



THEATRE ALLIANCE
OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA



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2007 BARRYMORE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE NOMINEES, HOSTS, AND NEW CEREMONY PLANS ANNOUNCED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 1, 2007

PHILADELPHIA – The Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia announced the nominations in 25 categories for the **2007 Barrymore Awards for Excellence in Theatre** at a press conference held today on the F. Otto Haas Stage at the Arden Theatre. The organization also announced big changes to this year's **Gala Barrymore Award Ceremony**, the premier annual event in Philadelphia theatre, to be held on **Monday, October 1st** at 7:00 p.m. at the **Crystal Tea Room**, located in the Wannamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East.

For the first time at the Barrymore Awards, audiences will have an opportunity to preview some of the 2007-2008 season's most exciting productions. The event will also include an elegant three-course meal prepared by the Crystal Tea Room's exclusive caterer Finley Catering. The ceremony, directed by **Vincent Marini**, celebrates the entire community's artistic achievements and the collective winning quality that the region's theatrical stages consistently offer.

Theatre Alliance Executive Director, **Margie Salvante**, who recently relocated from New York City to head the organization, spoke of her excitement about being involved in such an impressive theatre community. "I have been struck by the sense of joy that surrounds the work here," she said, "and how that joy infects your audiences so that there is a palpable sense of community that crosses between the stage and the house. The Philadelphia theatre community has a lot to celebrate and be proud of, and we'll work to ensure that the broader community will be ready to celebrate the Barrymore Awards with us and recognize - as we do - what an important resource the theatre industry is for all of Greater Philadelphia."

Actors **Chris Faith** and **Greg Wood** were announced as the hosts of this year's ceremony. They are currently garnering laughs as Grumio and Petruccio in *Taming of the Shrew* at the Pennsylvania

Shakespeare Festival. At the end of last season, Faith appeared as Hucklebee in Mum Puppettheatre's production of ***The Fantasticks*** while Wood portrayed four characters in The Wilma Theater's production of Bertolt Brecht's ***The Life of Galileo***.

The Barrymore Awards program is produced by the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia and is the only comprehensive awards program in the region, recognizing artistic excellence in theatre. Each year, over 100 productions, produced by professional theatres in the region, are reviewed by the Barrymore nominating committee. More than 100 actors, directors and designers representing 22 companies became nominees for the 2007 Barrymore Awards.

A diverse group representing both large and small theatre companies received nominations for their work in the 2006-2007 season. **Walnut Street Theatre** led the nominated theatres with 22 nominations; followed by **Arden Theatre Company** and **Philadelphia Theatre Company**, both with 13 nominations; **The Wilma Theater** with 12 nominations; **People's Light & Theatre Company** with 8 nominations; **11th Hour Theatre Company**, **Mum Puppettheatre**, and **Theatre Exile**, all with 7 nominations; and **Lantern Theater Company** with 6 nominations.

Nerds://A Musical Software Satire from Philadelphia Theatre Company led the musicals category with 9 nominations. The Arden's ***Caroline, or Change*** followed with 8 nominations and Walnut Street's ***42nd Street***, 11th Hour's ***The Bomb-itty of Errors***, and Mum Puppettheatre's ***The Fantasticks*** all received 7 nominations.

The Wilma's ***The Pillowman*** and Walnut Street's ***Of Mice and Men*** led the way for nominations in the straight play category with 6 nominations each, followed by The Wilma's ***The Life of Galileo*** with 5 nominations, and Theatre Exile's ***Glengarry Glen Ross***, and Lantern Theatre Company's ***Master Harold...and the boys*** with 4 nominations each.

In addition to the 22 categories for theatrical productions, nominations in three special categories and the Lifetime Achievement Award recipient were announced. **Carole Haas Gravango** will receive the 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award for her incredible generosity throughout the cultural community. Along with sponsoring the **F. Otto Haas Award**, Haas-Gravango's support of the arts has spread throughout the entire artistic landscape of the region. She has provided leadership, vision, and inspiration to numerous cultural organizations including, but not limited to, Arden Theatre Company, Arts in Motion, American Symphony Orchestra League, National Liberty Museum, The People's Light & Theatre Company, Pennsylvania's Children's Trust Fund, Philadelphia Orchestra, and William Penn Foundation.

