



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2014

Paramount Arts Center Receives 16 Nominations for Upcoming IMEA Awards

Ashland, KY - IMEA just announced nominations for the 2014 award ceremony that recognizes individuals and organizations in music, theatre and film internationally. Paramount Players, the Paramount Arts Center's community theatre group received 16 nominations in a variety of categories to include outstanding direction of plays and musical, choreography, set design, lighting, and individual awards in a variety of categories.

Paramount Player's Artistic Director and Choreographer, Melanie Cornelison, was thrilled to be a nominee in 3 categories to include, Best Director of a play for "The Outsiders," Best Director of a musical for "Grease," and Best Choreographer of a musical for "Grease," and is receiving an honorary lifetime IMEA membership award. Cornelison started the Paramount Players in 2009 and is excited about its growth, the amount of talent and these nominations.

"As founder and artistic director of Paramount Players, I am thrilled that after only 5 years of existence, we can compete at an international level and obtain nominations in so many different categories. Paramount Players has grown from less than 20 people in the first year, to hundreds in 2014 and our shows usually attract up to 300 people for auditions. I have been blown away by the amount of talent in the Tri-state area and we pull people to audition from a 75-mile radius. With each production we do, we strive to bring a variety of genres to the stage that provide entertainment and education. The nominees did outstanding work in their respective roles and to see them recognized with a national nomination is a tribute to their hard work and commitment and makes me very proud of the work we do."

Paramount Players were nominated for Outstanding Play for "Outsiders," and Outstanding Musical for "Grease." Individual nominations for performances are listed below.

The IMEA received nearly 15,000 nominations worldwide and chose 5 nominees in each category. The winners will be selected via a committee and online voting that is open from now through August 29, with one vote per person/email address. To vote, visit the following link @ <http://www.imeaawards.com/vote/theatre/> or go to IMEA AWARDS.com and click on Vote. IMEA Award night is Saturday, Oct. 4 @ 8 PM at the Paramount. Tickets are \$20 on main floor, \$15 in balcony and can be purchased in the box office by calling 606.324.0007 or online www.paramountartscenter.com.

Outstanding Featured Actor – Play

Haven Martin – The Outsiders (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Lead Actor – Play

Thaddeus Stambaugh – The Outsiders (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Direction – Play

Melanie Cornelison – The Outsiders (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Sound Design – Musical

Ritch Collins – Back to the 80s (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Scenic Design – Musical

Joshua Jannotta – Back to the 80s (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Featured Actress – Musical

Ashby Foutch – Grease (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Featured Actor – Musical

Joshua Jannotta – Back to the 80s (Paramount Players)

Patrick Murphy – Grease (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Lead Actress – Musical

Kate Jackson – Grease (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Choreography

Melanie Cornelison – Grease (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Direction – Musical

Melanie Cornelison – Grease (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Lighting Design – Play

Ritch Collins – The Outsiders (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Sound Design – Play

Joshua Jannotta – The Outsiders (Paramount Players)

Outstanding Scenic Design – Play

Joshua Jannotta – The Outsiders (Paramount Players)

###