



The Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle announced the recipients of its 50th annual awards for distinguished achievement in theatre tonight at Pasadena Playhouse. **Wenzel Jones** presided over the festivities, and **Christopher Raymond** served as music director.

There were four recipients of the 2018 Production award: ***Cambodian Rock Band*** (South Coast Repertory), ***Come From Away*** (Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre), ***Cry It Out*** (Echo Theater Company), and ***Sell/Buy/Date*** (Geffen Playhouse/Los Angeles LGBT Center). Awards in 17 other categories celebrated a wide range of Los Angeles theater, with 17 different productions taking home honors. **Celebration Theatre's *Cabaret*** took home the most awards for a single production, with six, including a nod for Revival. **Antaeus Theatre Company** received the most awards, with three of its productions winning a combined seven trophies. In a competitive category, **Tom Hanks** received a lead actor award for his performance as Falstaff in The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles production of *Henry IV*.

In addition, the LADCC presented eight previously announced special awards, including the **Ted Schmitt award** for the world premiere of an outstanding new play to **Lauren Yee** for *Cambodian Rock Band*, the **Margaret Harford award** for sustained excellence in theater to **Sacred Fools Theater Company**, and the inaugural **Theater Angel award** for distinguished service to Los Angeles theater to **Yvonne Bell**.

The complete list of award recipients is as follows:

PRODUCTION

- ***Cambodian Rock Band***, produced by South Coast Repertory and Honorary Producers Carolyn and Bill Klein and Samuel and Tammy Tang, South Coast Repertory
- ***Come From Away***, produced by Junkyard Dog Productions, Jerry Frankel, Latitude Link, Smith & Brant Theatricals, Steve & Paula Reynolds, David Mirvish, Michael Rubinoff, Alhadeff Productions, Michael Alden & Nancy Nagel Gibbs, Sam Levy, Rodney Rigby, Spencer Ross, Richard Winkler, Yonge Street Theatricals, Sheridan College, Michael & Ellise Coit, Ronald Frankel, Sheri & Les Biller, Richard & Sherry Belkin, Marlene & Gary Cohen, Allan Detsky & Rena Mendelson, Lauren Doll, Barbara H. Freitag, Wendy Gillespie, Laura Little Theatricals, Carl & Jennifer Pasbjerg, Radio Mouse Entertainment, The Shubert Organization, Cynthia Stroum, Tulchin Bartner Productions, Gwen Arment/Molly Morris & Terry McNicholas, Maureen & Joel Benoliel/Marjorie & Ron Danz, Pamela Cooper/Corey Brunish, Demos Bizar/Square 1 Theatrics, Joshua Goodman/Lauren Stevens, Just for Laughs Theatricals/Judith Ann Abrams Productions, Bill & Linda Potter/Rosemary & Kenneth Willman and La Jolla Playhouse and Seattle Repertory Theatre, Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre
- ***Cry It Out***, produced by Chris Fields and Rachael Zambias/Echo Theater Company, Echo Theater Company at Atwater Village Theatre
- ***Sell/Buy/Date***, produced by Geffen Playhouse/Los Angeles LGBT Center's Lily Tomlin/Jane Wagner Cultural Arts Center, Andrew Carlberg, and Foment Productions, Geffen Playhouse/Los Angeles LGBT Center

MCCULLOH AWARD FOR REVIVAL (Shows between 1920 and 1980)

- ***Cabaret***, produced by Michael Matthews, Michael O'Hara, Jay Marcus, Mark Giberson, Alan Wethern, David Tran, Parnell Damone Marcano, Constance Jewell Lopez, Celebration Theatre
- ***Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead***, A Noise Within
- ***The Little Foxes***, Antaeus Theatre Company

LEAD PERFORMANCE

- **MaameYaa Boafo**, *School Girls; Or, the African Mean Girls Play*, Center Theatre Group/Kirk Douglas Theatre
- **Tom Hanks**, *Henry IV*, The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles
- **Kasey Mahaffy**, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, A Noise Within
- **Alex Nee**, *Cabaret*, Celebration Theatre

- **Conrad Ricamora**, *Soft Power*, Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre

FEATURED PERFORMANCE

- **Rob Nagle**, *The Little Foxes*, Antaeus Theatre Company
- **Daisuke Tsuji**, *Cambodian Rock Band*, South Coast Repertory

ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

- ***Come From Away***, Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre
- ***The Little Foxes***, Antaeus Theatre Company

