



Conference 2017 Feedback

Thank you to everyone that submitted conference feedback on Guidebook! We want you to know that we take the suggestions very seriously, and try to incorporate some new ideas every year. However, there are some items that may be beyond the board's control. To address some of your concerns:

1. More tech workshops, especially lighting/sound.

Getting tech workshops has long been an issue. Bringing the computers, software, and equipment needed to teach a hands on lighting, CAD, or audio design class is challenging for the presenters, as well as almost impossible to accommodate in the conference setting with the electric provided. Please send in any ideas you may have for hands-on workshops that can be presented with limited resources. **Also, please send us names for teaching artists (especially for lighting and sound). Email your name, school name, suggested presenter name, affiliation and contact email to MSTworkshops@gmail.com.**

2. Bring back swing dancing.

We will make every effort to make swing dancing available for next year's conference.

3. Better food

Unfortunately, we are not in control of the menu at the America's Center, but there are many options around the America's Center for those troupes that would like to explore that option.

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4. Change date to avoid weather issues.

While the January date may not seem ideal to all, production schedules, holidays, state and district music contests, and school testing schedules make January the only feasible date during the school year.

5. Better music for the dance.

This is obviously a matter of taste, but if you have any suggestions for a DJ, please pass their information along to your student officers!

Leadership Conference

Registration for Leadership Conference will open July 26th and close September 1st. We are looking for ideas for workshops to be presented at Leadership Conference 2018. If your sponsor or troupe has an idea for a workshop, or is interested in presenting a workshop at Leadership, please email Jennifer Forrest-James at jforrest-james@parkwayschools.net.

STO Corner

Hello thespians! We hope the end of your school year is going well and that your spring productions were successful! Although the year is coming to an end it's time to start thinking about your future! If you are a current freshman or sophomore and are passionate about your theatre troupe and leading others you would make a great candidate to apply for a MO State Thespians Officer for the 2018-2019 school year! Applications are live now and must be submitted by MAY 30th! Get in touch with your troupe sponsor so they can provide you the materials and support that will make your application process as successful as possible. We hope to get lots of applications from you all and learn more about the great leaders we have here in Missouri!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THESPIAN FESTIVAL

PLACE: LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
DATE: JUNE 19-24, 2017

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

PLACE: CAPITOL PLAZA
DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

STATE CONFERENCE 2018

PLACE: ST. LOUIS MARRIOTT GRAND
DATE: JANUARY 11-13, 2018

Officer Elections

Would you like to be a member of the adult or student board? You could help plan conference! Student applications are due by May 30. Adult applications are due by August 30. Application information can be found at <http://www.mo-thespians.com/state-board>.

Advocacy

EDTA President elect Debbie Corbin and Branson High School student Lance Junck, winner of the EDTA Democracy Works Essay Competition, meet with Representative Long to discuss support for the arts and NEA.



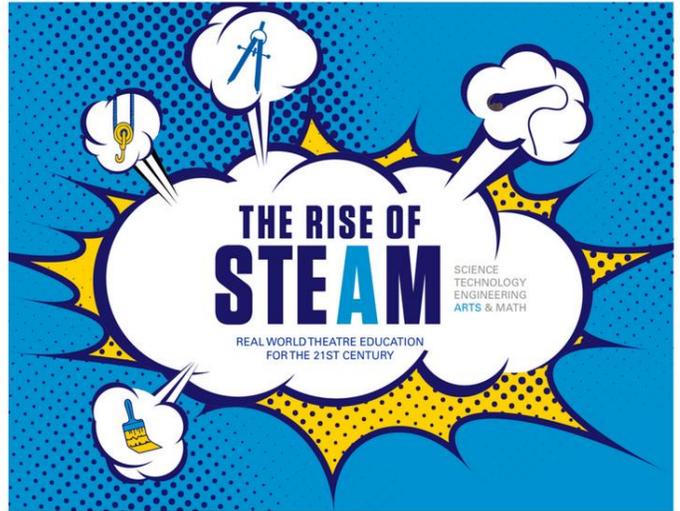
Congratulations!

Congratulations to the three Missouri Thespians who were selected to the technical crew of *We Tell the Story*, which will open the 2017 ITS Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska!

Catherine Adams – Mehlville High School

Zach Brunkhorst – Fort Zumwalt North High School

Thomas White – Poplar Bluff High School



EdTA National Conference
September 14-17 | Nashville, TN

Are you a sponsor interested in directing the next All-State Production? Contact Jennifer Forrest-James!

Email tnigus@fz.k12.mo.us to have your season included in the newsletter!