



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 11, 2011

## MCFTA Announces 2010-2011 Center Stage Theatre Award Winners

MIDLAND - On Wednesday, June 29, 2011, Midland Center for the Arts' Center Stage Theatre celebrated another exciting season and honored their volunteer performers and crew with a festive awards banquet. Winners were selected by audiences, award panelists and volunteers.

Florence Slagh Curtain Call Award for Best Performance in a Leading Role in a Drama/Comedy:

- **Susie Polito** of Midland as Faye in *The Sugar Bean Sisters*

Mahlon E. Sharp Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama/Comedy:

- **R. Jeanne Gilbert** of Bay City as Willie Mae in *The Sugar Bean Sisters*

Excellent Performance in a Lead Role, Musical:

- **Kevin Kendrick** of Midland as Horse in *The Full Monty*

Excellent Performance in a Supporting Role, Musical:

- **Denyse Clayton** of Midland as Jeanette in *The Full Monty*

Excellent Performance in an Ensemble Role, Musical:

- **Heidi Bethune** of Midland in *The Sound of Music*
- **Josh Reames** of Freeland in *The Full Monty*
- **Paul Viele** of Vassar in *The Full Monty*

Most Dedicated Volunteers:

- **Jim Ely** of Midland for *Escanaba in Love* for stepping into the role of Alphonse
- **Peter Brooks** of Midland for *Our Town* for the multitude of lines required of the role of "Stage Manager"
- **True Rogers** of Midland for *The Sound of Music* for learning to play the guitar in just 10 weeks
- **Sonja Roden** of Midland for *Drop Dead* for filling the role of Mona Monet when an actress became ill
- **Susan Hearn** of Midland for *The Full Monty* for being a director unafraid to think outside the box and encouraging the cast and audience to do the same
- **Bailey Banks** of Auburn for *The Sugar Bean Sisters* for the enthusiasm and eagerness she brought to being part of the Center Stage Theatre family

Jo Harrigan Career Award for Dedication to Center Stage Theatre:

- **Kay Collison** of Midland

Caparon Award for Technical Excellence:

- **Susie Polito** of Midland

The Wee Kinderspiel Award:

- **Bill Heeschen** of Midland was honored in recognition of his dedication and outstanding contribution to children's theatre

Peanut Gallery Scholarships:

- **Nils Klykken**, son of Paal and Chris Klykken of Midland
- **Parker Bradford**, son of Mark and Karen Bradford of Bay City
- **Courtney Froelicher**, daughter of Stephen and Kellie Froelicher of Midland

Center Stage Theatre is one of the most successful and exciting community theatre companies in the Midwest. Center Stage Theatre continues to present high quality plays, musical theatre, children's theatre, and programs of community service, theatre classes and workshops in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at [www.mcfta.org](http://www.mcfta.org).

Contact:  
Julie Dukes  
Communications Manager  
(989) 631-5930 x 1602  
dukes@mcfta.org

# # #

Midland Center for the Arts • 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd. • Midland, MI 48640 • (989) 631-5930 • (989) 631-7890 fax • [www.mcfta.org](http://www.mcfta.org)