival Respondents

Ernie Nolan
Executive Artistic Director, Nashville Children’s Theatre

Suzan Zeder
One of Nation’s Leading Playwrights for Family Audiences

More info: setc.org/festivals-convention
At the 2018 SETC Convention, Ready to Direct will join SETC’s lineup of awards connecting talent to professional opportunities. Ready to Direct includes a competition, with opportunities for participants to receive mentoring and job offers. Here’s how it will work:

- Wednesday, March 7, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. – Four directors chosen in advance of the convention work with two actors each in a “first rehearsal” format. Professional company representatives (and other interested convention attendees) can observe the directors’ processes. (Think fish bowl.)
- Thursday, March 8, 10:15 a.m. – Directors show portfolios at a Job Fair Showcase.
- Thursday, March 8, 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. – Directors participate in the Ready to Direct Discussion, led by Preston Lane of Triad Stage in Greensboro, NC. Participants discuss directors’ choices and process and explore ideas of dramaturgy and dramatic action. This will be theatre representatives’ third chance to observe the directors. Open to all interested convention attendees.

Find Your Next Director

Ready to Direct already has one theatre that has signed on to hire a director through the competition: Birmingham Children’s Theatre. While ALL theatres are encouraged to seek talent, SETC will offer $1,000 to two additional theatres that find a director or an assistant director for their upcoming seasons through the Ready to Direct events. COMPANY REPS: Contact April at april@setc.org to participate.

Ready to Publish gives one selected playwright the opportunity to work with Stage Rights to develop a play for publication. The following have been chosen to “pitch” their plays at the 2018 SETC Convention. The winner will work with Stage Rights over the next year and then receive a staged reading at the 2019 SETC Convention:

Andrew Black: *Puppet Man*  
Stephen R. Coffee: *Rain Follows the Plow*  
Frank Little Hardin: *The Greater Love*  
Daniel Haughey: *Yankee Gentleman*  
Rand Higbee: *Kid Dakota*  
Anne Pulsipher and Alex Petti: *The Trouble with Dead Boyfriends*  
Jay Schwarz: *Foodtowne*  
J. Harvey Stone: *Anthropology Lesson*

Ready to Design, which gives graduate school students an opportunity to design at a professional theatre, continues to expand. This year, Serenbe Playhouse joins Lexington Children’s Theatre, The Rose Theater and Triad Stage in hiring a designer from the Graduate Design Competition.
2018 Design Competition Keynotes Offer Advice

Jane Greenwood
Costume Design

Winner of the 2017 Tony Award for costume design of a play for her work on The Little Foxes, Jane Greenwood is an accomplished designer with more than 130 Broadway credits.

Her advice for young designers:
The correct design for the piece and the character is key. The drawing is just the beginning of the journey to the stage. Costume design then becomes collaborative art. Costume designers must have their own ideas, but many people are involved before you see the costumes on stage: the director, the playwright (if living), the set and lighting designers, the costume shop, the drapers and the actors. You have to convince them all!

Stephen Strawbridge
Lighting Design

Nominated in 2017 for a Drama Desk Award for the lighting design of “Master Harold” ... and the Boys, Stephen Strawbridge has designed on and off Broadway, for regional theatre and internationally.

His advice for young designers:
See as much theatre as you can. That’s most important.
Experience as much art as you can. Visit galleries; go to museums. Firsthand encounters are better than reproductions.
Listen to music. Read – both fiction and non-fiction. And TRAVEL. Nothing is as enriching and broadening. It’s easy to become completely immersed in one’s own productions and have too little exposure to other works or experiences. Keep your head up and your eyes and ears open.

Donyale Werle
Scenic Design

Winner of the 2012 Tony Award for the scenic design of Peter and the Starcatcher, Donyale Werle works on and off Broadway and speaks internationally on sustainable design.

Her advice for young designers:
Diversify – in every way you possibly can. Diversifying your knowledge base, experiential base and skills set allows you greater opportunities. It also allows you to have a greater understanding of the stories that we present onstage.

