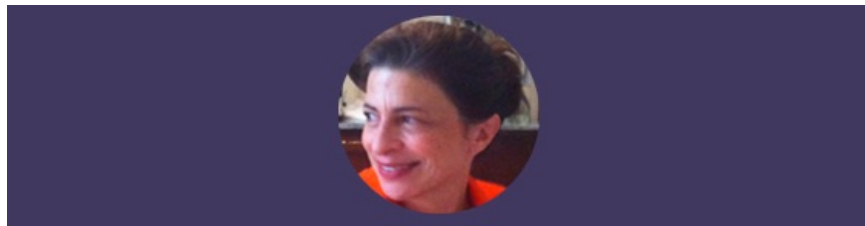




ASSITEJ

International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People

ASSITEJ Newsletter N°73, March 2016



Introduction

by Marisa Giménez Cacho

In my first meetings as an Executive Committee member, I recall having participated in discussions about the way in which ASSITEJ should promote the celebration of the World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People. Many thought that having a good message given by some artist of renown and spreading this message would suffice, and that it was not particularly necessary to promote any special activity in their countries.

In order to give more presence to ASSITEJ among Mexican artists, we decided to take it more seriously and not only to spread the message, but also to promote special activities for the occasion. I was initially sceptical myself regarding this festivity, but quickly realized after the first year of celebrating it, that it was a unique opportunity to attract attention towards TYA and to make it clear that this particular celebration made us an essential part of an international movement.

By being part of this international world activity, the multiple references and guidelines not only contribute to awareness and understanding of other's practices, but also to self-knowledge as well as acknowledgement. So each year as we celebrate this day, we can review where we are, what we have done, where we have moved towards, and what plans we have, as this applies to artistic, social, educational and even political arenas.

I can also remember, from these first EC meetings, the challenging discussions on quality and artistic excellence. Given the dissimilar conditions and cultural hegemonies, how do we evaluate? I am among those who think that true artists are few and can be counted on one hand, but I equally think that art and its practices enrich us all and makes everyone a more complete and complex human being.

The circumstances of each of the different countries that make up ASSITEJ are so diverse that the reasons each one can have to celebrate, are many. Some will organize a festivity, give away free theatre tickets to children and perhaps reward their best artists. Others will see the opportunity to scrutinize and identify their deficiencies, or plan, research and entreat support for their projects.

During more recent years, ASSITEJ has subscribed to the Declaration of the Rights of Children and has placed greater emphasis on their birthright to have access to culture and the aesthetic experience, through theatre. In 2016, ASSITEJ celebrates this World Day by subscribing to the Convention on the Rights of Disabled People.

Some may think that all of this is a distraction from actual artistic issues relevant to our association; that perhaps TYA in its worst expressions has been used for "good" causes.

Yet others may think, on the contrary, that disqualifications narrow the viewing angle and limit perception and interpretation to conventional codes; that the diverse languages that serve theatre will be enriched by other points of view, other forms, other sensitivities and perceptions.

Faced with challenges that are continuously brought forth by reality, I often times perceive a feeling of impotence that is shared by many other creators around the world. Yet once again, TYA appears as a possibility of impact and effect, of participation, reunion, and collaboration. A possibility of creation.



2016 World Day Message



Jenny Sealey

Artistic Director, Graeae Theatre Company, Co-director of the 2012 London Paralympics.

I simply cannot imagine a world without theatre or the arts. As a young Deaf girl, ballet classes became a safe place to be me. It was a visual world and one where I participated through watching and the relief of not having to lip read was liberating. I would get lost in the exercises and so loved the creating of ballet stories and performing. Ballet was my first experience of storytelling and as I got older I got involved in theatre and most importantly Young People's Theatre. What an extraordinary training ground for any actor and what an opportunity to share creative space with children and young people listening to the stories of their lives and making them into plays to give their experiences, trials and tribulations of life a platform to be heard.

At the time of writing I am directing *Stepping Stones* by Mike Kenny which I co-directed with Jon Palmer for Interplay 18 years ago. The production was as is the new one with Graeae's new Ensemble cast of all Deaf and disabled performers, aged between 20-22 year old) for young people with profound and multiple disabilities, for young Deaf and blind, disabled and non-disabled people. The joy of working thinking about creative access with sign language, audio description, sound and atmosphere is cemented in the belief that ALL young people should have full and equal access to theatre.

