

Notes



Theatre New Mexico

**aact** **2019**  
**fest**

**March 21 - 24**

Performing Arts Center  
Los Alamos, New Mexico

Hosted by

1943  2018

LOS ALAMOS LITTLE THEATRE

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season



# Welcome

We want to welcome everyone to Los Alamos for the 2019 Theatre New Mexico AACTFest and Conference. We are especially happy to see so many new faces among our registrants this year. And we definitely welcome each of these "newbies" into the TNM family, looking forward to seeing them again and again throughout the coming years.

We thank the members of the Los Alamos Little Theatre for all their hard work putting together what we are sure will be a fabulous festival filled with theatre performances, workshops, afterglows and, of course, our annual business meeting. Please take a few minutes to seek out the workers and let them know how much we appreciate them.

Enjoy the shows! Join in the fun! And most of all, please get to know your fellow registrants better - through theatre you can make life-long friends!

Reginia Garner  
TNM President

### Theatre New Mexico Board

Reginia Garner, President  
Paul Lewis, Vice President  
Robert Schumacher, Secretary  
Eric Bjorklund, Treasurer  
Sarah Bunch  
Lisa Cisneros  
Eugene and Susan Irby  
Gwen Lewis  
Kathleen Maldonado  
Nathan Miles  
Kayt C. Peck



### Local Organizing Committee

Paul Lewis, Festival Co-Chair  
Eric Bjorklund, Festival Co-Chair  
Gracie Cainelli, Silent Auction  
Sally Cassell, Registration  
John Gustafson, Arrangements  
Cindy Hines, Program & Awards  
Gwen Lewis, Registration  
Tami Martinson, Stage Manager  
Ken Milder, Technical Co-Chair  
Jim Siciliar, Technical Co-Chair

### TNM's Purpose is to improve the quality of theatre in the state by:

- Serving as an arts advocacy group for all types of theatrical activity in New Mexico.
- To Provide a system of networking for resource sharing, information sharing and to foster creativity in the theatrical arts throughout New Mexico.
- To enhance individual and organizational pride through recognition of past and present achievements through the appropriate adjudication process.
- To provide an optimum learning experience through festival participation at the state level, thereby nurturing participating community and educational groups as they strive towards excellence in theatrical production.
- To provide a positive learning experience for all festival and conference participants through performance, adjudication, workshops and fellowship.
- To develop an enlightened and discerning audience for all types of theatrical activity in New Mexico.



# Moving On

## Congratulations to those moving on to regionals!



# AACT Information



# Adjudicators

## STATEMENT OF CENSORSHIP

AACT policy permits the widest possible range of dramatic material to be performed in a festival of the American Association of Community Theatre and does not permit censorship of any company's production.

## PRODUCTION TIMING

The total length of the performance may not exceed sixty minutes (including introductions, scene changes, and curtain calls). Any element that brings the audience into the world of the play (music, sound, movement, lights, etc.) will begin the sixty-minute period. The complete cessation of such will complete the timing period. Each production is allowed a maximum ten-minute set-up time and ten-minute strike time from an on-deck area. If a set-up or strike is intended to set mood, establish character, or otherwise begin the experience of the play, it will be considered part of the sixty-minute performance time.

## GUIDELINES FOR ADJUDICATORS

Plays are to be adjudicated based on the overall production, with acting and directing as the major elements. All types of productions (comedy, drama, original works, musicals, revues, avant-garde, "controversial," etc.) are acceptable entries to the festival and must be considered on a similar basis, with the best production being the one most fully realizing the intent of the material and the concept for the show. Design and technical competence are to be given consideration as to its effectiveness as an integral part of the total production experience. Any and all statements made by adjudicators are strictly their own opinion and do not necessarily represent the opinions of AACT or any other organization with which they may be associated.

## CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION

- Is the acting believable and technically skillful with effective timing?
- Are the characters well interpreted?
- Does the company display ensemble work?
- Is the material appropriate for the company?
- Is the concept appropriate for the material and realized by the company?
- Has the structure of the production been controlled?
- Are the movements and stage pictures effective?
- Is the production well-paced?
- Do the technical elements support the overall production?
- How effective was the total impact?

The preceding information is excerpted from the AACTFest 2019 Handbook. The complete Handbook must prevail in case of disagreement or confusion. AACT representative, Sally Barnes, is attending this Theatre New Mexico AACTFest competition in Los Alamos, as well as Sharon Burum, the AACT New Mexico Festival Commissioner.

