

ALAP NEWS FLASH - JANUARY 2008

The Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights/ 7510 Sunset Bl #1050/ LA 90046-3418
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ANNUAL MEETING & 12TH NITE PARTY!

Can ya believe it's almost 2008 already?!? Well, it is. And you know what that means...

It's time for a party!

The 2008 ALAP Annual Meeting will begin at 7:30 PM on January 7 at the Stella Adler Theatre – the 11th year in a row the Stella has hosted us! We'll talk about our plans for the coming year, and also – for those of you who haven't yet taken advantage of the new website – provide a brief “primer” on how to get started.

When the business part of the evening is over – and we always try to keep that part brief! – we'll adjourn to the Stella's famous Speakeasy for dessert and champagne!

This event is always a lot of fun, and provides a great opportunity to meet and socialize with your fellow members in a relaxed setting. Why not join us? Send in your RSVP today!

WHEN: Monday, January 7, 2008
7:30 PM Meeting, followed by the 12th Nite Party

WHERE: Stella Adler Theatre, 6773 Hollywood Blvd (just east of Highland), 2nd Floor
Park at Hollywood & Highland, validate ticket at Stella's Front Desk: 4 hrs for \$2!

Admission is FREE, but YOU MUST MAKE A RESERVATION! To reserve, email events@laplaywrights.org or call the HotLine at 323-957-4752, and leave your name, phone #, and number in your party.

ALAP'S NEW POLICY ON SUBMISSION FEES

As you know, for some time ALAP has indicated its disapproval of submission fees, but has continued to post opportunities requiring them on a case-by-case basis.

At a recent meeting of the Co-Chairs and Vice Chairs, however, there was general agreement that a blanket policy of refusing to acquiesce to fees was more in line with ALAP's mission. Consequently, ALAP will no longer publicize to our members any submission opportunities which call for a fee to be paid by the playwright.

When we are notified of such opportunities, we will contact the theatres involved, explain our position (see statement below), and ask them to drop their submission fee. If they agree to do so, we will then pass the submission information on to you.

We hope you will support this position, and will refuse to pay for the “privilege” of submitting your work to theatres and contests which could not exist without it.

STATEMENT TO THEATRES/CONTESTS REQUIRING FEES

ALAP is opposed to submission fees, and will not publicize to our members any submission opportunities which require them.

We believe running a theatre is a business, and such a business should not require writers – the creators of the work which makes theatre possible – to subsidize it. We are especially opposed to charging writers to participate when other major participants such as actors, directors, and designers, are not required to pay to play.

Since professional writers do not pay to have their work read, you should be aware that charging a fee will dramatically lower the number of quality plays you will receive.

If your submission policy changes, please feel free to contact us again.

AND ONE MORE THING...

ALAP suggests that if you wish to support a theatre company, you make a donation. Please do not waive your royalties, however, as that sets a bad precedent for subsequent playwrights, who may feel pressure to waive their royalties as well.

And when your play is produced, and you're asked to submit a bio for the program, we urge you to include the sentence: "The author is a member of The Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights (ALAP)."

NEW WORKS LAB UPDATE

Because of the holidays, the December Lab reading will be held in January, and will be hosted by *John Frank's* Black Box Theatre; the February Lab will be hosted by Moving Arts and *Trey Nichols*.

The submission deadline for the April Lab is February 15. Send your full-length or 30+ page one-act to Vice Chair *Isabel Storey*, Lab Coordinator, at the ALAP address. Since the purpose of the Lab is to aid in the development of new work, previously read or produced plays should be submitted only if they have been significantly rewritten. The Labs are not open to the public, but a limited number of spaces are available for ALAP members. Write Isabel at IsabelS@laplaywrights.org if you'd like to attend.

For submission guidelines, and more info on the Lab, visit the ALAP website.

NewsFLASHes

UPCOMING: JAN 4 – 20: *Michael Sadler's Don't Ask, Don't Tell*, ShowOff! Playwriting Fest, Camino Real Playhouse, 31776 Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, 949-489-8082... JAN 11 – 26: *Peter Colley's I'll Be Back Before Midnight*, The Guild Hall, 364 Rogers St, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, 705-745-4211... JAN 15: *Dylan Brody's Thinking Allowed*, The IMPROV, 8162 Melrose Av, LA, 323-651-2583... JAN 18 – FEB 23: *Art Shulman's The \$4 Million Giveaway*, Lonny Chapman Group Repertory Theatre, 10900 Burbank Bl, NoHo, 818-700-GURU... JAN 19 – MAR 2: *Dee Jae Cox's Prove It On Me*, Stella Adler Theatre, 6773 Hollywood Bl, LA, 323-960-7721... JAN 25: *Diane Grant's All About Harold* (Benefit Reading, all proceeds to Fisher House, Brentwood), American Legion, 15247 La Cruz Dr, Pacific Palisades, 310-440-8400... FEB 8 – MAR 16: *Art Shulman's The Rabbi & the Shiksa*, Secret Rose Theatre, 11246 Magnolia Bl, NoHo, 818-623-4291...

CONGRATS: To *Johnna Adams*, whose *Cockfighters Trilogy* was read at Bootleg Theater in Nov... *Judith Allen*, who was chosen "Playwright of the Month" and whose *Irma* was read at Bethel Theatre Encino in Nov... *Nance Crawford*, whose *Love & The Grim Reaper* was read at Group Repertory Theatre in Dec... *Jon Dorf*, whose *High School (non) Musical* was produced at the Springfield Academy of Arts and Academics in Nov and will be published by Playscripts in 2008... *EM Lewis*, whose *HEADS* produced at the Blank was on the *Los Angeles Times* "Best of 2007" list... *Maria Menozzi*, whose *The Husband Audition* and *Secretaries' Day* were read at The Little Victory Theater in Nov... *Catherine Pelonero*, whose *Realities* was a finalist for the 2008 Outworks Festival at Louisiana State U... *Trey Nichols*, whose *A Lesson in Proper Bow-Fluffing Technique* was done at Santa Monica Playhouse in Dec... *C. J. Ver Burg*, whose *Tastebudz* (book and lyrics) was read at Academy for New Musical Theatre in Dec...

SEND US YOUR NEWS! *NewsFlash* is for *you!* If you have news – an opening, a reading, a grant, an assignment! – send it to us at the ALAP address or e-mail to newsflash@laplaywrights.org. Deadline for the next issue is February 21.

EMAILS TO REMEMBER

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ALAP is a project of Community Partners

ALAP's newsletters are primarily available on its website, but a few times per year, we will send a hard copy to everyone on our mailing list. If you'd like to receive a hard copy of every newsletter, you need to specify that to us.