I get increasingly frustrated that the importance of creating work for and with and by young people is still not fully recognised and funded. It breaks my heart knowing that many disabled children are not deemed worthy of an education in many many countries, BUT my travels around the world are a reminder that the passion of those of you who drive this work means that we will not have a world without theatre and that theatre is an education to a life.

As 2016 marks the 10th year since the Convention on the Rights of Disabled People was adopted at the United Nations, it is a great opportunity to hold hands across the globe to continually fuel that passion and to work as a community to ensure we are able to make, create and share theatre that matters, by and for those who matter.

ASSITEJ President 2016 World Day Message



Yvette Hardie

It is five years since we started the #Takeachildtothetheatretoday campaign, which is celebrated in many places around the globe on and around the *World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People*, 20th March. This campaign has offered ASSITEJ members a strong space for advocacy, and with the campaign has come many compelling reasons, contained in messages, speeches and articles, arguing for why children and young people should be exposed to theatre.

These reasons include: the rights of children as cultural citizens; the fact that theatre

educates holistically though fostering multiple intelligences; the importance of cultivating curiosity, imagination and joy in children; the need for children to have hope in an often confusing and desperate world; the importance of aesthetic awareness and a capacity to embrace the diverse languages of the arts; the need for community, connection and empathy; the present-now-ness of theatre and its capacity to allow us to confront and question the world as we experience it; the urgency of embracing a diversity of views...

But I wonder if there isn't another, more fundamental, reason why artists make work for young audiences, that goes beyond these stated intentions.

This reason may be far more deeply personal. In making work for children and young people, we are able to nurture, to heal and to strengthen the inner child in ourselves.

When a group of South African township-based youth started to work on a play for very young children, they discovered that making the work required that they nurture, rediscover, or in some cases, discover for the very first time...the innocence, the tenderness, the vulnerability, and potential wholeness within themselves. This began a profound healing process for these young artists which deeply affected them and which has motivated them to continue exploring in the field.

From this deep personal need, we then in turn are able to influence others. By nurturing ourselves into greater wholeness, we are able to enter into a more whole relationship with our audience. We are also able to offer parents and children, families, teachers, care-givers and their charges, opportunities to see the world through the eyes of the youngest amongst us.

So often I have heard some variation as I leave the theatre of a parent saying, "I couldn't believe that my child could sit still for so long", or "that my child found so much humour in that play"... in these moments of discovering who that child really is, theatre artists may in turn be contributing to greater wholeness in these fundamentally important relationships.

Perhaps the greatest gift that theatre for children and young people can give us - whether we are an artist, audience member, parent, teacher or child - is the gift of finding wholeness in brokenness, and rediscovering who we were always meant to be.

[View Messages in Spanish](#)

[View Messages in French](#)

[View Messages in Portuguese](#)

2016 World Day Video



This film was made with young people in Nigeria supported by ASSITEJ Nigeria. The film is part of the campaign for World Day of Theatre For Children which is celebrated every year on March 20th.

[Go to the video!](#)



Call for Performances 2017 in Cape Town

Opportunity

ASSITEJ South Africa reminds all theatre practitioners to apply before the end of April to have their performances presented during the 19th ASSITEJ World Congress of the International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People from 17-27 May 2017 in Cape Town, under the over-arching theme "Cradle of Creativity". Applications are through the website: www.assitej2017.org.za.

The World Congress is the most important meeting of all members of ASSITEJ, taking place once every three years. It is the culmination of the working life of the association for that three-year period, reflecting on the last period of activity and creating a vision collectively with members for the future.

The Performing Arts festival will encompass a diverse and rich range of theatre productions from across the globe during the last few years, with a special focus on Africa as the "Cradle of Creativity" and on inter-cultural collaborations. It will give a snapshot of theatre for young audiences as it exists at this point in history, and as represented by performances from a wide variety of countries and continents. This is the first time that the Congress and Festival will be held on African soil.

The Festival comprises several platforms, including the International, African and Collaborative Platforms.

The call for participation in the Conference, Symposium, Workshop and Forum section will be announced in the next newsletter.

Deadline April 30 2016.

