



I'm honored to serve all of you as the new chair of the Midwest Section! Below you'll see a fantastic array of programming for all skill levels and interests that has been assembled through months of meetings and input sessions. If there is any programming you're interested in that you don't see on this list, please drop me a line at rretartha@nd.edu. Also, please share this document with your friends and colleagues and direct them to the USITT Midwest webpage (midwest.usitt.org) Facebook ([Facebook.com/midwest.usitt.org](https://www.facebook.com/midwest.usitt.org)) and Instagram & Twitter feeds (@USITTMidwest). I'm looking forward to serving the section and hope to see you soon at one of these events!
 —Ryan Retartha, Chair USITT Midwest Regional Section

2018-2019

Founders Award nomination deadline is January 20, 2019. Submission of supporting material deadline is Feb. 10. Easy to nominate. See midwest.usitt.org for forms and details.	Additional event information/registration will be via email or our social media.
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NOTE: Some events are too far out to have exact times. Please continue to check Section website at midwest.usitt.org or Facebook.com

Events which include a performance: Please note that attending the performance is not required to attend the tour/talk. Ticket purchase is the responsibility of the participant. Ticket purchase information will be provided in future event announcements. Standard programming fee will apply.

PLEASE SHARE INFORMATION WITH COLLEAGUES AND STUDENTS All times are local. Please check for DST/CST.

EVENT	VENUE/ LOCATION	DATE	TIMES	HOST/ CONTACT	DESCRIPTION
2018 Student Digital Design Competition	Online Only	Entry Deadline: November, 4, 2018			Student designers may present a digital portfolio of their original work for a single design in one or both of the following: 1. Non-realized "paper" design-Students may choose from the 2018 (last year's)OR the 2019 (this year's) KCACTF Region 3 regional Design Project Allowed Play- whether the design had been entered in KCACTF or not 2. Realized design - Students may enter a design completed for a production at their school during the 2018 calendar year
Rigging	Northern IL Univ., DeKalb, IL	Sat., Sept. 8, 2018	8-5	Tracy Nunnally tracy@flyingfx.com Steve Jacobs stevejacobs.mrsusitt@gmail.com	Intensive day of rigging with Tracy Nunally (Vertigo) and Bil Sapsis (Sapsis Rigging, Inc.) as they cover basic safety inspections of rigging systems focusing on operation and maintenance as well as: • Human flying effects: How to begin planning for safe and effective performer flying • Basics of how to fly scenery • Importance of having an expert inspect your rigging system
Costuming, Lightng & Sound	Muskegon Com. College Muskegon, MI	Sat., Sept. 22, 2018	9-4 (approx)	James Allen James.Allen@muskegoncc.edu	Join us as Muskegon Comm. College presents various sessions throughout the day in: •Sewing/costume construction, •Wireless lighting (Nomad, Show Baby, etc.), •Intro to Lighting Design, •Ion Programming, • Vectorworks, •Intro to Sound
Overture Center/The Simon & Garfunkel Story	Overture Center Madison, WI	Sat., Nov. 3, 2018	10:30-12:30	Steve Carmody Steve.Carmody@etconnect.com	The Overture Center for the Arts is a stunning architectural landmark with a variety of spaces, including a classic theater, concert hall, thrust stage & several black boxes. Join us for a morning tour of these spaces and then return for a matinee performance of <i>The Simon & Garfunkel Story</i> featuring huge projection photos and original film footage and a full live band performing all the hits. A promo ticket code will be available for disconted tickets. Purchasing tickets early is highly recommended.
Ion Console Training	Morton HS, Hammond Acad. for Perf. Arts Hammond, IN	Sat., Nov. 10, 2018	9 - 5 (approx)	Melissa Brassard MDBrassard@hammond.k12.in.us	Beginners and intermediate users of the Eos family of consoles will benefit from learning and/or increasing their knowledge of all the features of this popular console family. Taught on the Ion Xe hardware. The Ion Xe is the new facepanel that is taking the place of the Ion. Still the same software that is on the Ion as well as other Eos family consoles.
Portfolio Review Sessions	East Leyden HS Franklin Park, IL	Sat., Dec. 1, 2018	TBA	Vic Pilolla vpilolla@leyden212.org	High School Design/Tech students will have an opportunity to learn how to put together a portfolio, how to interview for a college/job interview, do a mock interview and to present their current portfolio if they have one for constructive evaluation prior to presenting in an actual college/job interview situation.
Portfolio Review Sessions	Illinois St Univ. Bloomington-Normal, IL	Sun., Dec. 2, 2018	TBA	Jeremy Jenkins jajenki4@ilstu.edu	See description above
Projection Mapping Seminar	Hudsonville HS Hudsonville, MI	Sat., Dec. 8, 2018	10- 3	Rob Matthews rmatthe@hpseagles.net	Learn how to make your 3-dimensional scenery come alive through projected scenery. Join Alison Dobbins, Assoc. Prof. of Integrated Performance Media Design at Mich. State as she leads participants though use of Qlab software, hardware, and lighting and scenic integration.

