The 2004–2005 fiscal year found the Educational Theatre Association continuing to prosper and thrive. Our membership levels have reached historic highs. Our programming is constantly being refined to serve professionals and students in the educational theatre field. Our publications add to the body of work written for theatre educators and students. In short, EdTA serves to define and build the future of theatre education.

Our Association has evolved to meet the needs of the educational theatre field. During the past year, many of our members have said that they now feel that they have a professional association that speaks for them. This has not always been the case, as EdTA was seen primarily as a student organization. While our roots are firmly planted in our founding as the National Thespian Society, today we improve the environment of educational theatre and serve students by strengthening professionals.

The EdTA Board has created vision and mission statements to clarify a strategy to guide the Association in the future. When a principal or teacher says “theatre educator,” EdTA should immediately come to their minds.

As you will see throughout this report, we made great strides in accomplishing the Association’s mission last year. We cannot stop and rest on these successes. If EdTA is to fulfill its vision to be “the pre-eminent professional association for theatre arts education as a core component of lifelong learning” then we need your help, your support, and your feedback. YOU are why we are here and together we can build the future for theatre education.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Peitz
Executive Director

Gail Burns
President, Board of Trustees

WITH SINCERE THANKS

EdTA wishes to show its deepest appreciation for the generous support of those individuals and corporations who made donations between August 1, 2004 and July 31, 2005. These gifts have helped to support EdTA’s programming and our mission to make theatre education an integral part of lifelong learning:

Michelle A. Berg
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Additional appreciation goes to Mr. Joe Burnsworth for funding the International Thespian Society Leadership Grant and to Mr. Robert “Bob” Johnson and Mr. Hector Cruz for funding the Robert L. Johnson/Hector S. Cruz Scholarship.

And we would like to take one last opportunity to thank those companies whose support of the International Thespian cast production of Ragtime School Edition made the closing of the Association’s 75th anniversary memorable: Procter & Gamble Productions, Music Theatre International, Norcostco-Atlanta Costume, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, and Apollo Design Technologies.
The Association continued to experience growth within its membership.
- 517 professional members (up from 515 members last year)
- 26 college theatre education students joined our pre-professional membership group launched last year
- 3,370 Thespian troupes (an increase of 87 troupes from last year)
- 331 junior Thespian troupes (an increase of 7 troupes from the previous year)

In 2004–2005, EdTA’s educational events served more of our members than ever before.
- The year saw the re-introduction of our Professional Development Institutes, held in conjunction with other educational events
- Two junior Theatre Festivals, held in Selbyville, Delaware and Haltom City, Texas, were attended by 525 middle school/junior high students and educators
- Beverly Hills, California played host to the 2005 Middle School Theatre Forum and to 87 educators in attendance
- The 2005 International Thespian Festival again broke an attendance record with 2,392 attendees witnessing the final ceremonies of the Association’s 75th anniversary and the International Thespian cast production of *Ragtime School Edition*

Our publications department produced educational resources for our members through our periodicals *Dramatics* magazine, *Teaching Theatre* journal, and the *Senior Theatre Bulletin*.
- *Dramatics* magazine published nine issues with more than 492 pages of material that was highlighted by:
  - A special twelve-page section in the September 2004 issue commemorating the Association’s 75th anniversary
  - Practical articles about auditions, breathing and voice, character analysis, learning lines, professional behavior, and voiceover work
  - Career-oriented articles with working professionals about costuming and technical directing
  - The largest December College Theatre Directory ever
  - Eight previously unpublished plays, including Jim Leonard Jr.’s *Anatomy of Gray* and four student-written scripts from the Thespian Playworks program
- The quarterly journal for theatre educators, *Teaching Theatre*, published more than 120 pages of articles that included:
  - An overview of the Meisner technique written by David Mott, director of theatre at Interlochen Center for the Arts
  - An interview with Eric Booth, one of the foremost arts advocates
  - Articles on teaching aesthetics in school theatre programs, rigging safety, and script analysis
  - An overview on the Arts Education Partnership’s new professional development model, Critical Links, by co-creator Cheryl Ostrom
- Two issues of the *Senior Theatre Bulletin* featured:
  - An interview with Hollywood icon, Mickey Rooney
  - An interview with soap opera actor Don Hastings from *As The World Turns*
  - An excerpt from the original short-play *Family Tree*, written for the Senior Theatre Playwriting Competition by Emily Dendinger.

In 2004–2005, EdTA and our affiliated chapters awarded $135,525 in scholarships to 192 individuals. Scholarships distributed included:
- Chapter scholarships totaling $97,925
- EdTA funding of $16,500 to match chapter scholarships
- EdTA scholarships of $14,800 awarded at the 2005 International Thespian Festival
- The Melba Day Henning Scholarship of $4,500
- An inaugural award of $2,000 from the Robert L. Johnson/Hector S. Cruz Scholarship
- Additional Association awards presented in 2004–2005 to recognize work and achievements within the field of theatre and theatre education included:
  - The 2005 Administrator’s Award presented to Ron Peterson, principal of Chaparral High School in Parker, Colorado
  - The induction of Beverly Moerbe of Texas, Phillip Moss of Michigan, William Myatt of Iowa, Mary Schuttler of Colorado, and Linda Webb of Kansas into the 2005 EdTA Hall of Fame
  - Procter & Gamble Productions received the 2005 EdTA Standing Ovation Award for their support of educational theatre by being a co-sponsor of *Ragtime School Edition*
  - James Palmirini, editor of *Teaching Theatre* journal and long-time EdTA employee, received the 2005 Founders’ Award
  - The 2005 President’s Award was presented to past, present, and future International Thespian Officers
As the professional association for theatre education, we continued to advance the cause of educational theatre.

- EdTA accepted an invitation to join the Entertainment Services and Technology Association’s (ESTA) Foundation Board to help develop technical theatre standards and educational resources
- EdTA launched the community-service program Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat (TOTS-EAT) nationally in 2004. TOTS-EAT featured 253 participating troupes from 36 states raising more than 210,000 pounds of food for local food pantry programs.
- EdTA served on the steering committee of the Alliance for Curricular Reform (ACR) and helped plan three national forums on the implementation of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and on the development of challenging, comprehensive, and collaborative curricula

Operating revenues
In FY 2005, the Association achieved total revenues of $3,067,213, which was $210,009 or 7.4% higher than budgeted. Compared to FY 2004, this was an increase of $31,185 or 1.0%.

Operating expenses
In FY 2005, total expenses increased by $48,827 or 1.8% to $2,823,627 compared to the prior fiscal year. (Total annual operating expenses were $60,811, or 2.1% lower than the budgeted amount of $2,884,438.)

Operating gain
EdTA's operating gain, which excludes depreciation expense, was $243,586 for FY 2005. In the prior year, the Association reported an operating gain of $261,200. Depreciation is a non-cash expense that identifies proportional replacement cost for structure, equipment, and other assets.

Unrestricted investment funds
Due to the improving market conditions, the Association’s portfolio realized a gain of $244,637 in FY 2005 to $2,395,617.
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