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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact: David Cockerell: david@aact.org, 817-732-3177

Averill Park Resident to Receive National Theatre Award

Valerie Kavanaugh of Averill Park, New York is being honored with the Special Recognition Award by the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). AACT National Awards will be presented at an awards ceremony during the AACTFest 2019 National Theatre Festival in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, June 18–22, 2019.

The AACT Special Recognition Award is presented to persons or organizations whose contributions to community theatre are far reaching and of a special nature. Visit aact.org/awards for information on all AACT National Awards, 2019 AACT Award winners, and previous honorees.

Valerie has been an active member of Circle Theatre Players (CTP) for sixteen years, developing programs at Sand Lake Center for the Arts (SLCA) and the community. She developed her knowledge and passion while teaching high school English and Drama for 32 years and directing high school plays. After “retiring” she taught theater classes at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, New York. At CTP, Val co-directed seven major drama and musical productions, produced CTP’s three bi-annual Original One Act Play Festivals, and directed shows within the festival. In 2002, she developed a youth drama program, Kids for Kids, and has directed thirteen summer workshops. She conceived and developed Matinee Theatre Players for Sand Lake Center for the Arts combining seasoned players as well as beginners in a workshop setting. Val created a theatre a program for mentally and physical impaired adults, some verbal and some non-verbal, and developed unique methods to enable them to memorize and perform. Her love and enthusiasm for all things theatrical are contagious and she has shared that love with all ages, from young children to senior citizens.

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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