- [Submissions to the International Platform \(FROM ALL CONTINENTS APART FROM AFRICA\)](#)
- [Submissions to the African Platform \(FROM ALL FIVE REGIONS OF THE CONTINENT, INCLUDING SOUTH AFRICA\)](#)
- [Submissions to the Collaborative Platform \(FROM AN AFRICAN COUNTRY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ANOTHER COUNTRY\)](#)

[Main ASSITEJ SA web](#)

Call for Advertisements ASSITEJ Magazine 2016

ASSITEJ is working on the 2016 ASSITEJ Magazine that will be launched at our next Artistic Gathering in Birmingham, UK:

On the Edge: Interdisciplinary Exchange

We are glad to offer you an **opportunity for exposure in our magazine** that will help in making your work more visible to the global community!

Possibilities for: Full page, half a page, a quarter of a page and inside back cover.

The deadline for booking an advertisement in the ASSITEJ Magazine 2016 and for receiving artwork is April 30, 2016.

[Read more.](#)



Next Generation Placements

ASSITEJ supports Next Generation Placements to provide younger theatre artists, producers and administrators with individual opportunities for international mobility within the field of Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) and in order to encourage contact and exchange between experienced and emerging artists.

Young people with an interest for and/or experience in TYA will have the opportunity to experience theatre for young audiences in another country, and to share experiences, learn and work with artists within the framework of different projects such as festivals, seminars, workshops, forums, productions, etc.

Any person related to TYA between 18 and 35 years old may apply for a placement through this program, and may apply to ASSITEJ for limited financial support.

The ASSITEJ Next Generation Placements Program is a continuous program, with offers from all around the world. Offers are accepted throughout the whole year and each offer will have its own deadlines according to the needs of the country.

ASSITEJ has the duty to promote the Next Generation Placements by looking for and encouraging new offers, distributing this information among members, publishing the offers on its website and being the contact between offer-makers and applicants when needed. We encourage all our members to consider what projects happening in their country might benefit from hosting a placement.

The ASSITEJ contact person is Diana Kržanić Tepavac from the Executive Committee:
diana.dkt@gmail.com

ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering 2016

Meet the Next Generation!

As well as a broad performance, symposium and social programme, ON THE EDGE will play host to 2016's Next Generation – a group of talented emerging movers and shakers of Theatre for Young Audiences who hail from across the world.

We are extremely excited to welcome this select group of young and emerging TYA professionals to Birmingham to embark upon a tailored programme of development opportunities. They will join a growing network of Next Generation alumni scattered across the globe, many of whom have established ongoing collaborations and working partnerships.

Here's the who's who of 2016! [Read the names](#)

"We can't wait to welcome this fantastic group of future TYA leaders to ON THE EDGE! We were inundated with brilliant applications for this programme, and our final selection are representative of a wealth of talent emerging within our sector. Each brings his or her specialism and culture to the group, and they will work together over the course of a week to learn from and contribute to the best of TYA."

Natalie Wilson, Next Generation Coordinator

ON THE EDGE is the world festival of theatre for young audiences and the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering 2016. Delegate packages are on sale now, Early Bird Discount is available on Gold Packages until the end of March and we will be announcing the Symposium programme in the coming weeks!

To book go to www.ontheedge2016.com

To subscribe to our Mailing List please email your name to info@ontheedge2016.com



National Centers

ASSITEJ Argentina

Opportunity

4th. International TYA Researchers and Critics Forum.

July 26-30, 2016, Buenos Aires, Argentina



ASSITEJ PROJECT

Call for Papers

This is an open call for papers to participate in the 4th. International TYA Critics and Researchers Forum that will take place in The topic of this 4th Forum will be: **From Theatre for Babies to Theatre for Adolescents: Is there a Theatre for Every Age Group?**

[Read more.](#)

ATINA Awards

On the 30th of March, 2016 ATINA will celebrate the TYA World Day with the ATINA Award Ceremony.

We are celebrating our **10th edition** and we would like to share with you all Carlos de Urquiza's words, as ex-President of ATINA and organizer of the ATINA Award from the very beginning:



"ATINA gives this Award with the aim of highlighting the work of artists and companies devoted to TYA, as they do not have the same incentive or recognition as those devoted to theatre for adults. This Award during the last 10 years has been a specific award for TYA, which is organized by an Association of colleagues like ATINA and it is given by an independent and qualified jury of professionals. It has always been our wish that this Award could be illustrative of the situation and the development of TYA in our country. We expect that the winners are those who establish new trends and their work can be considered a parameter for the rest of us. We need frameworks and orientation within this field that many artists choose as their first experience in the art of theatre..."

