



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 3, 2018

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
announces the

Award and Scholarship Recipients Of The
2018 Kennedy Center American College Theater
Festival

Honoring Outstanding Student Achievement at
The National Festival Launched 50 Years Ago

(WASHINGTON)—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts today announced the national awardees of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), launched 50 years ago, which was held April 9–14, 2018. Dozens of students received scholarships, fellowships, and cash awards in recognition of their outstanding work. These student artists from across the United States were recognized from the eight regional festivals that were held January 9 through March 3, 2018, and more than 120 were selected to travel to Washington, D.C. for an all-expenses-paid trip to participate in National Festival events at the Kennedy Center.

The Festival included readings of short plays featuring the finalists of the Gary Garrison National Ten-Minute Play Award as part of the Michael Kanin Playwriting Awards showcase and the John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play. Public auditions for the Irene Ryan National Acting Scholarships and the opportunity for participants to take part in master classes and engage with colleagues from across the nation and the Washington, D.C. theater community were also a part of the National Festival. Furthermore, students participated in a closing day ceremony for awards in production, directing, choreography, acting, writing, design, stage management, dramaturgy, and theater criticism.

Additionally, after a three-year pilot program, the ASPIRE Arts Leadership Fellows program was newly added to the National Festival and designed to cultivate a new generation of artistic and administrative leaders for the American theater, focusing on engaging members of groups that are consistently underrepresented in the field. This diverse national cohort of fellows was comprised of at least one fellow from each of KCACTF's eight regions.

The recipients of the awards, scholarships, and fellowships announced at the national festival are listed below.

THE ASPIRE ARTS LEADERSHIP FELLOWS PROGRAM

Sponsored by the League of Resident Theaters (LORT) and the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, this program recognizes that the lack of representation among women and/or people of color in the leadership of American theater is a problem for the field and its ability to represent the spectrum of the American story now and in the future. Statistically, the leadership of American theaters is predominantly male and predominantly white. LORT has launched several programs through its Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative to expand the number of field leaders who identify as women and/or people of color.

The following nine regional ASPIRE Arts Leadership Fellows were in residence at the Kennedy Center, April 10–15, during the KCACTF 2018 National Festival:

Nayarit Alcantara, LaGuardia Community College
Veshonte Brown, Troy University
Brea Clemons, University of Oklahoma
Vivian M. Cook, Iowa State University
Rachel Dion, Hope College
Eliza Franklin, Los Angeles Southwest College
Brandi M. Lavigne, Dean College
Roman Sanchez, Humboldt State University
Alex Tolle, McDaniel College

The Program was led by:

Victoria Nolan, Deputy Dean & Professor in the Practice of Theater Management, Yale School of Drama; Managing Director, Yale Repertory Theatre
Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., Assistant Dean & Lecturer in Theater Management, Yale School of Drama; General Manager, Yale Repertory Theatre
Braxton Crewell, 2017 ASPIRE Program Alumnus and Assistant Coordinator; Artistic Management Intern, Trinity Repertory Theatre.

The Fellows had the opportunity to meet with Deborah F. Rutter, President, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and other leading theater professionals to engage in topics concerning equity, diversity, and inclusion in the American theater, as well as leadership skills-building, investigation of institutional challenges, and professional networking opportunities. The slate of professionals included:

Rick Dildine, Artistic Director, Alabama Shakespeare Festival
Edgar Dobie, Executive Director, and staff at Arena Stage

Meghan Pressman, Managing Director, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company
Greg Reiner and Carol Lanoux Lee, Program Officers, National Endowment for
the Arts
Diane Rodriguez, Associate Artistic Director, Center Theatre Group, Los
Angeles
Robert van Leer, Senior Vice President for Artistic Planning, The John F.
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The following inaugural awards were presented on Friday evening, April 13, in the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater.

The College of Fellows John Cauble Awards for Leadership and Producing were sponsored and announced by Thomas Schumacher, President and Producer, Disney Theatrical Productions. Two \$5,000 cash awards established in memory of John Cauble, Professor Emeritus and founding director of the UCLA Graduate Program in Arts Management, were awarded to Nayarit Alcantara, LaGuardia Community College and Veshonte Brown, Troy University.

