

Education in Action

SUMMER 2011

A New Season; A Newsletter

Dear Reader,

What a spring we've had! Between YPW classes, Macbeth rehearsals, YAG events, and two school-based productions, the education department barely had time to sleep! Now that the smoke has cleared and we've had a chance to breathe, we are able to look back at all the successes of this past season and know that the lack of sleep was worth it.

This next season is shaping up to be just as busy! Soon, our playwrights will start work on the Fall New Work, which will be based on author Mary Shelly (Frankenstein). In the meantime we are preparing for summer camps and the YAGers are going full swing with several fundraisers.

With everything that will be going on, we want to make sure you are well informed and aware of everything that happens in "Education Land" at Wayside Theatre. In addition, the work of these students often goes unrecognized beyond our walls, and we thought that a Newsletter would be the perfect way to make sure everyone knows all the hard work they are doing.

This newsletter will be published four times in the course of the season: Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring. It will detail future events, recognize student successes and keep you updated on all the goings-on.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas for the newsletter, feel free to e-mail them to eia@waysidetheatre.org

Have a fun, relaxing and safe summer and don't forget to join us for a fundraiser or performance!

Sincerely,

Megan McShea, Education Assistant

Spring Recap

Overall, we had a very successful Spring. Below are a few of the projects that we worked on.

MacBeth

Our Emerging Artists successfully conquered one of Shakespeare's Tragedies: *Macbeth*. Our rehearsal process was not the smoothest ride for our actors: we dealt with changing venues, absent cast members and to help get them acquainted with the military lifestyle, we brought in an army expert (Specialist Rick Garland) to run a Military Bootcamp. Even after all the push-ups they managed to pull together a great show. Another instance of hard work and dedication paying off!

Young Playwright's Festival

This year's winner was Skyline High School Senior Tiffany Waters. Tiffany's play *Much Ado About Nothing: Part Two* combined characters from several of William Shakespeare's plays and was full of miscommunication, mistaken identity and romance. A good crowd of people came to see the play, including second place winner Paul Rush.

This is a Test

14 middle school students from Warren County Middle School participated in a touring production of Stephen Gregg's *This Is A Test*. The production included 2

community performances and 7 school matinees for Warren County Elementary Schools as well as the Middle School. They were supported by a full design concept from Wayside's design team.

YAG events

This spring, YAG held two of its annual fundraisers: On the Spot and 24-hour Playfest. On the Spot is a night of improv games and raised \$115. The 24-hour playfest grew three plays and raised \$297. Money raised by YAG events funds theatre projects, education programs and YPW scholarships.

Something to Shout About

Tevye rolls his cart into the room Chelsea Academy is using as a theatre, ruminating on the joys that come with money. In the cart are two live chickens. The random child leaning on my leg stands on his toes to see a little better as the chickens peck at some hay in the back of the cart and Tevye starts the familiar refrain of "If I Were a Rich Man". A few weeks later, I am watching a boy in an Eyor-esque hat and tail being wooed by a Fairy Queen in Warren County High School's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Soon, we watch a parade of children in band uniforms traipse across the stage at Clarke County High School's *The Music Man*.

All of these shows are a part of this year's T. Carter Fussell Outstanding Awards program, which recognizes excellence in young theatre artists. By invitation of the director, staff members from Wayside attend High School performances all over the Shenandoah Valley. What makes this program unique is that there are no set categories to fill and more than one student can win the same award. We don't attend the performances thinking "which is best" but instead look for the good in every show. Anything we see that we deem "Outstanding" is given an award (from acting to puppetry to stage management) and trust me – there are a lot of young artists out there that truly are outstanding.

*This year's Award Ceremony will be held June 9th. See the back page for a list of winners



Jessie Kraemer and Claire Lewis perform this year's Young Playwrights Festival Script.

Shakespeare in the Park

Imagine the sun shining down on you, a soft breeze blowing across the grass and a crowd of neighbors and friends around you. Add the beauty of Shakespeare's language and you are sure to have a great day.

