

NOTES

for the Newbies

A first-conference guide for
beginners and seasoned pros.

**Plan and
manage the
conference,
from start
to finish,
like a pro.**

Ohio
Community
Theatre
Association



What to Bring

- No glass bottles in the common areas
- A cooler; not all the rooms have fridges
- A cup with a lid so you can walk around with your own beverage of choice
- A light jacket; the hotel can be cold at times
- Information from your home theatre to share (season brochure, items for to rent, etc.)
- Your friends from around the state
- Smart phone or camera
- Comfortable shoes
- Positive and Fun Attitude



What has Changed

- All events will be held at the Cherry Valley Hotel
- Full Conference pass will include 2 meals! (Optional meals can still be purchased online.)
- A *“No Food Conference Registration”* will **NOT** be offered. Award Ceremonies can still be attended after Brunch is finished.
- Mask/Costume Contest
- There will be no single excerpt passes.

What to Do

- Buy some OCTA swag
- Sign up for OCTAfeud
- Pick up your scavenger hunt
- Watch some fabulous excerpts
- Catch up with and make new friends
- Play games, dance and sing
- Attend workshops... and so much more!



Conference Schedule

FRIDAY

Registration

6 PM – 10 PM

Cherry Valley Hotel & Event Center • 2299 Cherry Valley Rd. SE Newark, OH 43055

Exhibits & Silent Auction

6 PM – 10 PM

(Will be available throughout the conference)

Fun on the Midway

7 PM – 11 PM

Fair or Circus!

Each Region is hosting a game or activity:

- Food truck:
If You Cheese
- Bean bag toss
- Fish Bowl
- Break balloons with Darts
- Ring Toss
- Hoops & Bounce with prizes
- Cotton Candy & Popcorn



SATURDAY

Wear a Show Shirt

Registration

7 AM - 8 PM

Closed during excerpts

Pre-Purchased

Breakfast *(or on your own)*

7 AM - 9 AM

First-Timers

Meet & Greet

8 AM – 9 AM

On the Patio

Responder Training

8 AM – 9 AM

Buckeye Boardroom

Annual Delegates' Meeting (Lunch)

12:15 – 2 PM

Be sure you have your delegates' packet emailed the week before conference (Good place to meet other delegates from around the state)

Patron After Glo

*All patrons invited
Appetizers & beverages provided*

OCTAfeud / Singo / Karaoke Roulette

10:30 PM – 1 AM

Workshop Schedule:

8 AM – 9 AM

- *Direction of Future OCTA Conferences*
- *Hometown Ticketing*
- *Creative Props*
- *Period Costuming on a Budget*

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

- *The Art of Acting*
- *Set Design/Scenic Painting Tips, Tricks and Tromp L'oeil*
- *Gender & the Theatre*
- *Theatre Roundtable*
- *So You Want to Write a Play*
- *Period Costuming on a Budget*

Excerpt Schedule:

9:15 AM - 12:15 PM

The Great Gatsby

Caryl Crane Youth Theatre

Alabaster

Actors Collaborative/Toledo

The Diary of Anne Frank

Fremont Community Theatre

2:30 PM – 6:30 PM

The Women of Lockerbie

Tri-County Players

The Tin Woman

Troy Civic Theatre

Bright Star

The Drama Workshop

Radium Girls

Amil Tellers of Dramatics

8 PM - 10 PM

Freaky Friday

Innovatheatre

The Outsider

Mariemont Players

Conference Schedule

SUNDAY

**Wear Your OCTA State
Conference Shirt**

Registration

7 AM – 5 PM

Closed during excerpts

Pre-Purchased

Breakfast *(or on your own)*

7 AM - 9 AM

First-Timers

Reception

7 AM – 9 AM

On the Patio

Pre-purchased

Lunch *(or on your own)*

12:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Mysterio Elegaté

Dinner Buffet Dance

8 PM – 2 AM

Requires a banquet ticket

HOF Induction

OCTA Service Awards

Dress in what makes

you happy, but be sure

to show off your fanciest

decorated mask. Think

Masquerade!