[Read more.](#)

HIGH FEST
International
Performing
Arts Festival



ՀԱՅ ՖԵՍՏ
Միջազգային
Թատերական
Փառատոն

ASSITEJ Armenia

Opportunity

14 HIGH FEST International Performing Arts Festival
1 - 10 October 2016 / Yerevan, Armenia

Application deadline - **March 31st , 2016**

We are pleased to inform, that the **HIGH FEST International Performing Arts Festival** welcomes performing arts companies and artists to present their productions in **all genres of performing arts** including **theatre** (drama, comedy, mime, movement, circus, street performances, puppet/marionette, fingers theatre, visual), **dance** (modern, folk, classic etc.), **music** (opera, classical, musical, contemporary, jazz, folk etc) and other forms of performing arts.

Main festival in the countries of the former USSR outside of Moscow.
Here are our Programmes, which will be held in the framework of the Festival:

- ***Main program**
- ***Fringe Program**
- ***International Programme of Puppet and Children Performances;**
- ***ARMS FEST - Armenian International Student and Youth Programme;**

[Read more.](#)

ASSITEJ Canada



A New Board of Directors

Great news - ASSITEJ Canada has a new board of directors! During the annual general assembly held on January 26th, 2016, eleven administrators were designated by the members present at the assembly. This occurred after a long period of work by the steering committee to put ASSITEJ Canada back on track. The membership of the association has been and will continue to be redefined and renewed to include a diversity of practitioners. The membership has a strong desire to network across this wide and vast bilingual country, to work on common goals and challenges, and to maintain and develop contacts internationally and with ASSITEJ Centers around the world. The members of the new ASSITEJ Canada Board of Directors are... [View Gallery](#)



La Rencontre Théâtre ADOS 2016

For the past twenty years, La Rencontre Théâtre Ados has been the host to thought provoking meetings between teenagers and stage professionals. Presented annually, in the spring, this creative theatre festival is recognized as the largest showcase of theatre intended for an adolescent audience in Canada. A leader in cultural mediation, the RTA puts its experience and leadership at the community's disposal, by setting up growth oriented projects, as well as being the instigator of the biggest teenage improvisation league in Quebec; the LIRTA.



To learn more about the festival's twentieth anniversary, and to know everything about our 2016 lineup, held from the eleventh to the twenty-fourth of April at la Maison des Arts de Laval, please visit www.rtados.qc.ca

[Read more.](#)

ASSITEJ Denmark



Summer Laboratory in Denmark

Are you curious and creative? Are you aged between 17 - 27?

The recognized Danish Theatre Carte Blanche is searching for young people from across Europe to join THE SUMMER LABORATORY in June/July 2016. THE SUMMER LAB aims to offer inspiration, tools and a frame for artistic inquiry for young people who are serious about unfolding and developing their creativity - and who wish to examine culture and art in collaboration with other young people.

THE LAB consists of two parts. An intensive 5 day period of exploration (June 27 - July 1), and an intensive 6 day period of creation (July 4 - 9). It is possible for participants to choose to participate in just Part 1, or in both Part 1 and Part 2.

Deadline for applications: May 1, 2016

Please read more at

www.cblanche.dk/en/the-lab/

ASSITEJ Finland



BRAVO
13.-20.3.2016

Bravo International
Theatre Festival for
Young Audiences 13.-20.3.2016

The Bravo International Theatre Festival for Young Audiences, held in the arts centres of the Helsinki Area, will serve a multitude of high-quality performances for big and small audiences alike. The festival is produced by ASSITEJ Finland in cooperation with the cultural offices of Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa and Kauniainen.

<http://lastenteatteri.fi/bravo-festivaali>

First Assitej prize will be given out on 20.3.2016 in Finland

Finnish ASSITEJ will give out the first ASSITEJ prize in Finland on March 20th - the world day of theatre for children and young people.

50 years of ASSITEJ Germany

ASSITEJ Germany celebrates its 50th Jubilee on ten occasions in ten different places and with ten different topics. The celebrations started at Panoptikum Festival in Nuremberg and will continue through to December when the new venue for the renowned "tjg. theater junge generation" in Dresden will be opened.

In March, ASSITEJ Germany will celebrate at two festivals: Starke Stuecke in Frankfurt and K.U.S.S. Kuck Schau Spiel in Marburg.

