OU Design and Production Students Receive Accolades at KCACTF Regional Competition

Students from the Peggy V. Helmerich School of Drama at the University of Oklahoma won numerous top honors at the recent Region 6 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Drama students Kaitlyn Souter, Ciara Smith and Cliona Smith earned several awards at the festival.

One hundred seventy collegiate teams from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas entered this year’s regional competition held in Abilene, Texas.

In the area of design, technology and stage management Souter, a senior from Edmond, received the National Stage Management Fellowship Award for her work on University Theatre’s production of A Christmas Carol. This award includes an all-expense paid trip to the KCACTF national festival in Washington, D.C. in April.

Ciara Smith a junior from Southlake, Texas, received the Doug Getzoff Award and the Regional Excellence for Costume Design Award for her costume design on University Theatre’s musical production of Dogfight.

Cliona Smith a sophomore from Southlake, Texas, was awarded the Regional Excellence for Unrealized Scenic Design for her design for HIR and the Regional Excellence for Scenic Design for her work on Men on Boats.

Dylan Madoux Receives Conducting Fellowship

Dylan Madoux, a junior vocal music education major, was recently accepted as a Conducting Fellow in the 2019 Conductor’s Institute of South Carolina, one of the most comprehensive summer training programs for conductors.

School of Music Professors Achieve Top Honors

Dr. Jane Magrath, professor emeritus, piano and piano pedagogy, received the 2019 MTNA Achievement Award. This prestigious award is bestowed upon an individual who has made significant and lasting contributions to the music teaching profession. Magrath is well known as an author, clinician and pianist. Her book The Pianist’s Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature has become a classic reference work for pianists throughout the country.

Dr. Irv Wagner, professor of trombone, has been awarded the International Trombone Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award! This award “recognizes people who have distinguished themselves by their contributions to the trombone profession over a long career.”

Wagner is a founding member of the Oklahoma Brass Quintet, conducts the popular OU Trombone Choir, is a member of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic and the conductor for many of that orchestra’s pops concerts. Wagner’s compositions and arrangements are in demand by many major symphony orchestras and trombone choirs.