

Sarah Siddons Society Celebrates Alene Robertson and Larry Yando

(Chicago, IL, October 13, 2014) — The Sarah Siddons Society will present their Leading Actor Award to two of Chicago's prominent artists at the members' annual meeting on Monday, November 10, 2014 at the Arts Club of Chicago, beginning at 11:30 am.

Alene Robertson, one of Chicago's principal music theatre artists, will be given the Leading Lady Award—an honor that has been presented to Chicago's finest actresses including Laurie Metcalf, Rondi Reed, Paula Scrofano, Heidi Kettenring, Hollis Resnik, and E. Faye Butler, to name a few. Ms. Robertson is a seven-time Jeff winner recognized for her work as Mama Rose in *GYPSY*, Dolly in *HELLO DOLLY!*, Miss Hannigan in *ANNIE*, in addition to a long list of comedy roles.

Recently, the Society awarded a new Leading Man Award to Chicago legend, Michael Nussbaum. This same award will be presented to **Larry Yando**, a fixture in Chicago theatre for many years, who has played a wide range of roles from his current Lear in *KING LEAR* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, to Scrooge in *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* at the Goodman. He also has performed the role of Scar in the national tour of *THE LION KING*.

In addition to the award presentations, Columbia College's Music Theatre students and Northwestern University's Kyle Sherman, one of Siddons 2014 Scholarship recipients, will provide the entertainment.

"It's wonderful when we can add entertainment and award presentations to our short business agenda," said Dominic Missimi, Sarah Siddons Events Director and Producer.

"I've also convinced Alene to sing "Some People" from *GYPSY*, which promises to be a highlight of the program." Missimi has directed Ms. Robertson in many of her major roles. He will introduce and present the Leading Lady Award to her. Barbara Gaines, Artistic Director of Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, will introduce and present the Leading Man Award to Larry Yando.

Chicago Tribune's theatre critic Chris Jones will offer insights and critical observations of the two artists' performances over the years.

Along with the entertainment and awards ceremony, the event also includes a full course luncheon. Tickets are \$85 per person. For information contact Marc Kaufman at 773.929.7606.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Sarah Siddons Society's Student Scholarship Fund that awards annual scholarships to talented theatre students at Columbia College of Chicago, DePaul University, Northwestern University and The Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University.

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