



# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Number 1

The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis Backers Volunteer Board

Fall 2010

## BACKERS VOLUNTEER BOARD

The Backers Volunteer Board (BVB) is already at work making plans and putting committees in place in preparation for the 2010-2011 season. The Board consists of 36 energetic individuals who lead the volunteers in many capacities to help The Rep. The elected officers of the Board are:

President:	Arlue Briggs
Vice Presidents:	Bonnie Gibbs Jackie Ruthsatz Ann Smith Trish Williams
Secretary:	Helen Sandifer
Corresponding Secretary:	Gloria Goetsch
Treasurer:	Cindy Schnabel

The BVB welcomes new President, Arlue Briggs, who is beginning her two-year term. Arlue has been a BVB member since 2007. For the past two years she has been Co-Chair of the Food & Wine Experience, coordinating volunteer activities.

## 2009-2010 VOLUNTEERS

Last season, 460 people volunteered for The Rep, giving their talents and 13,205 hours of time. All the volunteers will be listed in the first Mainstage program. Volunteers helped by being ushers and docents. They worked on the Food & Wine Experience, WiseWrite, Kids' ArtStart, the ITC Birthday Party, ITC Lobby Activities, and serving on the Leading Ladies committee. They served on the board, conducted tours, and drove actors to and from the airport. They helped in the office with mailings and answering the phone. The Rep appreciates all of this wonderful help that reaches many people and allows activities to happen that would not otherwise be possible without volunteers. Thank you for a great season!

## VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATE!

Volunteers who gave at least fifteen hours of their time to The Rep in the 2009-2010 season were invited by The Backers Volunteer Board to a Celebration Wine and Cheese Party on June 8, 2010. The party was held in the theatre garden under the tent. Guests were thrilled to meet playwright, Carter Lewis. Mr. Carter spoke about new play development. Mr. Lewis' works produced at The Rep, include *Women Who Steal* and *Men on the Take*, along with the world premieres of *Ordinary Nation* and *Evie's Waltz*.

Managing Director Mark Bernstein, and BVB President Judy Zimmerman thanked the volunteers for their outstanding service to The Rep. Volunteers giving many, many hours were especially recognized.

The 2010-2011 Volunteer Celebration will be held at the end of the season. Volunteers who give 15 hours or more of time will be invited to attend.

## SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS HONORED

Special thanks goes to Bill Linden and Mary Widmer for their talents and the large number of hours they gave to The Rep in 2009-2010. Bill continues to give his time to the docent program year after year. Mary gives her time as a docent, usher, and helping at the Food & Wine Experience.

Janet Howe, Kaytlin McIntyre, Robert Mitchell, Suki Peters, Jessica Shoemaker, and Matt Wills volunteered an extraordinary number of hours to WiseWrite. They all served in the capacities of director and actor. They each had the responsibility of taking three or four of the fifth graders' scripts and making them come alive on the stage. This involved props, special effects, costumes, sound effects, lighting and blocking, along with serving as morale officers and cheerleaders.

Susan Barley was honored for giving twenty years of volunteer service to The Rep. She has served in many ways, including BVB President, Treasurer, and Antiques Show Co-Chair. Through the years, her love of the theatre has grown and she treasures the wonderful friendships she has made.

## GARDEN APARTMENTS' CELEBRATION

On August 6, 2010, a celebratory open house was held to thank *St. Louis AT HOME* magazine and the many designers and donors who helped renovate five of the apartments that are used by actors when appearing at The Rep. Guests were amazed at the miraculous transformation of the apartments, all due to the generosity of the time and talents of the donors. Watch for the November-December issue of *St. Louis AT HOME* magazine that will showcase the renovations.

"Some people want it to happen, some wish it to happen, others make it happen." - Michael Jordan

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### WANTED: USHERS

All Mainstage and Studio Productions.  
Seat patrons, scan tickets, distribute programs,  
help with Patron Services.  
Contact: Katie Puglisi in the Marketing Department,  
314- 968-4288, [kpuglisi@repstl.org](mailto:kpuglisi@repstl.org).

### STUDENT MATINEE USHERS

Throughout the year, ushers are needed for the Student Matinees. No experience required. Ushering schedules are given out at the beginning of the season. Easy training is provided.  
Contact: Peter Enslin, 314-962-7480, [petbet71@yahoo.com](mailto:petbet71@yahoo.com).

