



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 28, 2013

**CONTACT:** Renee Roub

[renee@gregoryawards.org](mailto:renee@gregoryawards.org) (206) 499 1678/ (206) 770 0370 x110

**Websites:**

[gregoryawards.org/2013](http://gregoryawards.org/2013)

[artscrush.org](http://artscrush.org)

[tsponline.org](http://tsponline.org)

**Announcing the  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gregory Awards  
New Categories and New Location!**

***New Musical theatre categories added  
And the awards celebration will be held at  
The Neptune October 28, 2013***

**Seattle, WA** – Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) is proud to announce the 5th Annual Gregory Awards at The Neptune on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 7:30pm. This highly anticipated awards ceremony is a who's who of the Seattle theater scene. As in years past, it occurs at the end of the month-long October **Arts Crush** Festival.

This year, the additions of Outstanding Musical Production, Outstanding Actor in a musical and Outstanding Actress in a musical will bring our total to 18 award categories. (Full list of categories included at the end of this document)

Tickets to the awards ceremony will be on sale through the internal ticket sales site:

**GREGORYAWARDS.ORG/2013 ON SALE May 1, 2013!**

In the 2012-2013 season, organizations submitted their shows for Gregory Award consideration. These shows must be produced and rehearsed primarily in the Greater Seattle Metropolitan area; performed a minimum of 3 weekends OR 12 performances; hold an opening night within the season schedule (August 1st – July 31); and not be a staged reading, youth/educational/student performance, or short play festival. A minimum of 8 nominators were assigned to see and review each submitted production, ranking each on a scale of 1-100. (The scoring rubric was created with the help and inspiration of the Barrymore Awards in Philadelphia.)

The Gregory Awards are an opportunity to celebrate theatre in our region, honor the outstanding achievements of local artists, and raise the visibility of the local theatre scene as a whole. These

efforts are working to uphold the mission of the Gregory Awards and to give each eligible production an equal voice in the nominating process. For more information on the process visit <http://gregoryawards.org/about/eligibility/overall>

**About The Voting Process:** Once the nominees are announced, the public has a chance to add a nominee of the "People's Choice" in certain categories. This ballot will be available on [gregoryawards.org](http://gregoryawards.org).

This first phase of voting will be for the *People's Choice* selection in these categories: Outstanding Actor, Outstanding Actor in a Musical, Outstanding Actress, Outstanding Actress in a Musical, Outstanding Supporting Actor, Outstanding Supporting Actress, Outstanding Production, Outstanding Musical Production, Outstanding Direction, and Theatre of the Year.

- Gregory Award nominees will be announced the week of August 12-16, 2013.
- **People's Choice** ballots will be available **Friday, August 16, 2013** and will remain open for submission until **Tuesday, September 4, 2013**.
- On **Monday, September 9, 2012** the final nominees will be announced and all TPS members will be sent a final unique link to their official 2012 Gregory Awards ballot. All TPS members will have until the end of day on **Friday, September 27, 2013** to complete their ballot.

**About The Melissa Hines Award:** The Gregory Awards will continue to include the Melissa Hines Award for Outstanding Theatre Practitioner! A "behind the scenes" worker will be honored for their involvement with theatre in the region over the last year. Named after Melissa Hines, in memoriam, Melissa Hines was the stalwart managing director of the Empty Space Theatre, participated on arts boards, and directed cultural activities in Seattle. This category is intended to honor those dedicated individuals who make theater possible, enabling artists to do their art, but who often are not recognized by curtain calls, reviews or awards. This category may include production crew and stage management, volunteers, administrators, board members, donors or patrons.

To nominate someone you know for this category, please submit 200 words or less to [melissahinesaward@gregoryawards.org](mailto:melissahinesaward@gregoryawards.org) by August 1, 2013.

**The 2013 Award Categories open for nomination are:**

Outstanding Actor  
Outstanding Actress  
Outstanding Actor in a Musical  
Outstanding Actress in a Musical  
Outstanding Supporting Actor  
Outstanding Supporting Actress  
Outstanding Director  
Outstanding Production  
Outstanding Musical Production  
Outstanding Costume Designer  
Outstanding Lighting Designer  
Outstanding Music, Sound Designer  
Outstanding Scenic Designer  
Outstanding Playwright  
Theater of the Year  
The Gregory A Falls Sustained Achievement Award  
The Melissa Hines Award

### **About The Gregory Awards**

The Gregory Awards is a Theatre Puget Sound program that celebrates the achievements of the Washington State theatre community. The program and ceremony are an opportunity to celebrate theatre, honor the outstanding achievements of local artists, and to raise the visibility of the local theatre scene as a whole. Opening up nominations to the TPS membership and the general public ensures that the final list of nominees on the ballot is truly reflective of the outstanding work taking place throughout the region. The Gregory Awards began in 1998 as the Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement Award. Over the following 11 years, it honored individuals who spent much of their careers strengthening theatre in our region. In 2009, while continuing this tradition, six, and now ten, annual categories have been incorporated into the awards program.

The Gregory Awards are named in honor of Gregory A. Falls (1922- 1997), a former chair of the UW School of Drama, who is often credited with creating Seattle's vibrant theater scene. Falls left the UW in 1971 to devote more time at ACT Theatre, though he stayed on as a part-time UW faculty member until 1976. He served as president of the National Theater Conference and Washington Association of Theater Artists. In 1994 Falls was inducted into the prestigious College of Fellows of the American Theatre.

### **About ARTS CRUSH**

ARTS CRUSH is a month-long festival connecting artists and audiences with invigorating new experiences at hundreds of events across the Puget Sound region. It reaches people in unique ways; through hands-on participation, once-a-year glimpses behind the scenes, surprise arts experiences in unexpected places, and more. In addition, **ARTS CRUSH** extends an open invitation to sample the abundance of arts and culture in our region by offering free or discounted admission to more traditional arts experiences. The goals of **ARTS CRUSH** are to:

- Engage community
- Create access
- Inspire creativity
- Build arts participation

**ARTS CRUSH** is made possible by generous support from Amazon.com, Washington State Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, and 4Culture. The **ARTS CRUSH** Kick-Off Fair is co-sponsored by Seattle Center.

### **About Theatre Puget Sound**

Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) is a leadership and service organization founded in 1997 to advocate for the region's growing theatre community's causes and administer much-needed services. TPS is now one of the Northwest's leading arts advocacy and leadership organizations, providing programming and services that benefit both the theatre community and the larger regional arts community. TPS has a two-fold mission: To promote the spiritual and economic necessity of theatre to the public, and to unify and strengthen the theatre community through programs, resources, and services. TPS membership includes more than 1,700 individual artists and 140 performing arts organizations. Furthermore, their Space for the Arts program, Arts Crush and educational programming serves more than 200 non-theatre arts organizations and innumerable individual artists annually. In addition to **ARTS CRUSH**, TPS sponsors workshops and seminars, regional auditions, manages affordable rehearsal and performance space in the Seattle Center House, produces the annual Gregory Awards, and coordinates and promotes other events which strengthen and celebrate our local community.

###