The College of Fellows Arts Impact Awards were sponsored by Charlene Gordon, in association with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the inception of KCACTF. The Arts Impact Awards include a \$1,000 cash prize, an eight-day summer residency at the Kennedy Center, and a return visit to Washington, D.C. in March 2019 for Arts Advocacy Day. Announced by Nina Ozlu, Executive Director of the Americans for the Arts Action Fund, the awards were presented to Roman Sanchez, Humboldt State University and Alex Tolle, McDaniel College.

THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT:

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival affirms its commitment to policies and practices of promoting inclusion and diversity in its leadership, both regional and national, as well as in its programming. We pledge to nurture talent in all areas of the theater based solely on merit and achievement. We encourage production respondents to avoid discriminatory comments and embrace the variety of artistic choices generated by the diversity of perspective that exists on college campuses across the country. We promote collegial exploration of new ideas, supported by a clear understanding of long-held artistic practices, fully respecting the communicated intentions of the playwright. We encourage discourse that effects positive change in the ways that under-represented groups are portrayed onstage, and we oppose acts of cultural appropriation and character depictions that deepen existing cultural divides. We embrace the idea that diversity in experience and perspective makes our organization stronger and more relevant and is therefore essential to our educational mission of training the future artistic leadership in American theater.

THE MICHAEL KANIN PLAYWRITING AWARDS

This program encourages and supports the development of student-written plays through a variety of honors including potential publication contracts, membership in the Dramatists Guild of America, and cash awards. The 2018 recipients were as follows:

The John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play went to *Isadora Del Sol* by Eliana Pipes, Columbia University. This program recognizes outstanding one-act plays and Pipes received a \$500 award.

The Gary Garrison Award for Outstanding Ten-Minute Play went to *Will Be Live* by Micah Ariel Watson, University of Virginia. This award, named after the Executive Director for Creative Affairs of the Dramatist Guild of America, recognizes outstanding ten-minute plays. Watson received a \$500 award.

The Ken Ludwig Playwriting Scholarship, recognizing and supporting an outstanding body of work by an undergraduate or graduate playwright, went to Nathaniel Whitehead of University of Northern Colorado. Mr. Ludwig, the distinguished playwright of Broadway, the West End and Regional Theatres across the country, presented the \$1500 scholarship to Whitehead at the ceremony on April 14.

Previously announced awards include:

The Harold and Mimi Steinberg National Student Playwriting Award

The Honey Trap by Leo McGann, Boston University

The second place recipient is *(I)sland T(rap)* by Austin Dean Ashford, University of Arkansas

Distinguished Achievement: *Mrs. Phu's Cleansing Juices (and also salads)* by Emily Witt, DePaul University; AND

Lyon's Den by TJ Young, Texas State University

The Paula Vogel Award in Playwriting recognizes the outstanding student-written play that celebrates diversity and concerns issues of gender and sexuality.

Mingus by Tyler English-Beckwith, New York University

The second place recipient is *53% Of* by Stephanie Del Rosso, University of California, San Diego

Distinguished Achievement:

Butter Knife by Kaela Mei-Shing Garvin, Indiana University

La Llorona by Cecelia Raker, University of Texas at Austin

Poor Herman by Elizabeth Doss, University of Texas at Austin

The KCACTF National Undergraduate Playwriting Award (2)
Canaan by Micah Ariel Watson, University of Virginia; AND
Megan and the Bear Go Camping (to Solve Their Problems) by Zoe Jovanovich,
Western Washington University
Distinguished Achievement:
There is Trouble All Over this World by Renae Jarrett, New York University
Hennessy by Brysen Orlando Boyd, Boston College
How Sweet the Sound by Eryn McVay, Western Washington University
Smudge by Meg Schenk, University of Oregon

The Mark Twain Prize for Comic Playwriting (2)
Butter Knife by Kaela Mei-Shing Garvin, Indiana University; AND
Part and Parcel by Jenny Rachel Weiner, The Juilliard School

The Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award
Richard & Jane & Dick & Sally by Noah Diaz, Yale School of Drama
The second place recipient is *CJ, a trilingual play* by Mercedes Floresislal,
University of California, Riverside

The David Mark Cohen National Playwriting Award is presented in an effort to
promote the writing and production of new plays in memory of David Mark Cohen, who
was Professor of Playwriting, University of Texas at Austin.
In the Cotton by Morgan McGuire, produced by Howard Community College,
Prince George's Community College and Carroll Community College