Read books, work in other industries, travel where you want to, but also places you never thought of. Take risks, fail. It’s all part of the greater whole. Understanding the whole, and not just the parts, allows you to see that a life in design is a lifelong learning experience.

Jane Shaw
Sound Design

Nominated in 2017 for a Drama Desk Award for the sound design of Men on Boats, Jane Shaw has worked on more than 240 productions ranging from devised dance pieces to works of theatre.

Her advice for young designers:
Trust between collaborators is invaluable. It gives everyone the room to explore ideas, push boundaries, and the ability to hear and understand each other and the play. Yet we are transitory figures, rushing from tech to tech, theatre to theatre. How can we develop trust quickly and honestly?

My advice to myself and others is first to respect each person in the process – management, performer, creative or crew. Second, come prepared to be your best self: adventurous, rested and with your sense of humor intact!

More info: setc.org/design-competition
Singing at SETC Auditions:
6 Tips from Your Accompanist

by Jose Simbulan

Over the past 24 years of playing for the SETC Professional Division auditions, I’ve found one thing that hinders a lot of actors during their auditions: the preparation of their physical sheet music. Here are a few quick fixes and reminders:

1. That one favorite song that has been falling out of your binder for the past year or two (or more!) due to a worn-out hole-punch or sheet protector: Fix it NOW!

2. If you have trouble reading your sheet music, then I will have trouble reading it, too. Make new, clean copies as needed.

3. NO LOOSE SINGLE SHEETS! Put your sheet music in a binder, or mount it on a piece of cardboard or a manila folder. It needs to stay on the piano’s music rack.

4. That song or cut of a song which is just two pages long, but that you have set up in your binder as back-to-back pages, thus requiring a page turn: Rearrange and/or re-copy it NOW so that the pages face each other, thus eliminating the page turn.

5. Look at exactly where you have written “START” and “STOP”. Are those your start and stop points? Or the pianist’s? There is usually a difference.

6. As I mentioned in a recent Facebook/blog post*, I have two cardinal rules for audition prep, which essentially distill down all of the above:

- I – the pianist – should never be the first one to play your sheet music for you.

- If the first words out of your mouth when you come up to me at the piano are, “I’m sorry…” then that’s already two strikes against you.

* If you would like to read the rest of that post: [http://bit.ly/JSAdvice](http://bit.ly/JSAdvice)

See you in Mobile!
GETTING A JOB THROUGH SETC: CHUCK WAGNER

After landing a role in The Lost Colony outdoor drama through SETC, Chuck Wagner went on to star on Broadway in numerous roles, including five years as the Beast in Disney’s Beauty and the Beast. He’ll share his success story in a Friday luncheon presentation and offer auditioning advice in a 4:30 p.m. Friday workshop at the SETC Convention in Mobile.

When did you attend your first SETC?
When I was a freshman at the University of Alabama, the department took a bunch of us to SETC to audition for summer jobs. That was in 1977. Because I’m big and loud, I’m a natural for outdoor drama, and I got 30 callbacks! I took the gig as John Borden in The Lost Colony.

Where do you work most often in theatre?
I’ve been blessed to play most of the great theatres in America and a few around the world. Broadway is the ultimate, but I strive to bring Broadway everywhere I play!

How do you get jobs now?
I have an agent in New York that helps me book Broadway, but I’ve learned not to sit and wait. My teaching (I present a lot of masterclasses) and my solo shows are self-generated. I’ve created solo shows that I play on cruise ships and in theatres across the country. The first show, Living the Dream, was created for the Disney Cruise Line and was so popular I’ve expanded to many more cruise lines. The second, Classic, builds on that model and adds a few golden age pop standards.

How has SETC helped you in your career?
SETC got me the job at The Lost Colony, where I met my wife Susan. That is a major blessing! We were directed by the legendary Broadway director Joe Layton, who opened the door to Broadway for me and taught me so much. My time at SETC was an exhilarating immersion into the world of professional theatre. Being part of that sea of young actors helped me realize how amazing theatre is, and how many people love it.
ACTING
David Haugen
Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Wow! “Chris Chalk Masterclass and Pizza Party for High School Students” on Wednesday, March 7, for pre-registered high school groups. RSVP required at claire@setc.org.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE: So many acting techniques, approaches and styles led by truly great teachers. Explore something new to you. Also, there are a number of workshops on self-taping. Every actor, from the seasoned professional to those just entering the business, needs to know how to self-tape an audition.