<http://www.assitej.de/50-jahre-1966-2016/>



Translators' Workshop "Transfer"

The Children's and Young People's Theater Center in Frankfurt hosts a workshop for translators from 3 to 6 March 2016. The seminar's focus is on discussing translations of new dramatic works for young audiences and on making these works more popular and accessible to a wider audience of professionals and spectators. The participants and the languages they translate from are: Lucas Franken (French), Therese Korritter (Norwegian), Franziska Muche (Spanish), Anna Szostak-Weingartner (Polish), Lisa Wegener (French) and Nelly Winterhalder (Norwegian). Barbara Christ, a well-known translator (English) will lead the seminar together with Henning Fangauf and Susanne Freiling.

Partners in this project are the German Translators' Fund (Übersetzerfonds) and the international festival "Starke Stücke". The Goethe-Institute Oslo supports the seminar.

www.kjtz.de

www.starke-stuecke.net

Meeting of German speaking ASSITEJ Centers

In February 2016 ASSITEJ Germany hosted a meeting of all ASSITEJ Centers in German speaking countries and regions. Representatives from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg and Switzerland met to discuss their projects. As there is a strong interest in discovering and discussing international co-operations and, especially, co-productions with theater companies in African countries, this will be the focus of the events planned for 2017 and 2018. The World Congress will be at the center of this exchange.

Three interns from Germany at ASSITEJ South Africa

We are Petra, Johanna and Theresa, three students in theatre making and cultural mediation from Germany. Since January we are working as interns at the ASSITEJ office in Cape Town. By supporting the team in their daily work as well as in preparation of the World Congress 2017 we've got the chance to explore the diversity but also the struggle of theatre for children and young people in South Africa. Besides attending various theatre shows for the very young to performances for youth and getting to know different South African theatre makers, playwrights and performers, we were also offering workshops to children and young adults in Cape Town.

Time is running fast and we are looking forward to the upcoming six weeks!
Greetings from Petra Jeroma, Johanna Kraft and Theresa Frey



World Day Countdown in Augsburg

In the city of Augsburg in Southern Germany, nine theaters have joined up to celebrate the world day. From March 6th to March 20th they have organized a festival which offers a range of shows for a family audience and, at the same time, is a political signal to show the importance of access to culture and the arts for people of all ages.

<http://kjtz.co/2016/02/25/augsburger-theater-gestalten-gemeinsam-den-countdown-zum-welttag-des-theaters-fuer-kinder-und-jugendliche/>

ASSITEJ India



24th. India Theatre Olympiad: International Theatre Festival - 2016

You will be happy to learn that we are organising **24th. India Theatre Olympiad : International Theatre Festival - 2016** in the millennium city of Cuttack, Odisha (Orissa) state - situated on the eastern coast of India.

Opportunity

This annual International Theatre Festival (Drama, Dance & Music) is the only one of its kind in the country and this year it will be held from **2nd - 13th of September, 2016.**

This International event will provide a wonderful platform, a small world stage, for countries to strengthen ties with the people of India. Forging bonds through the performing arts, theatre will be a wonderful tool to help youngsters develop self confidence, self esteem and global understanding of one another. It is also a great way to promote peace, understanding and empathy in an otherwise intolerant world by forging forward national integrity, international amity and universal brotherhood through cross cultural synthesis and social assimilation.

We are pleased to inform that this Theatre Olympiad welcomes performing arts companies, groups and artists to present their productions in all genres of performing arts including Theatre (drama, comedy, mime, pantomime, puppet, fingers theatre, visual), Dance (western, modern, folk, classical etc.), Music (opera, classical, musical, contemporary, jazz, folk etc.) and other forms of performing arts.

Please find 3 attachments of documents of the Festival including the Invitation Letter and Application Form including General Rules and Registration procedures.

The Last Date for receiving Application with other documents is on or before **31st. May, 2016.**

[Read more.](#)



ASSITEJ Iran



Theater World Day 2016 program.



Goal: To diversify of training and educational centers in Iran

Methods: Use the educational keywords in collaboration with educational experts and professional theater directors.

This project is holding with 15 performances by 21 professional directors in 28 libraries of KANOON (The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young People)

Children's small theater performances in all impassable villages of Iran

This project is a media in a small box with finger puppets and gloves puppets.

Theatre Centers of KANOON's message for 2016 is "theater in remote areas" and for this reason the project is running. Making music, writing plays and a booklet are inside the packages for teachers. 10 professional directors announced that they will work for this project and they will perform in the mobile centers of KANOON.