The Kennedy Center Latinx Playwriting Award
Twenty50 by Tony Meneses, The Juilliard School
The second place recipient is *Between Here and the City of Mexico* by Tony
Meneses, The Juilliard School
Distinguished Achievement:
Los Dreamers by Monica Sanchez, University of New Mexico
Las Pajaritas by Jordan Ramirez Puckett, Ohio University
CJ, a trilingual play by Mercedes Floresislal, University of California at Riverside

The Paul Stephen Lim Playwriting Award, recognizing the outstanding play written
by a student of Asian or Pacific Rim heritage, and sponsored by the University of
Kansas Foundation.
The Book of Mountains and Seas by Yilong Liu, University of Hawaii at Manoa
The second place recipient is *Butter Knife* by Kaela Mei-Shing Garvin, Indiana
University

The Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, presented in memory of the distinguished
dramatist to the outstanding KCACTF student-written play on the subject of the African
American experience.
Slave Play by Jeremy O. Harris, Yale School of Drama
The second place recipient is *White History* by Dave Harris, University of California,

San Diego
Distinguished Achievement:
Canaan by Micah Ariel Watson, University of Virginia
(I)sland T(rap) by Austin Dean Ashford, University of Arkansas

The Rosa Parks Playwriting Award
Slave Play by Jeremy O. Harris, Yale School of Drama
The second place recipient is *White History* by Dave Harris, University of California, San Diego
Distinguished Achievement:
Stand and Wait by Eliana Pipes, Columbia University
Los Dreamers by Monica Sanchez, University of New Mexico
Sucia, a Cinderella story for the real world by Nicole Jost, San Francisco State University

The Hip Hop Theater Creator Award
Gang Sines by Malique Guinn, University of California-Santa Barbara
The second place recipient is *(I)sland T(rap)* by Austin Dean Ashford, University of Arkansas

The National Partners of the American Theater Playwriting Award, in its seventh year and sponsored by National Partners of the American Theater (NAPAT), recognizes an outstanding playwright selected from eight nominated playwrights. The award recipient will receive an expenses-paid residency with the O'Neill Playwrights' Conference.

A Night of Stars with Tennessee Williams by Maxim Vinogradov, University of Michigan
The second place recipient is *The Great Maverick Adventure of 2007* by Caroline Toby Graham, University of New Mexico
The third place recipient is *Sucia: A Cinderella Story for the Real World* by Nicole Jost, San Francisco State University

The National Finalists of the John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play
Isadora Del Sol by Eliana Pipes, Columbia University
Passion Play by Zahria Moore, University of Missouri-Columbia
Water Like Honey by Nathaniel Whitehead, University of Northern Colorado

The National Finalists of the Gary Garrison National Ten-Minute Play Award
The Meeting by Lauren Ferebee, Texas State University
Canvas by Andrew Heinrich, Texas State University
Will Be Live by Micah Ariel Watson, University of Virginia
The Moment After by Michael McGoldrick, Arizona State University

The KCACTF Musical Theatre Award
Fostered Love book, music and lyrics by Claire-Frances Sullivan, Central

Michigan University

The Darrell Ayers National Playwriting Award

Lost Girl by Kimberly Belflower, University of Texas at Austin

The second place recipient is *La Llorona* by Cecelia Raker, University of Texas at Austin

The Planet Earth Arts Playwriting Prize

Presented in association with Stanford University, Planet Earth Arts, the Sustainable World Coalition, and Earth Island Institute

Fatberg by Darcy Sturges, Western Michigan University

National Finalists:

You Did This by Josie Basford, Glendale College, California

Dead Zone by Lindsay Adams, Catholic University of America

The Volcano Play by Isaac Otterman, University of South Dakota

Two Dinosaurs Talking About Climate Change by Elisabeth Frankel, Columbia University

Jungle by Art Por Diaz, Gonzaga University

The KCACTF Undergraduate Theater Scholar Award recognizes the outstanding research paper in theater written by an undergraduate student.

