

## The 2010 Big Easy Awards Theater Nominees

The Big Easy Awards recognize achievement in local theater

by **Will Coviello**, Gambit Entertainment Editor

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The Big Easy Foundation has announced nominees for its awards for best performances in 2009. Le Petit Theatre's production of *Aida* drew the most Big Easy Awards nominations with seven, and the theater had three musicals from its fall season draw at least six nominations. Shows receiving six nominations included *Damn Yankees*, *Valley of the Dolls*, *The Little Dog Laughed* and Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Bob Edes Jr. was nominated for Best Actor in a Drama for his work in *I Am My Own Wife*, Best Supporting Actor in a Comedy for *Valley of the Dolls*, and he will be honored as Theater Person of the Year. On the 10th anniversary of his theater company's founding, Anthony Bean serves as the theater awards' Honorary Theatre Chairperson.

Winners will be announced at the Big Easy Awards on April 19 at Mardi Gras World. The event is sponsored by Gambit, the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and Coleman E. Adler & Sons. Proceeds support the Big Easy Foundation. Tickets are \$100. Call 483-3129 for reservations or [click here](#).

### 2010 Big Easy Theater Awards

#### THEATER PERSON OF THE YEAR

Bob Edes Jr.

#### 2010 Theater Nominations: BEST COMEDY

*The Comedy of Errors* — The Shakespeare Festival at Tulane

*The Little Dog Laughed* — Le Petit Theatre Du Vieux Carre

*Mr. Marmalade* — NOLA Project

*Valley of the Dolls* — Running with Scissors

#### BEST DRAMA

*Dying City* — Southern Rep

*I Am My Own Wife* — All Kinds of Theatre and Southern Rep

*Loup Garou* — ArtSpot Productions and Mondo Bizarro

*Opus* — Southern Rep

#### BEST MUSICAL

*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* — FourFront Theatre

*Damn Yankees* — Le Petit Theatre Du Vieux Carre

*Irving Berlin's White Christmas* — Le Petit Theatre Du Vieux Carre

*Oliver!* — Summer Lyric Theatre at Tulane University

#### BEST DIRECTOR OF A COMEDY

Lorenzo Gonzalez — *The Comedy of Errors*

Heidi P. Junius — *The Little Dog Laughed*

Richard Read — *Valley of the Dolls*

Raymond Vrazel Jr. — *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* / Cripple Creek Theatre Company

#### BEST DIRECTOR OF A DRAMA

Kathy Randels — *Loup Garou*

Mark Routhier — *Opus*

Michael Aaron Santos — *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* / Theatre UNO and InSideOut Productions

Carl Walker — *I Am My Own Wife*

#### BEST DIRECTOR OF A MUSICAL

A.J. Allegra — *Damn Yankees*

Brandt Blocker — *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*

David W. Hoover — *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Gary Rucker and Kelly Fouchi — *Altar Boyz* / FourFront Theatre

#### BEST MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Brandt Blocker — *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*

James Kelley — *Aida* / Le Petit Theatre Du Vieux Carre

C. Leonard Raybon — *Oliver!*

Jefferson Turner — *Altar Boyz*

#### BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

Carrie Black — *Damn Yankees*

Jaune Buisson — *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*

Donald Byrd — *Aida*

Kelly Fouchi — *Altar Boyz*

#### BEST SET DESIGN

Jeff Becker — *Loup Garou*

Rick Paul — *Company*

David Raphael — *I Am My Own Wife*

Chris Ward and Eric Porter — *Camelot* / Rivertown Repertory Theatre

## **BEST LIGHTING DESIGN**

Jonathan Foucheaux — *Aida*  
Earl Lennie — *Camelot*  
Marty Sachs — *I Am My Own Wife*  
Gary Solomon Jr. — *Altar Boyz*

## **BEST COSTUME DESIGN**

Cecile Casey Covert — *Damn Yankees*  
Joan Long — *Aida*  
Brian Peterson and Kate Jensen — *Valley of the Dolls*  
Veronica Russell — *Camelot*

## **BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A COMEDY**

Jessica Lewis — *Sick* / Southern Rep  
Molly E. Maginnis — *Flaming Guns of the Purple Sage* / Ensemble Arts  
Lisa Picone — *Valley of the Dolls*  
Jessie Terrebonne — *The Little Dog Laughed*

