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INDUSTRY NEWS

Check Out SDC's 10 'Standout Moments' for Diversity and Inclusion in 2018

BY OLIVIA CLEMENT
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Cast (MCC Theater)

The Stage Directors and Choreographers Society names notable moments both onstage and off from July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018.



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The Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) has announced its annual selection of “Standout Moments” for diversity and inclusion in the American theatre. Since 2016, the union has publicly recognized the important contributions made by directors and choreographers to create a more inclusive and diverse theatre landscape.

The latest Standout Moments cover the period July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. Check them out below.

Indiana Repertory Theatre and Syracuse Stage’s fall 2017 production of Simon Stephens’ ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***, directed by Risa Brainin, for the first professional casting of Mickey Rowe, an actor with Autism Spectrum Disorder, in the lead role of Christopher.



Arpita Mukherjee, Jenna Worsham, and Mei Ann Teo

MCC Theater's production of Phillip Dawkins' *Charm*, directed by Will Davis, which was inspired by the true story of Miss Gloria Allen, a black transgender woman and Chicago trailblazer.

Read: HOW MCC THEATER'S *CHARM* IS CHANGING THE GAME FOR TRANS ACTORS AND THEIR ONSTAGE STORIES

Steppenwolf Theatre Company's world premiere of Aziza Barnes' *BLKS*, directed by Nataki Garrett. (The play **will be seen Off-Broadway in the spring**, directed by Robert O'Hara, in a production from MCC Theater.)

Director Sam Gold's gathering of directors and casting directors at New York Theatre Workshop in May 2017 to discuss ways to proactively support and increase the presence of actors with disabilities.

The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, led by Program Director Wendy C. Goldberg, for its entirely female group of fellows for the 2018 National Directors Fellowship. The cohort is made up of Arpita Mukherjee, Jenna Worsham, Mei Ann Teo, Tatiana Pandiani, and Hannah Wolf.

Read: 5 WOMEN RECIPIENTS OF NATIONAL DIRECTORS FELLOWSHIP

Director Lisa Portes, Head of Directing at DePaul University, for producing and hosting the Latinx Theatre Commons Carnaval 2018.

Eric Ting, artistic director at California Shakespeare Theatre, for his consistency over his first two seasons in interrogating the classic canon through the lenses of people of color, trans and non-binary people, and the differently abled community.



Chay Yew (Joseph Marzullo/WENN)

The founding of Parity Productions, led by Artistic Director Ludovica Villar-Hauser, which ensures that at least 50 percent of the creative roles on their productions are filled by women and/or transgender or gender-nonconforming artists.

Cleveland Public Theatre's production of *American Dreams*, by Leila Buck, directed and developed by Tamilla Woodard.

Victory Gardens Theatre, under Artistic Director Chay Yew, for hosting Revolutionary Acts, this year's National Asian-American Theatre Conference and Festival (ConFest), a festival of Asian-American work produced by the Consortium of Asian-American Theatre Artists (CAATA) in association with Victory Gardens.