Anglo-Saxon Oral Poetry and Early Medieval Liturgical Drama in England by Austin Benson, Hillsdale College

THE IRENE RYAN ACTING SCHOLARSHIPS

The Irene Ryan Acting Scholarships provide recognition and financial assistance to outstanding student performers wishing to pursue further education and professional development. Sixteen regional finalists received a \$500 scholarship. Eight of those regional finalists and their partners were selected to be in residence for week-long, expenses-paid trips to the National Festival for professional development sessions and master classes, and to present their scholarship audition for a panel of artistic directors, actors, producers, and casting agents.

This year, The Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship went to Haley Johnson assisted by Andrew Dipoto, Graceland University. Johnson received a \$5,000 scholarship and Dipoto received a \$1,000 scholarship.

The second place recipient was Jazzmin Carson assisted by Zaria Hall, Alabama State University. Carson received a \$2,500 scholarship and Hall received a \$500 scholarship.

The regional finalists and their acting partners were eligible for additional scholarships, fellowships, and awards. The 2018 recipients were:

The College of Fellows Jane Alexander Award for Acting went to Jazzmin Carson, Alabama State University. Carson received a \$2,500 cash award.

The Mark Twain Scholarship for Comic Performance went to Haley Johnson, Graceland University and Chase Durrett, University of Oklahoma. Both Johnson and Durrett received a \$1,000 scholarship.

The Williamstown Theatre Festival Sound Design Internship went to Kayleigh Shaffer, University of Kansas. Shaffer will attend a ten-week design residency at Williamstown Theatre Festival in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts. Scholarship includes full room, board, and travel.

Contemporary American Theatre Festival Design Fellowships

The Fellowship for lighting design went to Shaye Evans, Colorado State University.

The Fellowship for sound design went to Mathias Brown, Scottsdale Community College.

The Fellowship for costume design went to Georgia Fried, Salisbury University.

The Fellowship for scenic design went to Christopher Erbe, Montclair State University.

The Society of American Fight Directors Scholarship went to Chase Bradshaw, University of Oklahoma. Bradley Mackay of Brigham Young University is the alternate, and also the recipient of the \$750 Marius Hanford Memorial Scholarship. Bradshaw will receive a full scholarship—including travel and housing—to attend the National Stage Combat Workshop at Louisiana Tech University for three weeks during the summer of 2018.

The VASTA [Voice and Speech Trainers Association] Award for Vocal Excellence went to Chase Bradshaw, University of Oklahoma. Bradshaw received membership in VASTA and a \$500 cash award.

The Stella Adler Academy Los Angeles Scholarship went to Andrew Thornton, University of Wyoming. Thornton received a full scholarship—including housing and travel—for the Summer TV & Film Intensive.

The Williamstown Theatre Festival Everett Cushing Fellowship went to Jacques Matellus, University of Massachusetts Boston. Matellus received a full scholarship—including housing and travel—for a summer apprenticeship at Williamstown Theatre Festival.

The National New Play Network (NNPN) Award for Outstanding Performance in a Contemporary Work went to Haley Johnson, Graceland University. Johnson received an offer to be a member of the Acting Company of **the MFA Playwrights' Workshop at the Kennedy Center**, produced in association with NNPN. The award includes travel, room & board, and a \$500 cash stipend.

The Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre Scholarship went to Akia Nyrie Smith, Hope College. Smith received a full scholarship—including travel, tuition, and housing—to the **Dell'Arte Summer Intensive** in Blue Lake, California studying with the leading faculty of the Dell'Arte School, in an immersion in mask, clown, physical theater, and circus training.

The National Partners of the American Theatre Classical Acting Award, presented in association with the Shaw Festival, went to Tajionna Anderson-Clinton, Slippery Rock University. Anderson-Clinton will study for three weeks—award includes travel, lodging, and meals—at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

The Shakespeare Theatre Company Acting Fellowship went to Andrew Thornton, University of Wyoming. The Fellowship includes a weekly stipend, housing, travel, and roles in both *Romeo and Juliet* and *Richard III*.

The Kingsley Colton Award for Outstanding Partner went to Jared Mohr-Leiva, partner to Andrew Thornton, University of Wyoming. Leiva received a \$500 cash prize for his outstanding support of Thornton's **Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship** audition.

THE OPEN JAR INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

Nissi Shalome Smith, Western Illinois University and Adrian Lopez, Sam Houston State University received full scholarships (\$3500) from Artistic Director Jeff Whiting to attend the Open Jar Institute Summer Residency in New York.

