Tacoma Resident to Receive National Theatre Award

Chris Serface of Tacoma, Washington is being honored with the Shining Star 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 Shining Star award recognizes an individual AACT Member who has had a significant impact on the advancement of AACT and its mission through leadership and service on a national level. This new award is open to all ages and years of service, and younger participants. Visit aact.org/awards for information on all AACT National Awards, 2019 AACT Award winners, and previous honorees.

Chris has been the Managing Artistic Director of Tacoma Little Theatre (TLT) since 2013. Seven years ago, TLT was in a difficult situation. They lost their Managing Artistic Director, were in heavy financial debt, had inconsistent day-to-day operations, a struggling community image, and a directionless Board of Directors. In Serface’s five years with TLT, he has paid off debts and regained financial control. He has rebranded TLT and helped to find its niche in Tacoma’s large performing arts community as well as increased public awareness by collaborating with other community programs to boost TLT’s image. TLT now operates in the black and has much to celebrate on its 100th birthday season! He currently sits on the boards of the Washington State Community Theatre Association and AACT. Chris has served AACT as Chair of the AACTFest Workshop committee for five national festivals, Vice President of Strategic Planning and Development, and as an AACT Festival Commissioner.

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.

###