### OFFICE RESCUE

Sort, stuff, sticker and stamp mailing materials whenever needed. Lead times are usually short.  
Contact: Susan Knight, 314-579-5051,  
[smacbeanknight@scglobal.net](mailto:smacbeanknight@scglobal.net).

### ADVOCACY

Be an advocate for the arts! January through May  
Visit with legislators in Jeff City on February 16.  
Put your name on the alert list to make phone calls  
and send e-mails.  
Contact: Dea Hoover, 314-973-4894, [stltourgirl@earthlink.net](mailto:stltourgirl@earthlink.net).

### WISEWRITE COACHES

November – Mid-February  
Encourage students, help them focus their ideas as they write their play, give constructive feedback and support.  
Training provided. This year the two schools involved in WiseWrite will be Hudson Elementary (Webster Groves School District) and Wyland Elementary (Ritenour School District).  
Contact Marsha Coplon, 314-968-7340, x280,  
[mcoplon@repstl.org](mailto:mcoplon@repstl.org).

### ITC HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES

Help with lobby activities for children preceding the December performances.  
Contact: Joan Tiemann, [jtciemann1633@charter.net](mailto:jtciemann1633@charter.net).

### SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS

Help at Career Fairs in schools throughout the greater St. Louis area. Discuss all careers pertaining to the theatre from business management, stage production, and writing to direction and performance.  
Contact: Myra Crandall, 636-537-1551,  
[myracran@sbcglobal.net](mailto:myracran@sbcglobal.net)

### IMAGINARY THEATRE COMPANY'S BIRTHDAY BASH

Saturday, October 2 9:30 am – Noon The Rep Garden  
Set up craft tables, play areas and creative corners all related to ITC shows. Help children with crafts and fun.  
Contact: Marsha Coplon, [mcoplon@repstl.org](mailto:mcoplon@repstl.org).

### FOOD and WINE EXPERIENCE

January 29-30 Chase Park Plaza Hotel  
Variety of opportunities: packet stuffing, check-in, greeting, ticket taking, etc. Shifts: 2-3 Hours  
Contact: Ann Straw, [annahstraw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annahstraw@sbcglobal.net) or Kelley Ciampoli, [tkcl98@gmail.com](mailto:tkcl98@gmail.com), with your name, phone number, and e-mail address, as well as any preference you may have for shift or function.

### KIDS ARTSTART

First Saturdays, November through April. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Set up for activities, help presenters in a variety of ways with children ages 3-7. Presenting partners are from a variety of art venues: dance, music, sculpture, puppetry, storytelling.  
Contact: Ann Bronsing, [bronsing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bronsing@sbcglobal.net).

## THEATRE ACTIVITIES

### COSTUME PARADE

Looking for something unique?  
A beautiful, narrated parade of Rep costumes from past productions available for your organization's special luncheon or meeting.  
Contact: Cindy Schnabel, 314-821-2978,  
[cschnabel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cschnabel@sbcglobal.net).

### TALK THEATRE

7:30 pm, Opera Center  
September 13 - The Director (Steve Woolf) takes us inside the play.  
October 18 - How low can you go? Addiction portrayed in the arts.  
December 6 - Child Actors/The challenges and rewards.  
January 10 - A new director brings new plays to The Rep.  
February 14 - The toils and troubles of staging Shakespeare.  
March 21 - R-E-S-P-E-C-T - How female singers of the 60's earned it!

### LONDON THEATRE TOUR

May 14-22, 2011  
Plays, discussions, tea, special features.  
Contact: Lori Moore-McMullen, 314-968-7340, ext. 228.

### BACKSTAGE TOURS

Free tours of the backstage area and the shops where production artists create sets, costumes, props, and everything else it takes to make the *magic of theatre*, are available to groups of adults and older children (at least 9 years of age).  
Get a group of eight or more people together.  
Contact: The Rep office, 314-968-7344, to arrange a tour.

### BECOME A FRIEND OF THE REP!

Backer Memberships start at \$50 and support the 2010-2011 season.  
Contact: [www.repstl.org/backer](http://www.repstl.org/backer) or 968-7340, ext.240.

### LEADING LADIES

Leading Ladies is a unique fundraising effort by women who are interested in the arts and want to gather with other women in support of The Rep. Be on the lookout for information about the kick-off event. To receive an invitation, contact Barb Melton, 968-7340, ext 230.

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." - Oscar Wilde