OUR MEETING: Please attend the Acting Interest Group meeting at 4 p.m., Wednesday, March 7. Your input is important.

APPLIED THEATRE
Tenika Dye
Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Applied Theatre is the newest interest group in SETC! It covers theatrical practices in community, educational, therapeutic, and/or service contexts involving both professionals and nonprofessionals.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE:
Learn about our interest area at “Applied Theatre Introduction: Theatre as a Tool” at noon, Friday, March 9; “Playback Theatre: Improv OF and FOR the People” at 9 a.m., Friday, March 9; and “Theatre as Service: Applied Theatre, Ministry and Missions” at 1 p.m., Friday, March 9.

OUR MEETING: The first official meeting of our interest group is at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 10. Join us!

DESIGN/TECHNOLOGY
Neno Russell, Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Be sure to attend the design keynote presentations at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 8: Costume Designer Jane Greenwood, Scenic Designer Donyale Werle, Sound Designer Jane Shaw and Lighting Designer Stephen Strawbridge. Please also join us at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, March 10, when Jane Greenwood, 2018 Distinguished Career Award recipient, delivers the keynote.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE: More than 60 workshops related to design and production will be offered.

OUR MEETING: Join us for the Design/Tech Interest Group meetings at 4 p.m., Wednesday, March 7, and 9 a.m., Saturday, March 10.

DIRECTING
Rick St. Peter
Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
The Ready to Direct competition debuts at the convention this year, offering early-career directors an opportunity to learn from seasoned professionals and potentially to find work at a professional theatre. (More info, Page 7.)

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE: Be sure to check out “What Women Want: Directing from a Female Perspective,” “The Director’s Concept: Formulating and Communicating Your Vision,” and “The New Director: A Round Table Discussion,” as well as the rest of our amazing workshops.

OUR MEETING: Join us for the Directing Interest Group meeting at 4 p.m., Thursday, March 8.

More info: 2018setcconvention.sched.org
What’s Happening in Your Interest Area?

HIST/THEORY/CRIT/LIT
Sarah McCarroll, Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
“Historic Garment Collections: Resources for Designers and Technicians” at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, March 8. Theatre history and design/tech collide in this workshop about how to make archival research part of your design and production process.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE: How do we ethically approach producing scripts that reflect outdated ideas? Join the conversation with “Performing Antiquated Scripts in Our Diverse Culture” at 6 p.m., Friday, March 9.

OUR MEETING: Our interest group meets at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 10, following the Young Scholars Award panel at 9 a.m. Join us to hear the work of these young researchers and stay for the area meeting.

MUSICAL THEATRE
Valerie Accetta
Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Run through your audition material for quick suggestions at our coaching sessions! Sign-ups will be on the door each day: Wednesday, March 7, Clipper Suite, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Thursday, March 8, Mobile Bay Ballroom, 8 a.m. to noon; Friday, March 9, Clipper Suite, 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE: From belting to beveling, you’ll find exciting workshop topics: “The Nerve Proof Audition,” 9 a.m., Friday, March 9; “Kick, Guide and Bevel! Dancing Secrets from a Rockette,” 1 p.m., Thursday, March 8; “Singing in Style,” noon, Thursday, March 8.

OUR MEETING: Join us at noon, Friday, March 9, for our interest group meeting.

PLAYWRITING
Darren Michael
Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Join us for the staged reading of the 2018 Charles M. Getchell New Play Award winner, Moving, by Sean Michael McCord, at 7 p.m., Friday, March 9 (talkback to follow).

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE: Great workshops for all, from marketing to writing for outdoor drama, including the opportunity to showcase something you’ve written at The Playwright’s Corner, at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, March 8, and 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 9.

OUR MEETING: All are welcome at the Playwriting Interest Group meeting at 8 a.m., Thursday, March 8.

