
News From: **The Helen Hayes Awards**

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PRESENTERS & SPONSORS ANNOUNCED FOR THE 26TH HELEN HAYES AWARDS ON APRIL 5

Washington, DC – The 26th Helen Hayes Awards will be presented at the historic Warner Theatre on Monday April 5. In addition to 151 theatre artists, ensembles and productions nominated in 26 categories, three special awards will be given:

- **The Helen Hayes Tribute** sponsored by Jaylee Mead to legendary playwright Edward Albee
- **The *Washington Post* Award** for Innovative Leadership in the Theatre Community to theatre and arts activist Andy Shallal; and
- **The John Aniello Award** for Outstanding Emerging Theatre Company to Tyson Corner, Virginia's 1st Stage

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PRODUCTION TEAM

The April 5 event is directed by **Jerry Whiddon**, former artistic director of Round House Theatre and written by Charles MacArthur Award recipient **Renee Calarco**. **George Hummel** is Musical Director with **Michael J. Bobbitt** serving as Choreographer. Helen Hayes Award nominee and recipient **Daniel MacLean Wagner** is Producer and Production Designer, in collaboration with **Carl Gudenius** (Scenic Designer) and **Alan H. Perry** (Sound Designer). Other members of the production team include **Cary Gillette** and **Shari Silbergliitt Moxley** (Production Managers), **Martha Knight** (Production Stage Manager), and **Jack Stillwell** (Visual Media Producer).

SPONSORS

The 2010 Helen Hayes Awards is made possible by the involvement and generosity of **Vornado/Charles E. Smith** whose president **Mitchell N. Schear** serves as this year's Honorary Producer. **American Airlines** is the Official Airline of the Helen Hayes Awards; **BNA** generously provides HHA publications for 25 years, Presenting Sponsors **KPMG** and **PNC BANK**, **The Washington Post** (Sponsor of Washington Post Award for Innovative Leadership) and **Washington Life** (Official Magazine Sponsor).

PRESENTERS/PERFORMERS

Established stars of Washington stages along with artists in the first phase of their careers will present Awards for artistic excellence in 26 categories. Presenters will include: actors Brigid Cleary, Allyson Currin, Natascia Diaz, Jessica Frances Dukes, Sherri L. Edelen, Ted van Greithuysen, Paige Hernandez, Brian Hemmingsen, Nanna Ingvarsson, Donna Migliaccio, Jane Pesci-Townsend, J. Fred Shiffman, Gary Sloan, Deidre LaWan Starnes and Craig Wallace; Designers Daniel Conway, Helen Huang, and Tim Jones; Musical Director George Fulginiti-

Shakar; Directors Andrew Baughman and Derek Goldman, Allison Stockman, and Joy Zinoman; and James MacArthur, the son of Helen Hayes and playwright Charles MacArthur.

Playwright Terrence McNally, himself a recipient of the 2004 Helen Hayes Tribute, will present this year's tribute award.

Ambassador Gary Doer, Embassy of Canada, will present this year's Canadian Embassy Award for Outstanding Ensembles, Play and Musical.

Stephen Hills, President and General Manager of The Washington Post, will present this year's Washington Post Award.

Philanthropist Jaylee Mead will present this year's Helen Hayes Tribute Award.

The evening will be punctuated by a company of some of Washington's most exciting singers and dancers: Kurt Boehm, Keitra Colombel, Cyana Cook, Glen Howard, Stacey Jackson, John Lescault, Amy McWilliams, Don Kenneth Mason, Jobari Parker-Namdar, Aaron Reeder, Bobby Smith, Max Talisman, Kerry Waters Lucas and Lauren Williams.

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MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2010

The 26th Helen Hayes Awards

8pm at the Warner Theatre

13th and E Streets, NW

Award presentation honoring excellence in Washington professional theatre

The Ovation Gala

10:30pm at the JW Marriott Hotel

1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Celebrating the nominees and recipients at Washington's largest cast party

The Helen Hayes Awards

Founded in 1983, the Helen Hayes Awards is a vibrant living legacy to Washington native and "First Lady of the American Theatre," Helen Hayes, whose legendary work ethic and standards of excellence continue to inspire Washington artists. Among the area's chief community builders, The Helen Hayes Awards helps to strengthen the region by building one of its most powerful assets: the professional theatre. While the organization takes center stage on one night each year, work behind the scenes continues all year to build audiences, honor excellence, and educate youth with:

- helenhayes.org, the comprehensive go-to internet resource used by more than two million annually, with information, links, calendar listings, a database of Awards recipients, and so much more.
- [The Washington Audience Development Initiative](#), a regional communications initiative that builds and broadens Washington theatre audiences through integrated marketing and public awareness.
- "[Helen Hayes Recommended](#)," a new marketing initiative to assist theatres promotes their productions while they are running. Helen Hayes Awards judges independently provide a numerical score specifically for this purpose. When the total score meets or exceeds a benchmark, the endorsement is offered.

- The Theatre Legacy Project, a unique program that introduces young, public school students and Boys and Girls Club members to the magic and practical applications of live theatre via a four part program in the classroom and the theatre. All educators, tickets, bus transportation, teacher training, and resource materials are provided free-of-charge. More than 35,000 children have participated in the program since 1994.
- The Washington Theatre Guide, the most comprehensive resource of its kind with information about complete seasons, festivals, readings, and special events at all Washington theatres as well as nearby restaurants, parking, and public transportation. The Guide also offers theatre education resources for students, teachers, parents, and professional theatre students.
- Washington Theatre TixCertificates, flexible \$20 gift certificates redeemable at close to 50 participating theatres throughout the Washington area.
- Washington Theatre Collaborative Data Base
An initiative allowing Washington theatres to maximize resources, minimize duplication of effort, and communicate the breadth of their offerings to current and potential theatregoers.

For more information about Helen Hayes Awards programs and services, visit www.helenhayes.org, email info@helenhayes.org, or call 202-337-4572.

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