This summer, YAG is bringing this experience to you. For the first time, our students will be presenting Shakespeare in the Park. The event will be held at Jim Barnett park in Winchester as an opening act for the summer concert series. All performances will be at 7pm, last about 40 minutes and are followed by the scheduled concert. Dates of the concert series are June 25th, July 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th and August 6th. Pieces include selections from *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (June 25th), *When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet* (July 30th) and a scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (July 16th - pending casting). Every week YAG will have tables of arts and crafts, face painting and more. The details of this event are still in the works, so watch for more information. Come for the music, stay for the Shakespeare!

Dates to Remember

Don't miss these events!

Wayside Theatre Opens Season 50 with *Reunion*: June 5th –July 2nd at Wayside

T. Carter Fussell Awards Show: June 9th at Wayside (8pm as a precursor to that night's performance of *Reunion*)

Wayside Says Goodbye to Graduating YAGers: June 16th at Wayside (8pm as a precursor to that night's performance of *Reunion*)

Shakespeare in the Park: June 25th; July 9th, 16th, 23rd; Aug 6th at Jim Barnett Park

YPW Summer Session 1: July 11th - July 22nd (Performance on the 22nd: FREE admission)

YPW Summer Session 2: July 25th - Aug 5th (Performance on the 5th: FREE admission)

Both sessions at the Youth Development Center in Winchester

Registration for YPW Fall Session Begins: August 12th - call the box office to sign up!

So Long and Thanks for all the Fish!

This year we have five students graduating who were active members of our Young Ambassador's Guild, YAG. These students have spent countless hours at the theatre organizing and running events, rehearsing and writing plays and volunteering. If you had a chance to see any of their work, you are sure to agree that they truly are extraordinary! We wish them the best of luck on their journeys and hope that they know that they are always welcome here at Wayside.

Molly Knudson

Member since 2008
Secretary 2009-2010 and 2010-2011



Favorite Event: The fundraisers and events are wonderful, but the meetings are some of the most fun times! A group of crazy actors who all happen to be great friends? I couldn't ask for more.

Advice for Future YAGers: Believe in yourself! You can be anything you want on stage and off at Wayside!

Anything Else? Thank you so much to Thomasin, Sarah, Warner, Malia, and Tamara. You guys have been there for me for all of these years and I've learned so much from you about theater and about life. I love you guys and you will always be in my heart where ever this life takes me. To the YAGers, I say Converse forever- may the gang live on!

Daniel Russell



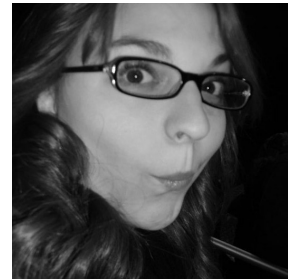
Member since 2007
Co-Chair 2009-2010

Daniel has been active at Wayside since he was about 8 years old. He rarely missed a YAG function and has worked on all but 2

emerging artist shows. He has also participated in at least 4 main stage productions. While he was too busy with end-of-year happenings to answer our questions, he will still be very missed by everyone. He created a legacy of ridiculousness that we can only hope will continue in YAG.

What you've learned: I've learned more about how a theatre runs. It's not just about getting on stage and entertaining people, although that is a big part of what we do, but it's also about advertising, building relationships with the staff and community, letting people know what we're doing. So much is involved in just putting together a show to raise money!

Advice for Future YAGers: Be involved. It might seem like a lot of work to put together the fundraisers, but it's worth every bit of it. It's an experience you won't forget because something memorable always happens. Make the best of the opportunities Wayside has to offer because you'll create awesome memories here!



Katie Fadely

Member since 2007
Historian 2010-2011

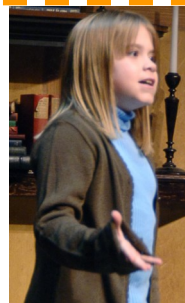
Legacy you hope to leave behind: We (Jessica and Jennifer) started every fundraiser that YAG has done: we brought the 24-hr Playfest back from the grave - we invented a good many of them.

Advice for Future YAGers: Take charge and be active! You don't get anything out of it if you don't put anything in it.



Jes Davison

Member since 2007
Treasurer 2010-2011



Jen Davison

Member since 2007
Chair 2010-2011

Favorite Event: 24-hour play festival

What you learned: How to plan a fundraiser.

Anything Else? YAG is growing. It's much bigger than it was that first year, and it keeps getting better. What you can do is endless as long as you keep changing and thinking up new ideas. Whether they are good or bad, you will end up with something great!