## FESTIVAL GOALS

- To provide an optimum learning experience through festival entry at state, regional, and national levels, which affirm, support, and nurture community theatre companies as they strive toward excellence in theatrical productions.
  - To stimulate and inspire community theatre companies to strive for the best work possible and to recognize them for their achievement through an appropriate adjudication process.
  - To provide a learning experience in artistic, technical, and management areas for people in attendance through performances, adjudication, and workshops.
  - To develop enlightened and discerning audiences for community theatre.
- Many criteria are in place to achieve the aforementioned goals. Among the most significant are:
- All theatre companies must meet the same eligibility standards and requirements.
  - Maximum time limits are 60 minutes performance time; 10 minutes set-up time and 10 minutes strike time.
  - Qualified and impartial adjudicators are essential to the success and fairness of the festival process.
  - A production must be performed in the same form at all festival levels.
  - The house must be closed during each performance.
  - The Festival Commission Representative will make the final determination in all matters of dispute during a festival.



**Scott Richard Klein** is the Chair of the Art, Music and Theatre Department at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. He received his B.A. in Theatre/Political Science from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1981. He was granted his Master of Fine Arts in Directing/Acting from the Minnesota State University-Mankato in 1983. After graduation he worked for a year at the Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theatre as an Actor/Teacher. From there he went to the Permian Playhouse in Odessa, Texas where he served as the Associate Director. During his time in Odessa, two of his productions were showcased at the Texas Non-profit Theatres Annual Conference. Mr. Klein has been teaching at Cameron University since 1989. He has been fortunate to receive the Lawton Arts and Humanities Council Educator in the Arts award twice. He has also received the Oklahoma Speech Theatre Communications Outstanding College Theatre Educator award and the Oklahoma Community Theatre's Jean Adams Wray Award. He has served as an adjudicator for the American Association of Community Theatres and for Oklahoma High School One Act Competitions. In 2011, Mr. Klein was one of the adjudicators for the National AACT Festival. He has had the good fortune to work on over 300 productions, directing over 150 and acting in over 100.



**Geoff Leonard-Robinson** has been a theatre performer and director for over 30 years. His theatre background includes six years as the managing and artistic director of River's Bend Playhouse (IN), which he founded; director of professional summer stock at the Shawnee Summer Theater (IN); director for summer productions at Theatre Workshop of Owensboro (KY); director of development and education for Evansville (IN) Civic Theatre; and five years as a high school vocal music and theatre director. Other theatre involvement has included serving on the board of directors of the American Association of Community Theatre; regional theatre festival adjudicator; state theatre festival adjudicator for Ohio, Tennessee, Arkansas, Indiana, and Wisconsin; workshop presenter for state and national theatre festivals; selected to present two workshops for the National Endowment for the Arts in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and twice served on the review panel for state arts grants in community theatre at the invitation of the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs. From 2012 to 2014, Geoff served as Communications Specialist for American Airlines' Aircraft Maintenance and Engineering organization, writing and editing for their daily news product and monthly magazine, *Leading Edge*, for which he received a Communicator's international excellence in feature writing award. Geoff currently serves as Member Engagement Director with the American Association of Community Theatre. He lives in Fort Worth, Texas with his husband of 18 years, Steven, and their four cats: Caitlin, Alexis, Jackie Ann, and Tabitha.



**John E. Sullivan** is a California native who resided in Sioux City, IA for over forty years followed by Texas and now Georgia since February, 2016. He was an understudy for a minor character in *Our Town* in 1965; the kid broke his leg the day before opening and John went on; then did no theater—saw no theater until 1985 (except for a London trip in 1971 which was actually for an English class) when a co-worker twisted his arm until he auditioned for a part. John was cast, had a wonderful experience, and jumped in completely. In the last 31 years, he's done pretty much everything except design & build costumes. He particularly enjoys directing, acting and lighting design. The latter portion of his theatre "career" included improvisation and adjudication - two totally different paths - with strikingly similar threads. John is a Past President of AACT, Iowa Association of Community Theatre (IACT) and was a founder of the Region V Association. He served on the board and later as Executive Director of the Sioux City Community Theatre (SCCT). John has a BA in English and most of his theatre knowledge comes from experience as opposed to education. He's served as AACT VP Festivals and Commission Rep to many state and regional festivals over a ten-year period and has adjudicated at state or regional festivals in five European countries, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Mexico and Texas. On the other side of the apron he was self-employed for twenty-two years and Mr. Mom for seventeen years (by far his greatest accomplishment!). John has been a Business Administrator for Delta Air Lines for the past nine-plus years. It's always a pleasure to visit friends in New Mexico!



