

COMMUNITY THEATRE

America's National Theatre

7,000 + Theatres

Over a Million Volunteers

Seen Live by 83 Million Annually

Community theatres involve more participants, present more performances of more productions, and play to more people than any other performing arts organizations in the country. They are critical to the cultural life of their communities.

The American Association of Community Theatre (AACT) exists to enable community theatres across the country to become the cornerstones of the creative life of their communities -- to provide quality entertainment, intellectual stimulation, challenge and opportunity, to be worthy contributors to an improved quality of life for the communities they serve.

Region X has a unique involvement with AACT since we are not based in the United States, but based on a military base in Europe. However, over the past nine years that I have artistically led the programming of the SHAPE Players and SHAPE Performing Arts Centre, our volunteers have experienced workshops, conventions and specifically AACTFests, which have provided all of them with a great deal of excitement, joy, and fulfillment. Participating in AACTFest, the National Theatre Festival, is a milestone for our company and is a bit of a 'theatre mecca' where they can compete, share, and learn.

~ Daniel Lamorte, Entertainment Director SHAPE Performing Arts Centre, Europe

SHAPE Entertainment Services is a part of the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux Family Morale, Welfare, and Recreation program. Since 1967, SHAPE has served servicemen, their families, civilians, and invited guests in and around the SHAPE area.



AACT provides the Magnolia Arts Center with a way to connect with other similar organizations in a seamless way. We are able to find solutions to problems and move forward by discussing issues with other groups who are either facing the same issues or have been there and offer a way to help.

~ Collice Moore, Magnolia Arts Center, Greenville, NC

The TRUE GEM of AACT membership for me is the power of collective knowledge.

Being a part of a community of community theatres where any challenge you encounter has an accessible answer by friends who have already lived through it.

~ Rick Kirby, Artistic Director, Manatee Players, Bradenton, FL



The festivals, conferences and workshops that AACT offers not only broaden my theatrical knowledge, they also connect me to a strong network of fellow artists all over the U.S., and they support me when I'm looking for answers to my newest theatrical dilemma.

~ Emily Anderson, Midland Center for the Arts, Midland, MI

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Building People, Building Communities

AACT represents the interests of more than 7,000 theatres across the United States and its territories, as well as theatre companies with the U.S. Armed Services overseas.

Twelve theatres from across the country and the U.S. Armed Services overseas present productions at the biennial national AACTFest.



Grand Rapids Civic Theatre in Grand Rapids, Michigan served as host and location for these productions in June 2015. Rochester Civic Theatre in Rochester, Minnesota will host in 2017.



Kokomo Civic Theatre
Kokoma, Indiana
Freud's Last Session



Dassel-Cokato Community Theatre
Dassel-Cokato, Minnesota
The Romancers



The New Group West
Cardiff, California
I Am My Own Wife



Tupelo Community Theatre
Tupelo, Mississippi
Lone Star



SHAPE Performing Arts Center
Mons, Belgium
Detachments



Elkhart Civic Theatre
Bristol, Indiana
The 39 Steps



Platte Valley Players
Brighton, Colorado
The Nina Variations



Spokane Civic Theatre
Spokane, Washington
Orphans



Lantern Theatre
Conway, Arkansas
God of Carnage



Warner Theatre
Torrington, Connecticut
Winter Flowers



Black Sheep Theatre
Rochester, New York
Feeding the Moonfish



Theatre Albany
Albany, Georgia
The Lady of Larkspur Lotion

photos by Stephen Bird and Linda M. Lee