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Miracle on 34th Street	Theatre at the Center Munster, IN	Sat., Dec. 8, 2018	Matinee Perf. Tour/talk time TBA	Melissa Brassard MDBrassard@hammond.k12.in.us Steve Jacobs stevejacobs.mrsusitt@gmail.com	Join us for a matinee performance of this classic, preceded or followed by a tour of the stage/theatre and talk with tech staff.
Health and Safety Programs for HS Theatre Programs	Univ. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Krannert Center	Jan. 11 or 12, 2019	TBA	Tom Korder korderconsulting@gmail.com	Thinking about setting up a health and safety program for your high school theatre program? Need a refresher on this important topic? Join Tom Korder, the retired Production Director/TD at the Krannert Center and owner of Korder Training & Consulting and an OSHA Authorized Trainer. His extensive knowledge in the field of health and safety will get you started in the right direction!
Alternate Careers with a Theatre Background	Univ. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Krannert Center	Fri., Jan. 11, 2019	Late morning, TBA	Marty Lazarus dimmerdoc@gmail.com	A panel of industry veterans will discuss how a background in Theatre can provide creative and fulfilling opportunities with "Alternate Careers" in Manufacturing, at Theatrical Dealerships, Universities, etc.
The Producers	Paramount Theater Aurora, IL	Friday, Mar. 1, 2019	Approx. 3:30-4	Vic Pilolla vpilolla@leyden212.org	Join us for a stage/theatre tour and talk with tech staff/artistic director prior to an 8 PM performance. The Paramount, a 1931 Art Deco theatre with 1,888 seats, remains nationally renowned for the quality and caliber of its presentations, historic beauty and superb acoustics.
USITT Midwest Annual Meeting	Louisville Convention Center, Louisville, KY	Thursday, March 21, 2019	8:00 AM - 9:15	Ryan Reartha Midwest Section Chair rrearth@nd.edu	This section meeting is the USITT Midwest Annual meeting. All Conference attendees living within the boundaries of our section are encouraged to attend, however, ONLY Section Members are permitted to vote on issues that require Membership approval.
Tech Day/ Creating an Emergency Action Plan for Your Venues	Oak Park & River Forest HS Oak Park, IL	Sat., April 6, 2019	TBA	Teslen Sadowski TSadowski@oprfs.org Steve Jacobs stevejacobs.mrsusitt@gmail.com	Ion Console: Beginners and intermediate users of the Eos family of consoles will benefit from learning and/or increasing their knowledge of all the features of this popular console family. Taught on the Ion Xe hardware. The Ion Xe is the new facepanel that is taking the place of the Ion. Still the same software that is on the Ion as well as other Eos family consoles. Audio: Plans are under way for an audio workshop of some type for the day Emergency Action Plans: Tom Korder presents an introduction to the steps of creating an "Emergency Action Plan for Your Venue" for staff/administrators
Mechanical Design Competition	Purdue University West Lafayette, IN	May 4	TBA	Rich Dionne rdionne@purdue.edu	This is a return of the Midwest Stage Machine Design Competition, sponsored in part by Creative Conners! Meet other students from the Midwest, have a great deal of fun, and show off your engineering skills by designing innovative machines to solve stage challenges with a team of peers from your school! Participants will receive an SMDC 2019 t-shirt and will be eligible for a number of awards, including full-conferences passes to the 2020 USITT Annual Conference and Stage Expo and engraved acrylic trophies for the best design. More information forthcoming, or contact Rich Dionne at rdionne@purdue.edu. Save the date!
West Side Story	Lyric Opera of Chicago Chicago, IL	Sat. June 1, 2019	Approx. 10:30	Marty Lazarus dimmerdoc@gmail.com	Join us for a backstage tour of this magnificent opera house and talk with tech staff before the 1:30 matinee of this classic musical.
In the planning stages for summer/fall of 2019	Dates and times will be announced as plans are finalized			A day of Theatre in Milwaukee including tours of theatres A performance and tour/tech talks at American Players Theatre, Spring Green, WI. Tour and conversation at Ravenswood Studios, fabricators of scenery and exhibits for opera, theater, museum, located in Lincolnwood, IL	

FESTIVALS AND SECTION SUPPORTED TECH OLYMPICS COMPETITIONS

Wisconsin High School Theatre Festival	Viterbo University LaCrosse, WI	November 15,16,17,2018 T.O. on Sat. 17th	Tech Olympics Contact: Ellen White ellen.white@etconnect.com
Michigan Thespian Festival	DeVos Center @ Amway Hotel Grand Rapids, MI	December 14, 15 2018 T.O. on Fri.14th	Tech Olympics Contact: Patrick Niemi patrick.niemi@wmich.edu
KCACTF Regional III Festival	Madison College Madison, WI	January 8th-13th, 2019 (T.O. will most likely be the 13th)	Tech Olympics Contact: Patrick Ham or Johan Godwaldt Patrick.Ham@icloud.com or Johan.godwaldt@bethelcollege.edu
Illinois High School Theatre Festival	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	January 10th-12th, 2019	Tech Olympics Contact: Kevin Nedburg knedberg09@gmail.com
Indiana Thespian Festival	Franklin Central High School	January 18, 19, 20, 2019	Tech Olympics Contact: TJ Missler or Chuck Reed timissler@gmail.com or creedfam@embarqmail.com