# Companies



# Host Information

## Artesia Community Theatre

presents *Memory Garden* by Mark Scharf



A young widow with two young daughters devotes herself to maintaining the roadside memorial for her husband who died in a tragic accident. Angie has become such a familiar figure at the site that neighbors beep their horns and wave hello as they pass. When a man claiming to be a reporter stops to get her story, Angie unexpectedly find the answers to her own questions about what happened that terrible day. *Memory Garden* is produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Denver, Colorado



### CAST

Angie.....Zoe Ann Smith  
Dan Gibson.....Jamie Amai

### CREW

Director.....Glenna Brady  
Tech.....Alesa Anguiano

Tickets for individual performance blocks are available for \$10/Adults and \$8/Students & Seniors

## Artesia High Drama

presents *Fallen* by Tom Akers

Ask any young person to close his eyes and consider factors that might contribute to suicide and chances are he'll ramble off three or four causes. The number of children and teens being admitted to U.S. hospitals for suicidal thoughts or actions is more than double what it was nearly a decade ago. This is Olivia's story. This is Olivia's why. *Fallen*, guardian of the bridge, helps Olivia piece together all of the actions, interactions and events which lead to her tragic suicide. *Fallen* is produced by special arrangement with Heuer Publishing LLC.

### CAST

Fallen.....Lowell Irby  
Olivia.....Cheyanne Parson  
Mr. Brooks.....Jessie Ornelas  
Mrs. Little.....Anya Miller  
Mother.....Valeria Del Angel  
Father.....Darian Foster  
Mackenzie.....Thalia Luna  
Dakota.....Nolan Winters  
Lexie.....Madyson Pollard  
Blake.....Shane Medley  
Extra.....Abby Howell



### CREW

Production/Creative Co-Director.....Ruth Faulkner  
Co-Director.....Susan Irby  
Technical Director.....Ben White

Stage Manager.....Alma Mijares  
Asst. Stage Manager.....Steven Bejarano  
Production Assistant.....Tevin Martinez

Lighting Tech.....Veronica Sanchez  
Sound Tech.....Bryce Pollard

## Los Alamos Performing Arts Center

The Performing Arts Center (PAC) is a Los Alamos County facility operated by the Los Alamos Little Theatre (LALT) since 1973. The building was constructed in 1943 and served as the East Mess Hall during the Manhattan Project. After the war it was converted into a county recreation hall. In 1971, when the County planned to tear the building down, LALT recognized its potential as a small theatre and convinced the County to allow it convert the building into a performing arts center. The PAC opened in January 1973 with a production of the melodrama *Ten Nights in a Barroom*. Since 1973 LALT has staged over 230 local productions in the PAC. LALT has also hosted previous New Mexico AACTFests in the facility, most recently in 2013 and 2003. The building is a part of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park walking tour.

### LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Bradbury Science Museum  
1350 Central Ave  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
[www.lanl.gov/museum/](http://www.lanl.gov/museum/)  
(0.2 miles from theater)

Los Alamos History Museum  
1050 Bathtub Row  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
[www.losalamohistory.org/](http://www.losalamohistory.org/)  
(0.3 miles from theater)

Manhattan Project National Historical Park  
475 20th St  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
[www.nps.gov/mapr/](http://www.nps.gov/mapr/)  
(0.3 miles from theater)

Los Alamos Nature Center & Planetarium  
2600 Canyon Road  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
[www.pecnature.org](http://www.pecnature.org)  
(0.7 miles from theater)

### NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Bandelier National Monument  
15 Entrance Rd  
Los Alamos, NM 874565  
[www.nps.gov/band/](http://www.nps.gov/band/)  
(15.5 miles from theater)

Valles Caldera National Preserve  
Mile Marker 39  
New Mexico Highway 4  
[www.nps.gov/vall/](http://www.nps.gov/vall/)  
(18.6 miles from theater)



Be sure to check out the Silent Auction in the Green Room. There are many beautiful and fun items to bid on and the proceeds help the advancing companies. Bidding ends Saturday night and items won can be picked up Sunday morning during the Awards breakfast.



# Companies

## New Antiquities Theatre Company, Hobbs

presents *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

Considered one of the greatest plays in the English language, one actor tells the tragedy of the Prince of Denmark using minimal staging and an emphasis on actor, audience and text.

### CAST

The Performer.....Nathan Miles

### CREW

Director.....Nathan Miles  
Stage Manager.....Sarah Bunch  
Original music by.....Rachel N. Wagner



## Non-competition Staged Reading

*The Night Before* By Robert Benjamin

Local Los Alamos playwright, Robert Benjamin's current work-in-progress. When a widower (age 70) checks into a hotel on a stormy night, he strikes up a conversation with a woman awaiting her friend. She probes about his upcoming reunion with childhood friends. She seems to know too much. His suspicion escalates. Will he accept her unconventional gift? Participate in a talk back session after the performance.