RELIGION & THEATRE
Scott Hayes, Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
“Quo Vadis: The 21st Century Christian Theatre Artist” at 4 p.m., Thursday, March 8. An annual favorite! Panelists will explore the tensions that come with the pursuit of excellence in artistry, scholarship and integration of faith in your work.


OUR MEETING: Calling all who are interested in discussing potential topics of interest for future conventions during our interest group meeting at 1 p.m., Saturday, March 10.

More info: 2018setcconvention.sched.org
What’s Happening in Your Interest Area?

STAGE MANAGEMENT
Stacy Blackburn, Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Everyone is encouraged to participate in – or watch – the Stage Management Games on Thursday, March 8. Up to 25 participants will compete in six events testing their stage management skills. Sign-up starts at 6:30 p.m., and the event at 7 p.m.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE:
We have a wide variety of workshops, including sessions on digital prompt books, project management, working with crews, calling shows, interview techniques, SMing for immersive theatre, and the chance to have your prompt book critiqued by an Equity SM.

OUR MEETING:
Join us for our interest group meeting at 4 p.m., Saturday, March 10. In this meeting, the committee decides most of the topics and sessions for the next convention.

STAGE MOVEMENT
Matthew R. Wilson, Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
Jump into the conference at 5:30 Wednesday night with our annual “Movement Playground”! Learn from others, share your techniques, or just enjoy free play.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE:
Catch David Gaines’ award-winning 7 (x1) Samurai at the Fringe Fest at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 10. Plus, workshops in “Staging Intimacy,” clowns, CrossFit and more!

OUR MEETING:
At noon, Thursday, March 8, the Stage Movement Interest Group talks about the future of movement and physical theatre... at SETC and around the world! Plus, don’t miss the Society of American Fight Directors’ interest group at noon, Saturday, March 10.

VOICE/ SPEECH
Stacey Cabaj, Chair

DON’T MISS THIS:
We have an exciting two-part workshop, “Acting & Singing with Archetypes” on Thursday, March 8, and three voice-over workshops on Friday, March 9.

WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE:
Beginners can look forward to introductory workshops in Alexander Technique, Fitzmaurice Voicework®, Linklater Voice, Viewpoints, and Vocal Yoga®. Professionals and instructors are invited to attend the “Finding Bridges Across Voice Pedagogies” PDS workshop on Saturday morning, March 10.

OUR MEETING:
Join us for a Meet and Greet from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m., on Wednesday, March 7, and our interest group meeting at 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 9.

More info: 2018setcconvention.sched.org

PDS SERIES:
Programming Just For Profs, Pros and Practitioners

During the spring 2016 convention, SETC began designating “Professional Development Series” (PDS) workshops. The purpose of the PDS series is to intentionally highlight workshops with a target audience of professors, teachers, arts administrators, theatre professionals, and community theatre practitioners. For all programming designated PDS, no student members are admitted.

In Mobile, we will offer the largest number of PDS workshops in the brief history of this series! So if you are seeking professional development opportunities at SETC, plan to attend some of these exciting workshops.

- Pat Gagliano, VP of Services
Change – and Other Parting Words

Change does not mean that something is broken. The adage, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” is for those without vision or drive. As I have said at multiple meetings both in SETC and in other groups, “Look, my rotary phone isn’t broken, but I still bought a cell phone.”

At the March convention, I will step down after three years as SETC’s president. During that time, the organization has undergone a number of changes designed to help us meet the evolving needs of the art, the economy and society.

Here’s a quick look back at just a few of the major changes SETC has made:

1. Took on the Institute of Outdoor Theatre as a branch of SETC.
2. Established the SETC Hall of Fame – and the first five inductees will be honored at the 2018 convention. (See Page 16 for more information.)
3. Created a Compassionate Bereavement Policy for staff.
4. Established the John Spiegel Theatrical Artist Award.
5. Established two grant programs: one for SETC member theatres and one for new members.
7. Established the Ready to Publish and Ready to Direct Awards.
8. Created official mentoring opportunities at the spring convention through registration.
9. Moved the Undergraduate and Graduate School Auditions from service committees to services run by Central Office/Operations.
10. Modified some of the scholarship requirements to help increase the number of qualified applicants.

