

Paul Green Foundation

NEWS – August 2016



New Staging of *Outlander*

In 2012, the Foundation awarded the \$4000 Playwrights Fellowship grant to Parkway Playhouse in Burnsville, North Carolina, for the full production premiere of Gary Carden's *Outlander*.



We're happy to announce that on July 31st 2016 the play was performed again – this time as a Readers Theatre by the Autumn Players of Asheville Community Theatre as part of an OLLI program for over 250 people.

Here is playwright Gary Carden with Marianne Lyons as she presents him with a bottle wine and a royalty check!

Outlander is the story of **Horace Sowers Kephart**, an American travel writer and librarian, best known as the author of *Our Southern Highlanders*, about his life in western North Carolina. Kephart is considered one of the “fathers” of the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Sometime around 1904, Kephart left his career in the north with this motivation: *"I took a topographic map and picked out on it, by means of the contour lines and the blank space showing no settlement, what seemed to be the wildest part of these regions; and there I went."*



INSTITUTE OF OUTDOOR THEATRE

The Institute of Outdoor Theatre has announced that it will move from its current home at East Carolina University to become part of the **Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC)** on July 1, 2017. According to Michael Hardy, the IOT's Director, negotiations about this move have been underway for a year. “There were two overriding factors driving these discussions,” Hardy said, “the continuing cuts to the university budget and negative scrutiny of non-academic units on the one hand, and the positive history of cooperation and programmatic compatibility with SETC on the other.”

SETC, based in Greensboro, North Carolina, was founded 13 years before the IOT in 1950, and several of the Institute's leaders are Past Presidents of SETC (*viz.*, Mark Sumner, David Weiss, and Scott Parker). It is an independent not-for-profit organization, financially healthy, with a professional staff and a large engaged membership. That membership was originally centered in the Southeastern United States but now stretches across the country. SETC has an extensive conference and audition program each spring that many IOT members already take part in.



The plans call for the continuation of the Institute's identity, website and programs even as it is integrated into the staff structure of SETC. In addition, the Institute's feasibility and consulting activities will be integrated and expanded to include both outdoor and indoor theatres. “Our hope and expectation is that this move will bring new energy and ideas to both partners as well as ensuring the continuity of a great resource for North Carolina and our extended family of outdoor theatres around the world,” said Hardy.

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