SOLO PERFORMANCE

- **Sarah Jones**, *Sell/Buy/Date*, Geffen Playhouse / Los Angeles LGBT Center

WRITING

- **Sarah Jones**, *Sell/Buy/Date*, Geffen Playhouse / Los Angeles LGBT Center
- **Molly Smith Metzler**, *Cry It Out*, Echo Theater Company

WRITING ADAPTATION

- **Patrick Marber**, *Three Days in the Country*, Antaeus Theatre Company

MUSICAL SCORE

- **Irene Sankoff and David Hein**, *Come From Away*, Center Theatre Group/ Ahmanson Theatre

MUSICAL DIRECTION

- **Ian Eisendrath**, *Come From Away*, Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre
- **Anthony Zediker**, *Cabaret*, Celebration Theatre

CHOREOGRAPHY

- **Janet Roston**, *Cabaret*, Celebration Theatre

DIRECTION

- **Jennifer Chang**, *Vietgone*, East West Players
- **Geoff Elliott**, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, A Noise

Within

SET DESIGN

- **Stephen Gifford**, *Cabaret*, Celebration Theatre
- **John Iacovelli**, *The Little Foxes*, Antaeus Theatre Company

LIGHTING DESIGN

- **Matthew Brian Denman**, *Cabaret*, Celebration Theatre
- **Andrew Schmedake**, *Native Son*, Antaeus Theatre Company

COSTUME DESIGN

- **Allison Dillard**, *BLISS (or Emily Post is Dead!)*, Moving Arts at Atwater Village Theatre
- **Allison Dillard**, *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, Celebration Theatre

SOUND DESIGN

- **Jeff Gardner**, *Native Son*, Antaeus Theatre Company
- **Joshua D. Reid**, *A Christmas Carol*, Geffen Playhouse

CGI/PROJECTION

- **Kaitlyn Pietras and Jason H. Thompson**, *Vietgone*, East West Players

SPECIALTY

- **Thomas Isao Morinaka and Aaron Aoki for Fight Choreography**, *Vietgone*, East West Players
- **Jim Steinmeyer for Illusions, Stagecraft, and Magic Carpet**, *Aladdin*, Hollywood Pantages Theatre

The following special award winners were previously announced:

The THEATER ANGEL AWARD for distinguished service to Los Angeles Theater: **Yvonne Bell.**

The GORDON DAVIDSON Award for distinguished contribution to the Los Angeles theatrical community: **Native Voices at the Autry.**

The MARGARET HARFORD Award for sustained excellence: **Sacred Fools Theater Company.**

The POLLY WARFIELD Award for an excellent season in a small to mid-size theatre: **Echo Theater Company.**

The JOEL HIRSCHHORN Award for distinguished achievement in musical theatre: **McCoy Rigby Entertainment & La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.**

The TED SCHMITT Award for the world premiere of an outstanding new play: **Lauren Yee** for *Cambodian Rock Band*, originally produced by South Coast Repertory.

The MILTON KATSELAS Award for distinguished achievement in direction: **Cameron Watson.**

The KINETIC LIGHTING Award for distinguished achievement in theatrical design: **Robert Oriol**, Sound Designer.

The Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle was founded in 1969. It is dedicated to excellence in theatrical criticism, and to the encouragement and improvement of theatre in Greater Los Angeles. The 2018 membership consisted of:

Frances Baum Nicholson, Southern California News Group, Stage Struck Review

Paul Birchall, Stage Raw, Stage & Cinema

Katie Buenneke, LA Weekly, Stage Raw

Erin Conley, On Stage & Screen

Ellen Dostal, BroadwayWorld LA, Musicals in LA

Lovell Estell III, Stage Raw, Arts in LA

Shirle Gottlieb, Arts in LA, StageHappenings.com

Margaret Gray, Los Angeles Times

Hoyt Hilsman, Huffington Post

Harker Jones, Edge Media Network

Deborah Klugman, Stage Raw, LA Weekly, Capital & Main

Jenny Lower, Stage Raw

Dany Margolies, ArtsInLA.com, Southern California News Group

Myron Meisel, Stage Raw

Terry Morgan, Stage Raw, TalkinBroadway.com

Steven Leigh Morris, LA Stage Alliance

Melinda Schupmann, ShowMag.com, ArtsinLA.com

Jonas Schwartz-Owen, Theatermania.com, ArtsinLA.com

Don Shirley, LA Observed

Les Spindle, EDGE LA

Rob Stevens, haineshisway

Neal Weaver, Stage Raw, ArtsinLA.com