KANOON's Mobile Theater Caravan moving again

Mobile Theater Caravan of KANOON for the Theater World Day 2016 will work in spring and it will start on April 2016 until 15th March 2017. The caravan's program is:

- 31 provinces (each province has 4 performances)
- In 240 days
- By 10 theater groups

ASSITEJ Italy



Festival Palcoscenici Superiori

Opportunity

Is a little Festival of Theatre for High Schools, organized in Brescia from Teatro Telaio.

It is characterized by foreign-language performances which have literary or social topics and that can have educational value also from a linguistic point of view.

We are looking for performances for students 14 - 19 years old in English, French, Spanish, German and Russian.

Companies that want to apply have to send information through e-mail to promozione@teatrotelaio.it

For each proposal we request:

- artistic and technical schedule
- full length video of the performance (youtube or vimeo links)
- scripts of the show

Monologues or shows with a simple scenography are preferred.

For further information do not hesitate to let us know.



Waiting for your news!
Teatro Telaio
via Villa Glori 10 A, Brescia
Tel/Fax +39 030 46535
promozione@teatrotelaio.it
www.teatrotelaio.it

ASSITEJ Japan

Theatre is wonderful because there is no right answer.

by Asaya Fujita

President of ASSITEJ Japan Centre on the occasion of the World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People.

In Japan (or not only in Japan), children are placed in a very competitive society. Even though there are very few human abilities that can be evaluated by scores, most people misunderstand that scores are the only standard by which to evaluate a person; therefore, there are a number of children dropping out even when they have wonderful abilities.



In theatre, there is no right answer. In theatre, it is good if each one displays in a lively way what he or she is capable of. A person can find a character within him/herself and through the work of finding him/herself in a character, he or she can sympathize with others. Naturally such an experience is varied person by person. Ten people have ten different expressions and it is impossible to evaluate any of them with scores. So there is no score in theatre. No-one will go into ecstasies or get depressed. This is why theatre brings a person up in the best possible way.

I hope children come into contact with theatre to experience this wonderful moment - where they can find similarities to themselves in characters in a play, think 'what if' he or she were a character, and be thrilled. And when they have finished watching a play, a sense of sympathy has grown in each one of them.

To parents: please take your children to theatre, the only place where they grow in a lively way, even in this very competitive society, today.

To teachers: Please protect a school theatre program that Japan can be proud of in the world, and try to stop the reduction of its numbers.

And to you, children: please enjoy theatre, asking your parents to take you to theatre if you have a chance.

Today is the day that theatres for children in the world share this same idea. And the today starts from here in Japan. Let us be at the forefront of leading this idea through the rest of the world.

March 20th, 2016

[Read in Spanish](#)

ASSITEJ Kenya

Celebrations

ASSITEJ Kenya will join the rest of the world in Nakuru from the 20th March to 23rd March 2016 with a series of activities to celebrate the world theatre day.

We shall invite schools for activities ranging from a procession in the town which will include the vintage cars, skaters, workshops and seminars around thematic issues on children rights, health issues, lifeskills, Arts and crafts fair, puppetry, story telling, comedy, skits, open Mike, book tents, book reading, fashion design, salsa lessons, contemporary dance.





ASSITEJ Mexico

Some celebrations of the World Day

The Fine Arts Institute organized for the ninth consecutive year the **Marathon of Theater for Children and Young People**, the event will take place in the five theaters of *The Woods Cultural Center* of Mexico city. More than 25 stagings, 40 performances, outdoor shows and a parade. Entrance will be free for everybody.

Among other activities in Mexico. Sofia Olmos, Next Generation alumni Warsaw 2014 is organizing a full day of activities in Agora theater in the city of Guadalajara, including the presentation of three plays for young audiences and a dialogue with the community of actors, directors and producers of theater for young audiences of the city



Seña y Verbo (Sign and Verb): Theatre for deaf, is proud to participate in the celebration for the World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People with two of its most recent plays: "My little hands talk", for the younger audience (6 months - 4 years old) and "Babel Challenge", where making improvised stories, transcending languages, is what counts.

Pakistan

The Little Art



As an arts organization that is continuously evolving The Little Art has recently ventured into creating a new performing arts program for children in Pakistan. "Tamasha - Theatre for Young Audience" is a project developed to establish a culture of theatre for young audiences in Pakistan. We envision to empower children and youth to create meaningful theatre for young people in Pakistan.