Wayside Theatre

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Moving Forward to Build our Children's Future!



Our goal is to encourage youth to contribute to the arts in meaningful ways by providing opportunities which create confidence, instill discipline, build esteem and foster creativity.

Since its inception in 2000, Wayside Theatre's Education in Action programs have provided youth in the Northern Shenandoah Valley with much-needed theatre education. Last year almost 3,000 youth participated in immersive theatre experiences from performing Shakespeare to playwriting; touring productions to backstage assignments.

For more information on any of our programs or to get involved, contact Education Director Sarah Blackwell.

2010-2011 T. Carter Fussell Award Winners

Central High School – Nathan May

The Wizard of Oz

Presence in a Small Role – McGrath (Macki) Kraemer

Reckless Abandonment and Physicality – Joshua Shelor

Performance – Adam Hockman

Performance – Daniel Russell

Characterization – Matthew Hyden

Dance Performance – Sarah Meirose

Performance – C.J. Nicholson (elementary school cast)

Skyline High School – Richard Follett

Little Shop of Horrors

Lead Actor in a Musical – Brandon Klingenberg

Lead Actress in a Musical – Graciela Figueroa

Vocals – Justin Thorne

Puppetry – Reece Crump

Set Design and Painting – Joe Haggerty
Romeo and Juliet

Acting – Evan Crump

Acting – Kieran Shaw

Acting – Tiffany Waters

Acting – Paul Rush

Presence in a Small Role – Shannon Stanton

Consistency Across a Season – Wyatt Karnes

Warren County High School – Christopher Whitney

Whitney

Midsummer Night's Dream

Stage Management – Trevor Pauley

Stage Management – Sarah Most

Duo for Oberon and Puck –

Jacob Goodman and Ashley Most

Duo for Oberon and Puck –

Ashley Most and Jacob Goodman

Acting Performance – Brian Carter

Physicality – Ensemble

Beauty and Beast

Musical Performance – Stephanie Blakely

Performance – Brian Carter

Performance – Darren Daniels

Characterization and Physicality – Tyler Peterson

Dancing and Fighting in a

Vanity Costume – Jessi Platter

Group Characterization – Sarah Kramer

Group Characterization – Alyssa Lucas

Group Characterization – Lauren Wilkins

Group Characterization – Kelsey Hurley

Set Changes – Technical Crew

Dancing - Ensemble

James Wood High School – Jeff Rutherford

Carousel

Performance – Alie Astete

Performance – Eric Grant

Musical Performance – Carly Cramer

Ballet Dancing – Christian Owens

Villian Presence – Chad Magaw

Set Changes – Technical Crew

Handley High School – Larry Lovelady

Pippen

Musical Performance – Dillon Robb

Performance – Ryan Hoak

Ensemble – Ensemble

Clarke County High School – Andrew Kiser

The Music Man

Performance – Anna Louthan

Irish Accent – Sydney Wilkins

Musical Performance in a Quartet – Josh

Coumes, Warren Campbell, Tony Shipman and

Ted Schulz

Millbrook High School – Candace Henderson

Once Upon a Mattress

Musical Performance – Erin Roberts

Musical Performance – Deni Hlavinka

Acting Performance in a Musical – Skyler Dimasi

Acting Performance in a Musical – Logan Groll

Physicality – Nick Hurst

Musical Performance – Katie Hemmen

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Performance – Logan Groll

Performance – Danika Padin

Performance – Nick Hurst

Performance – Zach Hurst

Performance – Skyler Dimasi

Performance – Taylor Wilson

Chelsea Academy – Steve Evens

Fiddler on the Roof

Performance – Jack Evans

Musical Performance – Kiernan O'Donnell

Cheaper By the Dozen

Acting Performance – Tony Bergida

Performance – Anna Schaffer

Acting Performance – Jack Evans

Presence in a Small Role – Declan O'Donnell

Characterization – Mary Clare Pilon

Comedic Performance – Kieran Vieira

Physicality – Bridget Plunkett

Young Playwright's Festival Winners

High School First Place – Tiffany Waters for

Much Ado About Nothing: Part Two

High School Second Place – Paul Rush for

The Fake Me

To have Wayside come to your next performance, just have your director contact Sarah Blackwell at eia@waysidetheatre.org or Cephe Place in the box office