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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Artesia Resident to Receive National Theatre Award

Eugene Irby of Artesia, New Mexico is being honored with the David C. Bryant Outstanding Service Award by the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). The award will be presented at an awards ceremony during the AACTFest 2019 National Theatre Festival in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, June 18-22, 2019.

The AACT David C. Bryant Outstanding Service Award recognizes members of AACT for significant, valuable, and lasting service to community theatre. Visit aact.org/awards for information on all AACT National Awards, 2019 AACT Award winners, and previous honorees.

Eugene has been a part of the Artesia Community Theater since the early 1990’s. He feels that theater is the heart of a community and he has held just about every position in the organization. Eugene encouraged Artesia Community Theater to attend the state theater festival. Artesia then associated with the state organization and even took on the challenge to compete in a festival. Appreciating his dedication to the community theatres in New Mexico, Eugene was asked to run for an office with the state organization. Little did he know that this would start his journey with Theater New Mexico and subsequently AACT. He helped perpetuate the idea that youth should have a presence at not only a local level, but at state and national community theatre forums. One of Eugene’s best memories of being with AACT is being a Regional Representative. He had the opportunity to visit with many different community theatres and help strengthen, encourage, and help guide states in a positive direction. Eugene is a champion for community theatre; he exhibits love, passion, and dedication that are the heart and core of community theatre.

AACT provides networking, resources, and support for America’s theatres. AACT represents the interests of more than 7,000 theatres across the United States and its territories, as well as theatre companies with the U.S. Military Services overseas.

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