



Hopewell High School Honored at the 2018 NCTC High School Play Festival!

October 29, 2018 – The Theatre Department at **Hopewell High School** has much to celebrate, as they bring home honors from the 2018 NCTC High School Play Festival, held at **Kings Mountain High School** on **October 27th, 2018**. The theatre program, led by **Ms. Lilly Allemond**, made the school and community proud with their presentation of **"Fire Exit"** at the Festival, and is thrilled to bring home the following awards:

Festival Spirit Award

Barbizon Outstanding Design & Production- Stage Management, Ashley Taylor

Excellence in Acting - Kane Knutson

Excellence in Acting - Leara Dye

Excellence in Ensemble Acting

Excellence in Directing – Ms. Lilly Allemond

Distinguished Play (Cast Your Vote)

Rating: Superior

For over 30 years, the NCTC High School Play Festival has strengthened arts education in schools by bringing curriculum to life, challenging students to do their very best work, and contributing to the development of future audiences for live performing arts. The program was named one of the "Top High School Theatre Festivals" by Stage Directions Magazine, is the largest high school theatre event in the Southeast, and has been replicated in 9 other states. This year, 3,000 students from 89 schools performed 118 plays!

Each fall, professional theatres, colleges and high schools host 8 regional Festivals across the state. The top 2 outstanding productions from each of the regional sites advance to the NCTC State High School Play Festival, which will be on November 15-16 at Greensboro College. Winners there go on to represent the state of NC at the Southeastern Theatre Conference's annual convention, which will be in Knoxville, TN in 2019.

The atmosphere at the Play Festival is positive and exciting, and students are filled with energy as they watch shows, learn from their peers and make new theatre friends. Schools travel with theatrical sets and load-in to a 10'x10' backstage area. Before their 45 minute time limit begins, students eagerly await hearing the starting phrase, "Your time begins NOW!", to which they respond with an enthusiastic reply. The 45 minute time limit includes setting up, performing the play and clearing the stage. Following their performance, students join their peers in the cheering audience to receive feedback from professional actors and directors with Broadway and Hollywood credits. Actors, designers, writers, directors and teachers are celebrated, and bring home awards that are displayed beside school sports trophies.

The NCTC High School Play Festival is made possible with support from: *the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; The Beattie Foundation; Lincoln Financial Group; the Moore County Unrestricted Endowment Fund; Barbizon Lighting Company; and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

About the North Carolina Theatre Conference

The mission of NCTC is to strengthen North Carolina's vibrant theatre industry, and engage tomorrow's artists, audiences and advocates. NCTC has served as the leader of the statewide theatre industry since 1970, and produces several events throughout the year, including the NCTC Producing Gathering, NCTC College Discovery Day, the NCTC Theatre Admin Intensive, the NCTC Awards and statewide NCTC Middle School and High School Play Festivals.

For more information on NCTC, please contact Executive Director Angie Hays at 336-369-1984 or visit www.nctc.org.

For more information on Hopewell High School, please contact Lilly Allemond at lillianv.allemond@cms.k12.nc.us