



## NEWS RELEASE

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### STAGES ST. LOUIS AWARDED 27 KEVIN KLINE AWARD NOMINATIONS

*Most ever Kline nominations for local professional musical theatre company*

(St. Louis, MO) - STAGES ST. LOUIS was recognized today with 27 Kevin Kline Award nominations, the most it has ever received in one year, for all four of its 2009 productions. STAGES was the top recipient of total nominations for the Awards, which honor professional theatre in the St. Louis area. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Kline Awards Ceremony will be held Monday, March 22 at the Loretto-Hilton Center on the campus of Webster University.

Highlights include nominations for all three main stage productions in the category of "Outstanding Production of a Musical;" two nominations for Artistic Director Michael Hamilton and Choreographer Dana Lewis for their work on *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Guys and Dolls*; numerous technical nominations for *Guys and Dolls*; and a nomination for *Disney's Alice in Wonderland* in the category of "Outstanding Production for Young Audiences." STAGES actresses also claimed 5 of the 8 nominations in the category of "Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical," and STAGES actors claimed 4 of the 7 nominations for "Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical."

A complete list of STAGES nominations includes:

#### ***Little Shop of Horrors* – 5 nominations**

Outstanding Production of a Musical  
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical – **Ben Nordstrom**  
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical – **Lisa Ramey**  
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical – **Rashidra Scott**  
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical – **Valisia Lekae**

#### ***The Drowsy Chaperone* – 11 nominations**

Outstanding Production of a Musical  
Outstanding Director of a Musical – **Michael Hamilton**  
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical – **David Schmittou**  
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical – **David Elder**  
Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical – **Edward Juvier**  
Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical – **John Alban Coughlan**  
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical – **Christianne Tisdale**  
Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical – **Melinda Cowan**  
Outstanding Choreography – **Dana Lewis**  
Outstanding Costume Design – **Lou Bird**  
Outstanding Ensemble in a Musical

#### ***Guys and Dolls* – 10 nominations**

Outstanding Production of a Musical  
Outstanding Director of a Musical – **Michael Hamilton**  
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical – **David Foley, Jr.**  
Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical – **Julie Cardia**  
Outstanding Choreography – **Dana Lewis**  
Outstanding Costume Design – **Lou Bird**

Outstanding Musical Direction – **Lisa Campbell-Albert**  
Outstanding Lighting Design – **Matthew McCarthy**  
Outstanding Scenic Design – **Mark Halpin**  
Outstanding Sound Design – **Stuart Elmore and Mac Murphy**

***Disney's Alice in Wonderland***

Outstanding Production for Young Audiences

Twenty-one professional St. Louis theatre companies now share nominations in 22 categories for the Fifth Annual Kevin Kline Awards. The 2010 nominees were announced on the "Cityscape" radio program on KWMU on Friday, January 15. For more information about the awards visit [www.kevinklineawards.org](http://www.kevinklineawards.org).

The recipient of the 2008 Excellence in the Arts Award from the Arts & Education Council, STAGES was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to producing the indigenous American art form of musical theatre, combining the disciplines of music, dance and drama. STAGES currently presents 124 performances from May through October to more than 48,000 patrons and provides the most employment for local performers. STAGES also provides performing arts educational opportunities to the community, serving students both at the STAGES Performing Arts Academy in Chesterfield and through numerous outreach programs.

The 2010 Season at STAGES will feature *Big River* (May 28 – June 27), *Promises, Promises* (July 16 – August 15), Disney's *The Aristocats* (August 4 – 15), and *State Fair* (September 3 – October 3). Season subscriptions begin at just \$92 and are now on sale. Single tickets will be available in early April.

For more information call 314.821.2407 or go online to [www.stagesstlouis.org](http://www.stagesstlouis.org).

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