Change is a constant that helps keep SETC relevant. I hope that the changes of the last three years reflect the strong tradition established by past SETC leaders, building a foundation that allows those who follow to explore new, significant ways of serving the organization and its members. I look forward to the future and seeing what the ever-evolving SETC will become.
I’ll Be Moving on to a New ‘Role’ in 2019, But There’s Much to Be Done in the Interim

I will be leaving the position of executive director in June of 2019. At that point, I will have been with SETC in this capacity for 20 years. Together we have accomplished a lot.

I’m excited to fill my remaining time in this position committed to projects in process as well as some new initiatives. And 2018 promises to be our busiest year yet.

Here are a few of the important initiatives we will be discussing in the coming year:

Professional Auditions Improvements
The Professional Screening Auditions Survey that we conducted last year provided a lot of good feedback, including what works well and what the challenges are. A small task force has been asked to focus on the challenges in an effort to improve consistency in adjudication, information dissemination and processes, based on the comments that SETC constituents highlighted.

Theatre Resource Central
We’ve got the title and a loose framework. Our hope is to finally get this comprehensive network started. The idea is to offer a central web location where theatre practitioners from all over the country can access information and offer their expertise.

Language that Captures Our Identity
Many of you recognize the difficulty of conveying the message that we are the Southeastern Theatre Conference serving the nation in theatre. The members of IOT (Institute of Outdoor Theatre) have discussed dropping “Institute” since they are no longer part of a university. We do not have any interest in losing or changing our identities. We are, however, interested in finding the language that supports what we are doing. Look for an SETC WALL at convention – it’s our kick-off to start the conversation. (See more about the SETC Wall, Page 4)

While leaving SETC is my decision, it is a bittersweet one. I have been lucky to love my job and immensely enjoy the people I work with and continually meet. From board and advisory council members, staff and on-site representatives to the hundreds of volunteers I’ve had the chance to work with, SETC is filled with terrific people, generous of their time and heart. Theatre is about relationships, and SETC is a perfect example of how we work so well together to make things happen because of the bonds we build and keep building.

I am proud that we have been able to accomplish so much together and, more importantly, have had a great time making it all happen! I feel very fortunate to be able to say, “My work is my play!” While I will miss this “role,” I am looking forward to the next – whatever that is!
First SETC Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

Five individuals will be honored as the inaugural members of the SETC Hall of Fame at the 2018 SETC Convention.

Established by SETC in 2015, the Hall of Fame recognizes persons, living or deceased, who have made major contributions to the organization. These may be administrative, artistic, and/or financial contributions that have had a significant impact on SETC’s success over a sustained period. The honorees, who will be inducted at the annual Business Meeting at 3:30 p.m., Saturday, March 10, are:

- **Don Creason**, 1992-93 SETC president;
- **N. Bennett East**, the late longtime SETC Auditions Committee chair;
- **April J’C Marshall**, manager of SETC Professional Theatre Services;
- **Jonathan Michaelsen**, 2003-04 SETC president;
- **Julie Richardson**, director of SETC Professional Auditions for 12 years.

The SETC Executive Committee met in Charlotte, NC, on Jan. 5 and 6, 2018. Actions taken by ExCom include:

- Approved the Secretary Manual.
- Approved the States Rep manual.
- Approved that the Porterfield, Wilson, Smith, Ballew, Holliday, Secondary, and Halbach Scholarships and Awards recipients will be limited to the allocated cash award plus membership and registration waivers for one year, effective with the fiscal year 2019.

To view the full minutes, including additional action items, please click [here](#).

STATE CONVENTION NEWS

Mississippi Theatre Association

**Lee Crouse**  
State Representative

**Event**: Annual festival.  
**Number attending**: 511 students; 166 adults.  
**Winners of Community Theatre Festival**: *Paper Thin*, Starkville Community Theatre, Starkville, MS; *Second Lady*, Center Players Community Theatre, Biloxi, MS.  
**Ideas to share**: Individual events chair Juniper Wallace used a Remind.com app to communicate event times, locations and updates, which seemed to make the stream of communication smoother.