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The **F. Otto Haas Award for an Emerging Philadelphia Theatre Artist**, which includes a \$10,000 cash prize, is given to a Philadelphia theatre artist who shows outstanding promise in his or her field and is dedicated to working in the Philadelphia theatre community. Named after the late F. Otto Haas, noted philanthropist, civic leader, and former Chairman of Rohm & Haas, the award is sponsored through the generosity of Carole Haas Gravagno and is specifically designed to help cover the artist's living expenses for one year to allow the individual to focus solely on his or her craft. The runners-up each receive a \$1,000 cash award. The 2007 Emerging Artist Award nominees are **Lee Ann Etzold, Millie Hiibel, Jeb Kreager, Matt Pfeiffer, and Matt Saunders**.

The award for **Excellence in Theatre Education and Community Service** promotes the participation of theatres and theatre artists who provide innovative theatre and educational experiences as a vehicle for betterment within the community. The 2007 nominees are 1812 Production's **1812 Outreach**, Lantern Theater Company's **Illumination**, Philadelphia Theatre Company's **My Philly Reality**, and Walnut Street Theater's **Adopt-A-School**.

The nominees for **The Ted and Stevie Wolf Award for New Approaches to Collaborations** are **Brat Productions & the rock bands: Toothless George, Allison Polans, Danny Mackane, and Devin Greenwood** for *Three Chord Fiction*; **InterAct Theatre Company, Mural Arts Program & Art-Reach** for *The Norris Square Project*; and **The Vagabond Acting Troupe & University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology** for *The Trial of Akhenaten*.

THE NOMINEES ARE:

OUTSTANDING OVERALL PRODUCTION OF A PLAY: **The Four of Us** – 1812 Productions; **Master Harold...and the boys** – Lantern Theater Company; **Glengarry Glen Ross** – Theatre Exile; **Of Mice and Men** – Walnut Street Theatre; **The Pillowman** – The Wilma Theater

OUTSTANDING OVERALL PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL: **The Bomb-itty of Errors** – 11th Hour Theatre Company; **Caroline, or Change** – Arden Theatre Company; **The Fantasticks** – Mum Puppettheatre; **Nerds://A Musical Software Satire** – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **42nd Street** – Walnut Street Theatre

OUTSTANDING DIRECTION OF A PLAY: **Mark Clements** – *Of Mice and Men* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Terrence J. Nolen** – *A Prayer for Owen Meany* – Arden Theatre Company; **David O'Connor** – *Master Harold...and the boys* – Lantern Theater Company; **Matt Pfeiffer** – *Glengarry Glen Ross* – Theatre Exile; **Jiri Zizka** – *The Pillowman* – The Wilma Theater

HAROLD PRINCE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING DIRECTION OF A MUSICAL: **Charles Abbott** – *42nd Street* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Aaron Cromie** – *The Fantasticks* – Mum Puppettheatre; **Philip William McKinley** – *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **Terrence J. Nolen** – *Caroline, or Change* – Arden Theatre Company; **Megan Nicole O'Brien** – *The Bomb-itty of Errors* – 11th Hour Theatre Company

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OUTSTANDING MUSIC DIRECTION: **Thomas DelPizzo, Rob McClure, Michael Philip O'Brien, Steve Pacek, & Mark Valenzuela** – *The Bomb-itty of Errors* – 11th Hour Theatre Company; **Eric Ebbenga** – *Caroline, or Change* – Arden Theatre Company; **Douglass G. Lutz** – *Carousel* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Mat Wright & Aaron Cromie** – *The Fantasticks* – Mum Puppettheatre; **Mark Yurkanin** – *Side by Side by Sondheim* – Walnut Street Theatre, Independence Studio 3

OUTSTANDING LEADING ACTOR IN A PLAY: **John Campion** as Galileo – *The Life of Galileo* – The Wilma Theater; **Scott Greer** as Lennie – *Of Mice and Men* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Brent Harris** as Larry Olivier – *Orson's Shadow* – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **Matt Pfeiffer** as Matt – *Red Light Winter* – Theatre Exile; **Frank X** as Sam – *Master Harold...and the boys* – Lantern Theater Company