### PERFORMERS

Jody Shepard  
Tomas Farish



# Companies

## Los Alamos Little Theatre

presents *Church and State* by Jason Odell Williams

The play follows a U.S. Senator up for re-election who finds himself dealing with the fallout from a candid comment to a blogger. *Church and State* explores the American reality of the politics of guns and religion. Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

### CAST

Sen. Charles Whitmore.....Tim Orcutt  
Sara Whitmore.....Alexis Perry-Holby  
Alex Klein.....Charlotte Jusinski  
Tom/Marshall/  
Reporter/Security Guard.....Ian Foti-Landis

### CREW

Director.....Patrick MacDonald  
Stage Manager.....Bonnie Kiang  
Light/Sound Tech.....Steve Barretta  
Costumes.....Brendan Lyle  
Hair/Makeup.....Linda Taylor



## Nat Gold Players, Las Vegas

present *New Mexico Heroes: A Show of Short Works Honoring our Veterans*

Nat Gold Players participates in a state initiative facilitated by New Mexico Arts that uses the arts to serve veterans. Out of that initiative, the concept developed to create a show using short plays, monologues, poetry and music written for, by and about veterans. This show is a culmination of that effort.



### PERFORMERS

Greg Baker.....Harry in *A Personal Armageddon*/Poem *Funk*  
Etevan Alarcon.....Juan/Lorraine in *A Personal Armageddon*  
Lisa L. Cisneros.....Poem *About a Day*/Monologue *I Am a Veteran*  
Kayt C. Peck.....Monologue *Jigsaw Puzzles*  
Victor Ramirez.....Juan in *A Personal Armageddon*

### CREW

Marshall Poole, Trinidad Gallegos, Kayt Peck, Lisa L. Cisneros,  
Mary Rose Henssler, Bob Henssler.



# Schedule

## Wednesday, March 20

Afternoon: Adjudicators & AACT Reps arrive in Los Alamos

7:00-9:00 pm: Adjudicators, AACT Reps & Committee no-host dinner

## Thursday, March 21

10:30-12:00 pm: Adjudicator orientation meeting - Auditorium

12:00-7:00 pm: Registration - Lobby

12:00-1:00 pm: Load-in Nat Gold Players - Backstage

1:00-2:50 pm: Los Alamos Little Theatre production meeting & tech rehearsal - Auditorium

3:00-4:50 pm: Nat Gold Players production meeting & tech rehearsal - Auditorium

5:00-7:00 pm: Dinner break

7:00-10:00 pm: Performance block - Auditorium

**Performance 1** - *New Mexico Heroes*, Nat Gold Players, Las Vegas

**Performance 2** - *Church and State*, Los Alamos Little Theatre

10:00 pm: Load-out Nat Gold Players & Los Alamos Little Theatre - Backstage

Casual Reception - Auditorium

## Friday, March 22

9:00-5:00 pm: Registration - Lobby

9:00-10:00 pm: Silent auction - Green Room

8:00-9:00 am: Load-in Artesia Community Theatre and New Antiquities - Backstage

9:00-10:50 am: New Antiquities production meeting & tech rehearsal - Auditorium

11:00-12:30 pm: Workshop #1 *I Hope I Get It / I Hope I Get It Right - Auditions and Casting for Actors and Directors*, Geoff Leonard-Robinson - Auditorium

12:30-1:30 pm: Lunch break

1:30-3:00 pm: Workshop #2 *An Actor's Voice - The Spoken Word*, John E. Sullivan - Auditorium

3:10-5:00 pm: Artesia Community Theatre Production Meeting & Tech Rehearsal - Auditorium



# Schedule

5:00-7:00 pm: Dinner break

7:00-10:00 pm: Performance block - Auditorium

**Performance 3** - *Memory Garden*, Artesia Community Theatre

**Performance 4** - *Hamlet*, New Antiquities Theatre Company, Hobbs

10:00 pm: Afterglow reception - Lewis' home, 231 Dos Brazos Street, Los Alamos

## Saturday, March 23

9:00 am-10:00 pm: Silent auction - Green Room

8:00-9:00 am: Load-out New Antiquities & Artesia Community Theatre - Backstage

9:00-10:00 am Load-in Artesia High School - Backstage

10:00-11:50 am: Artesia High School production meeting & tech rehearsal - Auditorium

12:00-1:30 pm: Lunch break

1:30-3:00 pm: Workshop #3 *Directing Prep and Dealing with Show Issues*, Scott Richard Klein - Auditorium

3:15-4:45 pm: Walking tour - Los Alamos History Museum and Bradbury Science Museum

5:00-7:00 pm: Dinner break

7:00-9:00 pm: Performance block - Auditorium

**Performance 5** - *Fallen*, Artesia High School

**Showcase** - *The Night Before*, A staged reading of Los Alamos playwright Robert Benjamin's current work-in-progress followed by a short audience talk-back

9:00 pm: Load-out Artesia High School - Backstage

9:00 pm-12:00 am: Afterglow reception - Fuller Lodge

## Sunday, March 24

9:00-10:30 am: Silent auction items available for pickup - Green Room

9:00-10:30 am: Awards brunch - Auditorium

10:30-11:30 am: Adjudicators meet with advancing companies - Green Room

10:30-11:30 am: TNM Annual Meeting - Auditorium

TNM Board Meeting