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Fine Arts Center Theatre Company Wins Big at 15th Annual Pikes Peak Arts Council Awards Ceremony

COLORADO SPRINGS (October 27, 2015) — The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (FAC) Theatre Company received three of the six awards given to theatres in the Pikes Peak region at the Pikes Peak Arts Council's annual award ceremony held on October 21, 2015. The awards for work during the 2014-2015 season include:

The Devil is in the Details Award--Chris Sheley (Design)

Chris Sheley has won numerous awards for his magnificent sets at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, but this year he really outdid himself with the apartment he designed for 4000 Miles. Looking like it had been scooped up from Greenwich Village and plopped down on the stage of the SaGaji Theatre, this astonishingly detailed set featured a complete ceiling, an original Lew Tilley painting from the FAC's archives, a bookcase groaning under the weight of dozens of period-authentic books and, barely visible inside the light fixtures, an assortment of dead bugs.

Labors of Hercules Award--Scott RC Levy (Direction)

Since arriving at the Fine Arts Center four years ago, artistic director Scott RC Levy has truly raised the bar for theatre in this town. And his energy and passion for the art form are boundless. This year, in addition to his regular duties producing all of the shows at the FAC, he somehow found time to direct three of them. Whether warming our hearts with *Mary Poppins*, tugging at our hearts with *4000 Miles* or making our hearts sing with *Guys and Dolls*, Levy always puts on a knockout show. Now if only he could find time to sleep.

Triple Threat Award--Jennifer DeDominici (Performance)

In musical theatre parlance, a triple threat is a performer who can act, sing and dance, and this year Jennifer DeDominici proved her multiple talents with two spectacular performances at the Fine Arts Center. As an actress, she imbued her characters with an infectious combination of sweetness and sass, whether playing everyone's favorite nanny in *Mary Poppins* or the virtuous Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*. And as for her singing? Well, with a gorgeous voice like hers, we can see why Sky Masterson fell in love with her. We did too.

Additional awards in theatre were given to the Millibo Art Theatre, Theatreworks and THEATREdART. Additional awards in filmmaking, visual art, poetry and music were also handed out at the ceremony on October 21st.

Also recognized that evening were **Wayne Wilkinson (winning the Masterful Strings Award)** and **Isidro Rodriguez (winning the Rising Star Award)**. Wilkinson has played guitar in the FAC pit for multiple theatre productions, and most recently played accompaniment in *Reefer Madness*. Rodriguez is enrolled in the Bemis School of Art through the Nueva Ventura Program. He has been creating art in the program for over two years. He often states that these programs saved his life. Bemis has collaborated with the Nueva Ventura program for more than twenty years. Once a week, the Nueva students are brought to Bemis where they receive quality instruction from an art instructor for an hour and a half.

The Pikes Peak Arts Council advocates and supports the arts and artists in the Pikes Peak region. These awards aim to give recognition to the artists and performers who have demonstrated a significant and sustained commitment to the Pikes Peak and Greater Colorado Springs arts community.

Fine Arts Center

The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, established in 1936, is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, performing arts theatre and arts education center. Built on the foundation of the prestigious Broadmoor Art Academy, the FAC carries the legacy of Colorado's arts and cultural heritage. One of 16 charter members of the American Association of Museums, the FAC offers the best in the world of visual arts via its permanent collection and travelling exhibitions, performing arts through the FAC Theatre Company, and arts education with the Bemis School of Art. The FAC building is considered an architectural landmark in the Rocky Mountain region, designed by John Gaw Meem, and is listed on the National Register for Historical Places. For information, visit csfineartscenter.org.

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