## **BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR IN COMEDY**

A.J. Allegra — *Mr. Marmalade*  
Leon Contavesprie — *Flaming Guns of the Purple Sage*  
Sam Dudley — *The Little Dog Laughed*  
Bob Edes Jr. — *Valley of the Dolls*

## **BEST ACTRESS IN A COMEDY**

Natalie Boyd — *Mr. Marmalade*  
Liann Pattison — *Sick*  
Dorian Rush — *Silent Night of the Lambs!* / Running with Scissors  
Francine Segal — *The Little Dog Laughed*

## **BEST ACTOR IN A COMEDY**

Brian Peterson — *Valley of the Dolls*  
Dane Rhodes — *Wild Mushrooms*  
Michael Aaron Santos — *The Little Dog Laughed*  
Andrew Vaught — *Major Archibald Swelling's Salvation Salve Medicine Show* / Cripple Creek Theatre Company

## **BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A DRAMA**

Samantha Beaulieu — *A Raisin in the Sun* / Anthony Bean Community Theater  
Trina Beck — *King Lear* / The Shakespeare Festival at Tulane  
Liz Mills — *The Glass Menagerie* / Marigny Theatre and To Do Productions  
Lisa Picone — *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*

## **BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A DRAMA**

Kenneth Brown Jr. — *Shotgun* / Southern Rep  
Leon Contavesprie — *The Glass Menagerie*  
Mike Harkins — *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*  
Vatican Lokey — *Opus*

## **BEST ACTRESS IN A DRAMA**

Donna Duplantier — *Shotgun*  
Pat McGuire Hill — *A Raisin in the Sun*  
Lyla Hay Owen — *The Glass Menagerie*  
Ashley Ricord — *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*

## **BEST ACTOR IN A DRAMA**

Anthony Bean — *A Raisin in the Sun*  
Bob Edes Jr. — *I Am My Own Wife*  
John McConnell — *The Kingfish: The Life and Times of Huey P. Long* / Bayou Playhouse  
Nick Slie — *Loup Garou*

## **BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL**

Heidi P. Junius — *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*  
Charlotte Lang — *South Pacific*  
Leslie Limberg — *Aida*  
Angela Papale — *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

## **BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A MUSICAL**

Cast of *Altar Boyz* — *Altar Boyz*  
John Grimsley — *Oliver!*  
Brian Peterson — *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*  
Dane Rhodes — *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*

## **BEST ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL**

Elizabeth Argus — *South Pacific*  
Idella Johnson — *Aida*  
Chase Kamata — *Oliver!*  
Samantha Smart — *Damn Yankees*

## **BEST ACTOR IN A MUSICAL**

Keith Claverie — *Aida*  
Richard Hutton — *Richard O'Brien's The Rocky Horror Show* / Jefferson Parish Performing Arts Society  
Kasey Marino — *Company*  
Jamie Wax — *Damn Yankees*

## **BEST ORIGINAL WORK OF THEATRE**

*Loup Garou* — Raymond "Moose" Jackson  
*Short Takes...* — Mary Louise Wilson  
*Shotgun* — John Biguenet / AKOT & Southern Rep  
*Taste* — Gabrielle Reisman / NOLA Project

## **BEST UNIVERSITY PRODUCTION**

*Candide* — Delgado Community College  
*Little Shop of Horrors* — Musical Theatre Workshop at Tulane's Music Department  
*The Scene* — Loyola University  
*Soul of the City* — Tulane University

## **BEST CABARET**

Amy Alvarez — *Taking a Chance on Love*  
Varla Jean Merman — *Varla Jean and the Mushroomheads*  
Dorian Rush — *Livin' Janis*  
Anais St. John — *A Purrfect Evening ... The Songs of Eartha Kitt*

## **BEST PERFORMANCE BY A CHILD**

Elizabeth Donner — *Pinkalicious* / FourFront Theatre  
Thomas Helmers — *The Member of the Wedding* / Anthony Bean Community Theatre  
Alex Lemonier — *Shotgun*  
Aaron Richert — *Oliver!*