OUTSTANDING LEADING ACTRESS IN A PLAY: **Louisa Flaningam** as Daisy – *Driving Miss Daisy* – Delaware Theatre Company; **Erin Clare Hurley** as Anne Shirley – *Anne of Green Gables* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **Christie Parker** as Desdemona – *Othello* – Philadelphia Shakespeare Festival; **Susan Riley Stevens** as Haley Walker – *Bad Dates* – Act II Playhouse; **Eunice Wong** as Hope – *Infinite Ache* – Walnut Street Theatre, Independence Studio 3

OUTSTANDING LEADING ACTOR IN A MUSICAL: **Bev Appleton** – *The Fantasticks* – Mum Puppettheatre; **Jeffrey Coon** as Billy Bigelow – *Carousel* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Mark Jacoby** as Julian Marsh – *42nd Street* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Rob McClure** as Antipholus of Syracuse – *The Bomb-itty of Errors* – 11th Hour Theatre Company; **Jim Poulos** as Gates – *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Philadelphia Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING LEADING ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL: **Demetria Joyce Bailey** as Ethel Waters – *Ethel Waters, His Eye is On the Sparrow* – Bristol Riverside Theatre; **Kim Carson** – *The Fantasticks* – Mum Puppettheatre; **Cara Cooper** as Peggy Sawyer – *42nd Street* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Joilet F. Harris** as Caroline Thibodeaux – *Caroline, or Change* – Arden Theatre Company; **Leslie Uggams** as Lena Horne – *Stormy Weather, Imagining Lena Horne* – Prince Music Theater

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A PLAY: **Jeb Kreager** as Ellard Simms – *The Foreigner* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **Christopher Patrick Mullen** as Pap, Mrs. Loftus, Tom Sawyer, Ensemble – *Splittin' the Raft* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **Ian Merrill Peakes** as Davis – *Red Light Winter* – Theatre Exile; **Harry Philibosian** as Shelly Levine – *Glengarry Glen Ross* – Theatre Exile; **Pete Pryor** as Michal – *The Pillowman* – The Wilma Theater

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A PLAY: **Rachel Botchan** as Joan Plowright – *Orson's Shadow* – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **Charlotte Ford** as Christina – *Red Light Winter* – Theatre Exile; **Meghan Heimbecker** as Isabel Dyson – *My Children! My Africa!* – The Wilma Theater; **Charlotte Northeast** as Ida – *Skin in Flames* – InterAct Theatre Company; **Susan Wilder** as Vivien Leigh – *Orson's Shadow* – Philadelphia Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A MUSICAL: **Thomas DelPizzo** as Dromio of Ephesus – *The Bomb-itty of Errors* – 11th Hour Theatre Company; **Dave Jadico** – *The Fantasticks* – Mum Puppettheatre; **Christopher Patrick Mullen** as Midge, the Miller – *Robin Hood* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **Patrick O'Hara** as Amos Hart – *Chicago* – The New Candlelight Theatre; **David Rossmar** as Woz – *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Philadelphia Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL: **Susan Cella** as Dorothy Brock – *42nd Street* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Sherri L. Edelen** as Rose Stopnick Gellman – *Caroline, or Change* – Arden Theatre Company; **Dee Hoty** as Kay Thompson – *Stormy Weather, Imagining Lena Horne* – Prince Music Theater; **Kelly J. Rucker** as Dotty Moffett – *Caroline, or Change* – Arden Theatre

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Company; **Chandra Lee Schwartz** as Sally – *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Philadelphia Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING SET DESIGN: **Jorge Cousineau** – *The Four of Us* – 1812 Productions; **Todd Edward Ivins** – *Of Mice and Men* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Mimi Lien** – *The Life of Galileo* – The Wilma Theater; **Arthur R. Rotch** – *Splittin' the Raft* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **James Wolk** – *Dex and Julie Sittin' in a Tree* – Arden Theatre Company

