

aact News

Improving Communities
One Theatre at a Time

American Association of Community Theatre

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Media Contact: David Cockerell, david@aact.org

Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre to Receive National Theatre Award

Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre of Grand Forks, North Dakota is being honored with the **Special Recognition Award** from the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). The award will be presented at an awards ceremony during AACTFest 2015, the national community theatre festival, in Grand Rapids Michigan June 23-27, 2015.



The AACT Special Recognition Award is presented to persons or organizations whose contributions to community theatre are far reaching and of a special nature.

Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre does what other community theatres do, brings amateur theatre artists together to create live theatre for their community. However, the GGFCT goes a step above. For the last four years, the GGFCT has found ways to open dialogue with community members about issues that pertain to the Greater Grand Forks area. In 2012 the theatre employed a playwright to go into the seventh and eighth grade English classes at the Grand Forks Air Force Base and engage students in writing material that became a play, *Deployed*, about their parents' deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. Other projects have involved a monologue writing workshop for girls and women ages 9 - 55, and having girls ages 11 - 17 interview women over the age of 70 about their lives. The stories, snippets of history, were performed multiple times for various groups in the area. In addition to a regular season including shows specifically chosen to encourage discussions of topical issues, GGFCT is also creating new theatre woven from the very fabric of their community.

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The American Association of Community Theatre (AACT) provides networking, resources, and support to suit the needs of those involved in community theatre. AACT represents the interests of more than 7,000 theatres across the United States and its territories, as well as theatre companies with the armed services overseas.