Workshops

Since our approach includes developing skills of people in this art form, we sought for support from CKU- Center of Culture and Development Denmark and with their assistance this year we are launching Tamasha, through which we envision to create exciting opportunities for children's theater in Pakistan.

The Little Art has recently conducted 5 intensive trainings which will be leading to a high quality theatre production with students in schools, colleges and universities. The training workshops were conducted with the dramatic societies of FAST, UMT, UCP, MAO College, and students from the religious minorities community of Youhanabad where young students came from various schools such as Don Bosco High School, MT International Christian School, The Dean public high school, St. Johns Boys High School and Girls High School.

Our performing arts workshop uses theatre as a process of transformation, psycho-social connections and intellectual development of students. The workshops have been designed to impart some basic theatre skills through games, exercises and improvisation methods with the overall objective to build creative self, confidence and personality development of children and youth.

[Read more.](#)



ASSITEJ South Africa

ASSITEJ SA members across the country are preparing to celebrate World Theatre Day by supporting children and young people to see theatre through free and discounted performances, festivals and workshops.

In Gauteng the Festival of Fame provided a host of artistic experiences for young audiences, while the People's Theatre will play host to the official ASSITEJ SA World Theatre Day event in Gauteng on the morning of 19 March 2016. The event is open to ASSITEJ SA members, stakeholders of theatre for young people and their children.

In the Western Cape the Obs Family Festival hosts 11 performances, 2 play readings, 3 workshops with UK-based Vamos Theatre, and 3 conversations. In the FreeState, Pacof's Children's Theatre Festival is sponsoring learners to attend plays which are in Afrikaans, Sesotho and English, while in KZN, in association with Alliance Francaise, performances will be held at the Francofete on 20th March. To read the full list of activities, please go here <http://www.assitej.org.za//alt/5603/ldquotake-a-child-to-the-theatre-todayrdquo-celebrated-in-south-africa-during->



Theatre for Young People



ASSITEJ USA

NYU Forum on Educational
Theatre
April 21 - 24



Registration for the Forum on Educational Theatre is now open.

The Forum features the global educational theatre community representing over 20 countries (including Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, El Salvador, Hong Kong, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Palestine, Philippines, Qatar, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America) presenting over 100 workshops, papers, posters, and performances around one of the following topics:

- *Drama in Education* (i.e., studies in drama/theatre curriculum, special education, integrated arts, assessment and evaluation)
- *Applied Theatre* (i.e., studies in community-based theatre, theatre of the oppressed, the teaching artist, diversity and inclusion, drama therapy)

• *Theatre for Young Audiences and Play Production*(i.e., studies in acting, dramaturgy, playwrighting, dramatic literature, theatre technology, arts-based research methodologies)

Presenters include Wasim Al-Kurdi, Courtney Boddie, Edie Demas, Michael Finnernan, Kathleen Gallagher, Norifumi Hida, Maria Hodermarska, Byoung-Joo Kim, Christina Marín, James Miles, Carole Miller, James Mirrione, Peter and Briar O'Connor, Cecily O'Neill, Monica Prendergast, Ross Prior, Nisha Sajjani, Richard Sallis, Joe Salvatore, Alex Santiago Jirau, Juliana Saxton, Nan Smithner, Philip Taylor, Prudence Wales, and Tim Webb.

Organizations presenting include Community Word Project, Improbable Players, Roundabout Education, The New Victory Theatre, and The New York City Department of Education.

Registration fees are:

[Read more.](#)

Scot Copeland

There's a big hole in our hearts - all of us who work in theater for young audiences and theater education in the USA, as we learned of the unexpected passing of Scot Copeland Wednesday evening apparently of a heart attack.

Scot was the longtime artistic director of Nashville Children's Theatre, former president of TYA/USA, and was a major architect in the growth of our field. He was larger than life, filled with humor and sarcasm and love for his colleagues, and, most importantly, for the children and young people our work serves. He was outspoken, snarky, gracious, and modest, and along with being a director, many don't know what a terrific playwright he was.

So many of us owe so much to Scot for his insight, intelligence, generosity, and great good spirit. It was under Scot's leadership that TYA/USA (then ASSITEJ-USA) and the Kennedy Center produced *New Visions 2000: One Theatre World*, arguably the most important gathering of our field in the US in a generation.

He will be missed, and many of us will be comforted to know that, wherever he is, he is still creating joy and mischief in his own delightful pirate-king way.

