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**LACC STUDENTS WIN BIG AT**

**KENNEDY CENTER THEATRE FESTIVAL**

*Six National Awards Presented to Theatre Academy students*

LOS ANGELES (March 19, 2018) - Six Los Angeles City College students returned to campus with top awards from this year’s Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region 8. Thirty-two Los Angeles City College (LACC) students and seven faculty and staff attended the February 13 -17th festival, held at Mesa Community College in Arizona. Region 8 represents over 70 colleges from Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah.

In January and February of each year, KCACTF regional festivals showcase productions and offer a variety of activities for students. Individual performances, productions and other student works compete for awards recognizing excellence in theatre including performance, design, technology, playwriting and management. Following the regional competition, award winners from selected productions attend the national KCACTF at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. in April.

LACC students participated in competitions, workshops and events. The LACC Theatre Academy’s “The Government Inspector” won for Distinguished Performance and Production Ensemble and Distinguished Production of a Play. Tina Kronis won both the Distinguished Director of a Play and Outstanding Choreography awards and Aidan Davari won Distinguished Performance by an Actor in a Play for his role as Khlestakov in “The Government Inspector.”

Christina Bayer’s costume design work won for Distinguished Costume Design. Additionally, Jillian Ross won the regional Costume Design competition and will be attending the national festival in Washington, D.C. in April. Ross is the only Costume Designer from Region 8 to be selection to attend the national festival.

“I am extremely proud of our students and the recognition they received at this year’s awards,” said Professor Leslie Ferreira, Chair of the Theater Arts Department and Producing Director of the Theatre Academy.

**About Los Angeles City College**

Established in 1929, Los Angeles City College is the oldest of the Los Angeles Community Colleges. Located in the heart of Hollywood, LACC provides a dynamic innovative learning environment offering more than 100 vocational and professional programs including degrees, transfer programs and certificates to more than 18,000 students. In the past decade, a total of 6,651 students have transferred to four-year colleges and universities, including 4,040 students attending Cal State universities and 1,086 students transferring to UC campuses. Los Angeles City College is home to one of the most vibrant and diverse campuses in the country. The campus provides a wide range of professional and vocational programs at a fraction of the cost of state and private colleges. LACC provides students and adult learners vital pathways to more advanced education and enhanced employment. In 2019, LACC will celebrate its 90th anniversary.

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**About Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival** Started in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy Center's founding chairman, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival has served as a catalyst in improving the quality of higher education theater in the United States for 46 years. It does this through a year-round program of state, regional, and national festivals that celebrate the creative process, honor excellence, and give the community of artists involved an opportunity to share experiences and insights

The goals of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival are to encourage, recognize, and celebrate the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theater programs; to provide opportunities for participants to develop their theater skills and insight and achieve professionalism; to improve the quality of college and university theater in America; and to encourage colleges and universities to give distinguished productions of new plays, especially those written by students, the classics, revitalized or newly conceived, and experimental works.