OCTAfeud / Singo

/ Karaoke Roulette

10:30 PM – 2 AM

Workshop Schedule:

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

- *Period Costuming on a Budget*
- *The Art of Acting*
- *Set Design/Scenic Painting Tips, Tricks and Tromp L'oeil*
- *Hometown Ticketing*
- *Gender & the Theatre*
- *Stage Combat*
- *So You Want to Write a Play*

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

- *Stage Combat*
- *Creative Props*

Excerpt Schedule:

9:15 AM - 12:15 AM

The Heiress

Mid Ohio Players

The Drowsy Chaperone

3B Productions

The Cemetery Club

Harlequins

2:45 PM - 4:45 PM

Bonnie & Clyde

Little Theatre Off Broadway

All My Sons

MTVArts

MONDAY

Wear a Show Shirt

2022 Board Meeting

8:15 AM – 9:15 AM

(All board members and regional reps must attend)

Responders'

Roundtable

9 AM – 10:30 AM

(Any current adjudicators welcome)

Awards Brunch

11 AM – 2 PM

OCTA awards for the weekend excerpts

MARK YOUR CALENDAR OCTA 70th Anniversary

OCTA Conference 2023

Holiday Inn Eastgate

Cincinnati, OH

September 1-4, 2023



About OCTA

The Ohio Community Theatre Association was formed in December 1953 with sixteen theatres. For over 60 years, OCTA has provided support to community theatres through workshops, the annual regional OCTAFests showcasing community theatre productions, and our three-day annual conference each Labor Day Weekend.

Today, OCTA serves over 100 member theatres in eight Ohio state regions including member theatres in neighboring counties from across the Ohio River in Kentucky and West Virginia!

Ongoing activities include this website; a newsletter, CueLines, published five times a year; an annual Call to Conference; 8 Regional Festivals, a Junior Festival for youth 18years and under and our Annual State Conference. We do this with an all-volunteer Board of Directors and Regional Reps.

OCTA Mission Statement

The purpose of this statewide service organization shall be to promote excellence and creativity in live theatre by providing its members educational opportunities for growth in artistic and technical aspects of theatre, and to promote community awareness and understanding of, and access to, live theatre alone or in conjunction with other arts organizations, educational institutions and other theatre organizations.

OCTA Programs & Services

The Ohio Community Theatre Association is a statewide service organization whose main purpose is to serve the needs of its member theatres. Membership is open to any community theatre in the state of Ohio or in neighboring states within 50 miles of the Ohio state border. Each member theatre has a delegate who acts as a liaison and generally meets with other theatre delegates within their region. Each of the eight (8) regions (Central, East, North, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest and West) in the state has one or more Regional Representative(s) who meet with the delegates in their region at least four (4) times a year. These Regional Representatives serve on the Board of Directors of the organization along with eighteen (18) members elected at large at the Annual Meeting held during the Annual Conference over Labor Day weekend.

The Ohio Community Theatre Association offers its member theatres resources such as: Guide/Respondent program, Script Library, a Resource Directory use to locate props, costumes, and equipment needed to produce live theatre, Workshops, Scholarships, Festivals, Awards, and Networking Opportunities.

OCTA Board of Directors

JESSE BERNAL, President
Northwest

PEGGY KENNEY, Member-at-Large
Southwest

WAYNE KIRSCH, 1st Vice President
Southwest, Programming Division Chair

DAN MALONEY, Member-at-Large
Southwest

MENDELL HIBBARD, 2nd Vice President
Central, MM/PR Division Chair

ROBERT WEIDLE, Member-at-Large
Southwest

JANE MANCINI, 3rd Vice President
Southeast, Fundraising Division Chair

GLADYS HANEY, Member-at-Large
Central, 2022 Co-Conference Chair

NICCOLE AMERSDORFER, Secretary
West, Administrative Division Chair

JOE BARTON, Member-at-Large
Northwest

DAWNA KORNICK, Member-at-Large
Northeast

MILLIE BUTTS, Member-at-Large
Northwest

RAY LEBOWSKI, Member-at-Large
Southwest

SUSAN BARZDA, Member-at-Large
Southeast

KATE CHARLESWORTH-MILLER, Member-at-Large
Central

CARISSA SLOAN, Member-at-Large
Southwest

AARA WISE, Member-at-Large
Central, 2022 Co-Conference Chair
Admin. Assistant

OPEN SEAT, Member-at-Large

The Board of Directors is divided into four areas with each chaired by an officer of the Board. The areas and some of the committees included are:

- ADMINISTRATIVE: Nominations, Long Range Planning, Regional Rep Coordinator, Advocacy, Policies, Job Descriptions & History
- PROGRAMMING: OCTAfest, Workshops, State Conference, State AACTfest, & OCTA Contests
- MARKETING/MEMBERSHIP/PUBLIC RELATIONS: Newsletter, Publications, Resources, & Web site
- FUNDRAISING: Patron Program, Grants, Scholarships, Sales/Logo Items, Silent Auction, & Raffle

OCTA Services

AACT: OCTA partners with the American Association of Community Theatres as its biannual State Festival in the even-numbered years. Two theatres are selected from OCTA's Labor Day Conference to move forward to AACT's Region III Competition.

GUIDE/RESPONDENT program helps new and veteran directors with their production or in selecting an excerpt for a Regional OCTAfest.

OCTA STATE CONFERENCE: This is a three-day conference over Labor Day Weekend with workshops, excerpts and social activities. Theaters are invited to showcase excerpts from their recent season.

REGIONAL OCTAFESTS: Regional excerpt festivals are held in June and July. At these, theatres are selected to showcase at the State Conference.

OCTAFEST Jr. is a statewide excerpt festival for youth ages 18 and younger. Awards are presented. Two are chosen to showcase at the State Conference.

RESOURCE SERVICES: OCTA is continually updating its resource directory. If you or your theatre has something to rent or share, or if you are in need of a prop or costume, please contact us via this website or our Facebook account.

SPEAKERS BUREAU: Community theatre individuals that speak to other theatres or the public about the programs of OCTA

WORKSHOPS: Workshops are held in the regions as well as at State Conference and cover all phases of theatre.

LENDING LIBRARY: Over 2000 scripts are available for theatres to borrow for reading purposes to help in selection of their production seasons.

SURVEY: Every two or three years OCTA asks its member theatres for information about our services and programs to be sure that we are meeting the needs of Ohio's community theatre culture.

NEWSLETTER: CUELINES is published five times a year. CALL TO CONFERENCE is a special sixth issue published in early June to inform members and patrons about our annual Labor Day Conference. You may sign up to receive our publications via electronic mail.

Past 20 Years of State Conference

- 2002 - Hilton Cleveland East/Beachwood - Beachwood
Fun in the Sun
- 2003 - Radisson Airport - Columbus
OCTA's 50th Anniversary
- 2004 - Holiday Inn-Eastgate - Cincinnati
Where Pigs Fly
- 2005 - Holiday Inn French Quarter - Perrysburg
Close Encounters of the Theatre Kind
- 2006 - Holiday Inn - Worthington
Around the World in 80 Plays
- 2007 - Hilton Cleveland E/Beachwood - Beachwood
License to Thrill
- 2008 - Crowne Plaza Columbus North - Columbus
How Sweet It Is - Theater
- 2009 - Holiday Inn-Eastgate - Cincinnati
Yo Ho Ho on the O-H-I-O
- 2010 - Holiday Inn-French Quarter - Perrysburg
Peace, Love, Theatre
- 2011 - Holiday Inn - Independence
It's All Greek to Me
- 2012 - Double Tree - Worthington
OCTA Boulevard
- 2013 - Wyndham Garden South - Miamisburg
All That Glitters-Diamond Jubilee
- 2014 - Holiday Inn French Quarter - Perrysburg
There's No Place Like OCTA
- 2015 - Holiday Inn-Eastgate, Cincinnati
OCTAopoly
- 2016 - Holiday Inn, Independence, OH
Wild, Wild OCTA
- 2017 - Crowne Plaza Columbus N. - Columbus
Believe
- 2018 - Crowne Plaza Columbus North - Columbus
OCTA Rocks!
- 2019 - Hilton/Home2Suites - Rossford
Seasons of Love
- 2020 - Holiday Inn Eastgate - Cincinnati (Postponed to 2023)
Roaring 20's (Canceled)
- 2021 - Cherry Valley Hotel - Newark (Postponed to 2022)
(Canceled)
- 2022 - Cherry Valley Hotel - Newark
**OCTA Spectacular -
Our Greatest Shows!**

Make sure to Like/Follow OCTA & OCTA State Conference on **Facebook**

Visit OCTA at OCTA1953.org

Thank you for coming and have a safe trip home! We hope you'll join us next year!

