



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Register for the People's Choice Award Nominee Here: <http://www.seattleperforms.com/>

3rd Annual Gregory Awards & 2011 Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement Award Presented During ARTS CRUSH Festival.

Nomination Process Begins August 1, 2011. Awards Ceremony at ACT Theatre, October 17, 2011.

Seattle, WA – Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) is proud to announce the 3rd Annual Gregory Awards which will be held at A Contemporary Theatre (ACT) on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 7:30pm. This highly anticipated awards ceremony acknowledging achievement in the theatre arts is a who's who of the Seattle theater scene and, as in years past, it occurs during the month-long October Arts Crush Festival. The coveted Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement award is also presented at this ceremony.

The 2011 Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement award recipient is determined by a committee of previous award recipients as well as Gregory A. Falls widow, Jean Falls. The 2011 recipient will be announced on or before September 8, 2011 and will receive the award at the ceremony on October 17, 2011.

The Gregory Awards program continues to grow and thrive in this vibrant thriving arts community. In addition to the Gregory A. Falls Sustained Achievement award there are now ten additional award categories:

Outstanding Actor	Theater of the Year	Outstanding Music & Sound
Outstanding Actress	Outstanding Costume Designer	Designer
Outstanding Director	Outstanding Lighting Designer	Outstanding Scenic Designer
Outstanding Production		Outstanding Playwright

Any Washington State resident is eligible to nominate one candidate in each of the ten categories. To submit a nomination, simply sign up for the Seattle Performs monthly e-newsletter before July 31, 2011 at www.seattleperforms.com. Then, between August 1 and September 1, 2011, all registered voters, along with the 1600 TPS members write in their nominations through a unique web link and online form. The candidate who receives the most votes by non-TPS members (in each category) appears on the final ballot as the People's Choice nominee. The 5 other nominees in each category are selected by the nominating committee and the 1600 person TPS membership.

All six nominees in each of the ten categories (60 nominees total) will be announced on Wednesday September 10, 2011. From September 10 – September 30, 2011 the 1600 person TPS membership continues the online voting process to determine the one winner in each category.

Tickets to the awards ceremony will be on sale to the general public through the ACT box office by September 2011. TPS has received generous support for this event from ACT and a consortium of other theatres.

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 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 the Northwest's premiere arts advocacy and leadership organization. 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 serves more than 1,700 theatre practitioners and 130 organizations within our region. 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.

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. Spotlighting a different discipline each week, the festival features opportunities to participate in theatre, music, literature, dance, visual arts and more. It reaches people in unique ways; through hands-on participation, once-a-year glimpses behind the scenes, and surprise arts experiences in unexpected places. In addition, ARTS CRUSH extends an open invitation to sample the abundance of arts and culture in our region by adopting creative pay-what-you will or discounted fee structures for traditional arts experiences. The ARTS CRUSH goals are to:

- Engage community
- Create access
- Inspire creativity
- Build audiences

ARTS CRUSH is made possible by generous support from Amazon.com, Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau, Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, and 4Culture. The ARTS CRUSH Kick-Off Fair is co-sponsored by Seattle Center.

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