PECO AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LIGHTING DESIGN: **Jerold R. Forsyth** – *Dex and Julie Sittin' in a Tree* – Arden Theatre Company; **Jerold R. Forsyth** – *The Pillowman* – The Wilma Theater; **Shelley Hicklin** – *Of Mice and Men* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Tyler Micoleau** – *The Life of Galileo* – The Wilma Theater; **Kenton Yeager** – *A Prayer for Owen Meany* – Arden Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING COSTUME DESIGN: **Millie Hiibel** – *La Ronde* – Lantern Theater Company; **Rosemarie E. McKelvey** – *Caroline, or Change* – Arden Theatre Company; **Janus Stefanowicz** – *The Tempest* – Villanova Theatre; **Janus Stefanowicz** – *The Life of Galileo* – The Wilma Theater; **Ellis Tillman** – *Enchanted April* – Walnut Street Theatre

OUTSTANDING SOUND DESIGN: **Jorge Cousineau** – *The Giver* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **Troy Herion** – *The Life of Galileo* – The Wilma Theater; **Nick Kourtides** – *Chekhov Lizardbrain* – Pig Iron Theatre Company; **Bill Moriarty** – *The Pillowman* – The Wilma Theater; **Fitz Patton** – *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Philadelphia Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING ORIGINAL MUSIC: **Jorge Cousineau** – *The Giver* – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **Ben Edwards with Aaron Cromie, Madi Distefano, and Bradford Trojan** – *EYE-95 Retarded* – Brat Productions; **Hal Goldberg** – *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **Tony Macaulay** – *Windy City* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Jim Ryan** – *This Is The Week That Is: Political Humor for the Holidays* – 1812 Productions

OUTSTANDING CHOREOGRAPHY/MOVEMENT: **Michelle Gaudette** – *Carousel* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Karen Getz** – *Hair* – Prince Music Theater; **Mary Jane Houdina** – *42nd Street* – Walnut Street Theatre; **Jody Anderson Miller** – *Chicago* – The New Candlelight Theatre; **Samuel Antonio Reyes** – *The Bomb-itty of Errors* – 11th Hour Theatre Company

OUTSTANDING NEW PLAY: *Nerds://A Musical Software Satire* – Book & Lyrics by Jordan Allen-Dutton & Erik Weiner, Music by Hal Goldberg – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **Anne of Green Gables** – Adapted by Peter DeLaurier, from the novel by L.M. Montgomery – The People's Light & Theatre Company; **A House with No Walls** – By Thomas Gibbons – InterAct Theatre Company; **Dex and Julie Sittin' in a Tree** – By Bruce Graham – Arden Theatre Company; **Windy City** – Music by Tony Macaulay, Book & Lyrics by Dick Vosburgh with additional material by Tony Macaulay – Walnut Street Theatre

OUTSTANDING ENSEMBLE IN A PLAY: **Spring Awakening** – EgoPo Productions; **Master Harold...and the boys** – Lantern Theater Company; **Glengarry Glen Ross** – Theatre Exile; **Of Mice and Men** – Walnut Street Theatre; **The Pillowman** – The Wilma Theater

OUTSTANDING ENSEMBLE IN A MUSICAL: **The Bomb-itty of Errors** – 11th Hour Theatre Company; **Caroline, or Change** – Arden Theatre Company; **The Fantasticks** – Mum Puppettheatre; **Nerds://A Musical Software Satire** – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **42nd Street** – Walnut Street Theatre

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EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD: **1812 Outreach** – 1812 Productions; **Illumination** – Lantern Theater Company; **My Philly Reality** – Philadelphia Theatre Company; **Adopt-A-School** – Walnut Street Theatre

F. OTTO HAAS AWARD FOR AN EMERGING PHILADELPHIA THEATRE ARTIST: **Lee Ann Etzold; Millie Hiibel; Jeb Kreager; Matt Pfeiffer; Matt Saunders**

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: **Carole Haas Gravagno**

Major support for the Barrymore Awards is provided by Ark Media, Clear Sound, Earl Girls, PECO, An Exelon Company, Philadelphia City Paper, The Phoebe W. Haas Charitable Trust “A” as recommended by Carole Haas Gravagno, Anne Shuff @ Mindlabs.net, William Penn Foundation, and Ted & Stevie Wolf.

The Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia strengthens and leads the region’s richly diverse theater community, with more than 100 member organizations and 300 individuals, by promoting awareness and serving as a resource for information, professional development and advocacy. Tickets for the Barrymore Award Ceremony and more information are available online at www.theatrealliance.org or by calling (215) 413-7150.

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To request interviews, photos, ceremony press passes, and more information, please contact:
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