THE SDC NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

In association with the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC).

The SDC National Directing Awards went to Katie Cizek, James Madison University and Allison Price, Texas State University. Cizek and Price received a \$500 cash award.

The O'Neill Playwrights' Conference Directing Fellowship went to Katie Cizek, James Madison University. Cizek will be assisting two of the directors at the **O'Neill Playwrights' Conference**, led by artistic director Wendy Goldberg.

The Wildwind Performance Lab Directing Fellowship, on the campus of Texas Tech University, went to Allison Price, Texas State University. Price will be working with Artistic Director Michael Legg, and with directors-in-residence Jesse Jou and Michele Vasquez.

THE KENNEDY CENTER AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCENIC, COSTUME, LIGHTING, AND SOUND DESIGN

Designs of the regional finalists were displayed during the National Festival and the National Design Respondents, distinguished artists in theatrical design, have selected award recipients in each category. All National Kennedy Center Design Award recipients received \$500 cash and an expenses-paid, Cirque du Soleil Design Immersion in Las Vegas, Nevada. Special thanks Barbizon, Inc. for their support of the Lighting and Sound Design Project in the Kennedy Center Theater Lab, April 9-12, 2018.

The Kennedy Center Award for Excellence in Scenic Design went to Apriah Williams, Florida International University. Runners-up were Andrea Tinoco, East Los Angeles College and Kim Lartz, Illinois State University.

The Kennedy Center Award for Excellence in Costume Design went to Jillian Ross, Los Angeles City College. Runners-up included Robert Crone, University of Kansas and Georgia Fried, Salisbury University.

The Kennedy Center Award for Excellence in Sound Design went to Colin Kovarik, University of Wisconsin- Parkside. Second place went to Meghan Reed, West Chester University and third place went to J.T. McLoughlin, Southern Connecticut State University.

The Barbizon Award for Excellence in Lighting Design went to Shaye Evans, Colorado State University.

Regional finalists were also eligible for the additional design awards and fellowships. The 2018 recipients were:

The National Partners of the American Theatre Design Award went to Andrea Tinoco, East Los Angeles College. Tinoco will spend an expenses-paid week in Seoul, South Korea, visiting theater design and traditional arts classes, various design studios, and attending performances. This award is presented to one of the Design Award finalists, and is funded by members of the National Partners. The Design Excellence Award is in association with the Korean National Theatre Academy. The alternate is Nate Hart, West Chester University of Pennsylvania for lighting design.

The O'Neill Theater Center Fellowships

Recipients of the O'Neill Design Fellowships have been awarded a residency in their respective design fields at the O'Neill National Puppetry, Music Theater, Playwrights', and Cabaret Conferences in Waterford, Connecticut.

The Fellowship for lighting design went to Susan Kupferer, Brigham Young University. The alternate was Jason Driver of Amarillo College.

The Fellowship for sound design went to Meghan Reed, West Chester University.

The Fellowship for stage management went to Megan Johnson, Utah Valley University.

The Fellowship for company management and arts administration went to Brandi Lavigne, Dean College

THE DRAMATURGY FELLOWSHIPS

In association with the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA) and The National New Play Network.

The LMDA/KCACTF Student Dramaturgy Fellowships went to Xiomara Cornejo of **University of Missouri to be a member of the literary staff of the O’Neill Playwrights’ Conference**, and to Sarah Schreck of University of Central Florida to study with Mark Bly at the **Kennedy Center’s New Play Dramaturgy Intensive**, in association with the National New Play Network.

The Iris Turcott Fellowship in Directing and Dramaturgy went to Abel Marquez, Citrus College.

THE INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE JOURNALISM AND ADVOCACY SCHOLARSHIP TO THE **O’NEILL** NATIONAL CRITICS INSTITUTE

Jennifer Dorn of Providence College received a full scholarship including travel, lodging, and meals **to attend the Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center’s National Critics’ Institute during its National Playwrights’ Conference in July 2018**, working with leading professional newspaper and magazine critics from across the U.S.

