

RMC THEATRE RECEIVES HONORS AND ACCOLADES AT FIVE STATE REGIONAL CONVENTION IN HELENA

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BILLINGS -- The presentation of “Almost, Maine” by the Rocky Mountain Theatre Arts Department won the outstanding regional showcase production award at the Rocky Mountain Theatre Association (RMTA) convention in Helena Feb. 11-13, 2010.

A plaque and a check for \$550 were presented to Gerry Roe and Sarah Brewer, RMC theatre arts professors.

The RMC production was selected from more than 50 plays performed by colleges in the five-state region. RMTA represents college theatre from Montana, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, and Nevada.

“In addition, Grandstreet Theater (a community theater in Helena) bought our set. After seeing our production they decided to add it to their next year season,” Roe said.

Because of the fine performance by RMC, two theatre managers told Roe they would be adding the play to their schedule next season.

The performance of “Almost, Maine” to an enthusiastic audience was a cause for renewed pride in the RMC production, Roe noted.

“Sarah and I, much like parents, relished the cast's renewed respect for themselves and their work,” Roe said.

According to Roe, who directed the RMC production, an RMTA adjudicator attended the show when it was presented in at the Billings Studio Theater, in October 2009. The RMC presentation was one of only three college productions selected to perform at the RMTA convention.

“Almost, Maine,” written by John Cariani, opened in New York City in 2006, and is about a small town where residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways, Roe said.

Roe said he first was introduced to the play through friends at Sheridan College, Wyoming. Gene Sager and his wife, Lillian, presented the play and “bowled me over with what was to me then an unknown play,” Roe explained.

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