Kim Peter Kovac

Scot Copeland passed away on February 24th.

Join us for One Theater World May 6, 2016 session at The Kennedy Center

This special one-day event will precede the [New Visions/New Voices](#) Festival
Featuring:

- A Conversation with Rob Weinert-Kendt

Rob Weinert-Kendt is editor-in-chief of *American Theatre*. He was the founding editor-in-chief of *Back Stage West* and co-founder of *StageGrade*, and he writes about theatre for [The New York Times](#), [America magazine](#), and his blog [The Wicked Stage](#). He studied film at USC and is a composer member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop.

Plus:

- - A Reading of the Young Playwrights for Change Year 3 national contest winning play.
- - The Harold Oaks Awards
- - TYA/USA Membership Meeting
- - And More TBA

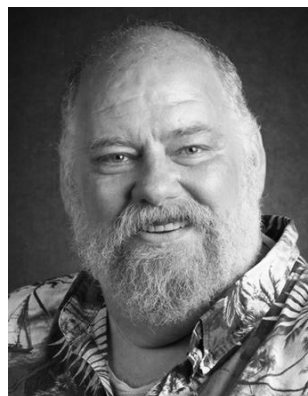
For information and to register, visit tyausa.org/programs/otw-sessions-2016/

ASSITEJ Switzerland

World day of Theatre by Switzerland

ASSITEJ Switzerland celebrations for the World day of Theater for children and young people:

On 20th of March 2016, the world day of theater for children and young people, the action



Robin Hood by ASSITEJ Schweiz/Suisse/Svizzera/Svizra invites children from financially and socially weak relations to the theatre. Thanks to the support of theatergoers and organizers as well as with the help of social institutions and nonprofit organisations, children will visit the following performances:

- [Kellertheater La Marotte](#), Affoltern am Albis (ZH): „Piggeldy & Frederick“ by Theater Gustavs Schwestern; 4 p.m.
- [Figurentheater Wettingen](#) (AG), „Dschungelbuch spielen“ by Theater Roos & Humbel/Sven Mathiasen; 11 a.m.
- [Figurentheater St. Gallen](#) (SG), „Räuber Hotzenplotz“ (in-house production); 11 a.m.
- [Le Petit théâtre](#), Lausanne (VD), „Les fondateurs font des enfants“ by Les Fondateurs & Théâtre de l'Usine; 2 and 5 p.m.
- [Theater Purpur](#), Zürich (ZH), „Nour zieht um“ by Figurentheater Lupine; 3 p.m.
- [Fabrikpalast Aarau](#) (AG), „Das rote Nashorn“ by Das Theater-Pack Hansueli Trüb; 11 a.m.

ASSITEJ Schweiz/Suisse/Svizzera/Svizra wishes to thank all involved parties for their commitment and personal contribution!



Articles Section. Knowledge - Experiences - Reflections.

International Director's Seminar for TYA 25 Seminars in 40 Years

By Cathrin Blöss and Meike Fechner

Almost 500 directors from 74 countries and all continents have taken part in ASSITEJ Germany's International Directors' Seminar for TYA since its invention in 1976.

Between 1976 and 1990 the seminar took place annually with few exceptions. It was organized by the ASSITEJ Center in the GDR and invited directors from Eastern Europe as well as from so-called capitalist countries to join a more theoretical discourse. Since 1993 the seminar takes place every other year in different places in re-united Germany. It has taken on the characteristics of a more practical workshop where about 30 directors, two thirds from abroad and one third from theaters in Germany, share six days of intense work and exchange. Smaller groups work on a text, a scene a short drama or an illustrated book and they use their time to share their approaches to directing. Ten individuals who are used to making decisions are in one room, speak English without being native speakers and organize their work for the week. It speaks for itself that this situation creates interesting group dynamics.

Lively discussions about the different social and political situations everyone deals with in their home countries add to the program of theatre shows (often a first encounter with the German theatre landscape) and exploring the hosting city. These weeks create an atmosphere where it is natural that people from different countries that might be rivals in everyday politics, i.e. Iran and Israel, meet and talk in peace.

The selection of the seminar's topics is based on the idea of universal questions that are of interest to directors from all over the world. The seminars of the past few years have covered a broad array of topic areas from "Death and Farewell" to "Fairy Tales," "Family" and "Migration" to "Heimat (Home)" and "Progress."

[Read more.](#)



Director Seminar 2011