THE KENNEDY CENTER NEW WORK-IN-DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, 2018

Undergraduate Playwrights’ Workshop

May 28–June 3, 2018

An Unimportant Hunger by Linda Vanesa Perla Giron Blanco, Boston University

Between Us by Alessandra Viegas, Wesleyan University

American Spies and Other Homegrown Fables by Sam Hamashima, University of Michigan

A Game of LIFE: a Modern Ritual Drama by Dev Blair, Boston University

Uncle Tom’s Nephews by Josiah Turner, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

MFA Playwrights' Workshop

July 28–August 5, 2018

In association with the National New Play Network and the National Center for New Plays at Stanford University

You Must Wear a Hat by Courtney Meeker, University of Iowa

Mothers by Anna Moench, University of California, San Diego

A Departure by Daria Miyeko Marinelli, University of Texas at Austin

Incendiary by Dave Harris, University of California, San Diego

The Promotion by Joe Giovannetti, Northwestern University

Djarum Vanilla by Cary Simowitz, University of California, Los Angeles

THE ARTISTS STRIVING AGAINIST POVERTY SCHOLARSHIP

Artists Striving to End Poverty (ASTEP) is a New York-based non-profit organization that connects performing and visual artists with underserved youth in the U.S. and around the world to awaken their imaginations, foster critical thinking, and help them break the cycle of poverty. ASTEP believes that the arts **are essential to children's** academic and social success. One of **ASTEP's long-standing** partners is the **Shanti Bhavan Children's project, an exceptional residential school for children in the lowest caste in South India.** ASTEP provides year-round arts programming for these young, enthusiastic learners who are the future leaders of their communities and of their country. With the support and in partnership with the Kennedy Center, this year ASTEP awards a full scholarship to an outstanding student to visit New York City and attend the Artist-As-Citizen Conference in June. The 2018 scholarship went to:

Roman Sanchez, Humboldt State University

The mission of **ASTEP's "The Artist-As-Citizen" Conference** is to celebrate, connect, and develop young leaders in the arts by providing them with a transformative artistic and educational experience in the heart of New York City. The scholarship includes all conference activities, including keynote speeches, discussions, interactive workshops, and tickets for evening performances around New York, and full room and board at the Juilliard School for five nights and six days.

ABOUT THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL

Envisioned in 1968 and launched in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy Center's founding Chairman, KCACTF encourages and celebrates the finest and most diverse theatrical productions from colleges and universities nationwide. Through the regional and national festivals, KCACTF celebrates the achievements of theater programs, individual students, and faculty of colleges and universities throughout the United States.

The eight regional festivals provide opportunities for colleges and universities to showcase their finest work to diverse audiences of theater students and faculty from their regions. In addition to the invited productions, students and faculty attend workshops, master classes, juried design expositions, seminars, summer stock and graduate school auditions, and other professional development opportunities that build bridges between higher education and the professional theater community. In July 2014, the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center along with the Kennedy Center, National New Play Network, and Stage Directors & Choreographers Foundation announced the start of the National Directors Fellowship (NDF), a five-year joint initiative which will fast track the professional development of 25 early-career stage directors, five per year. As part of this year-long fellowship, **the fellows will attend the MFA Playwrights’ Workshop and Directing Intensive**, led by NNPN and KCACTF.

Since its establishment 50 years ago, KCACTF has reached millions of theatergoers and made important contributions to the professional development of countless college and university theater students nationwide. This year, eight regional festivals will be hosted by the following institutions: University of Indianapolis; Indiana University of Pennsylvania; City of Des Moines, Iowa; Western Connecticut State University; Georgia Southwestern University; Mesa Community College; City of Spokane, Washington; and Angelo State University.

EDUCATION AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is the national champion for arts learning and creativity. Committed to increasing opportunities for all people to participate in, learn about, and understand the arts, the Center offers programs and events that strive to reflect the nation and its communities, and that are accessible and **inclusive for all. From the Center’s stages to classrooms and communities across the country**, to online resources accessible nearly anywhere, the Center serves the burgeoning artist, the curious explorer, the student (of any age), the teacher and teaching artist—any person interested in arts learning and utilizing the arts for positive change.

As an essential component of the living memorial to President Kennedy, the Center’s Education programs utilize the arts to embrace the ideals of service, justice, freedom, courage, and gratitude, and cultivate the Citizen Artists in all the people we serve. For more information, please visit kennedy-center.org/education/.

FUNDING CREDITS

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For more information, please visit
[Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.](#)

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