



SEASON 35

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Gloucester Stage Wins 4 Top Boston Critics' Awards

The Independent Reviewers of New England (IRNE) Awards Ceremony was held Monday, April 7 in Boston at the Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, where the awards for the 2013 Calendar Year were announced. Gloucester Stage Company took home four of the top prizes of the evening in the *Midsize Company Category*: **Best Production of a Musical: *Spring Awakening***; **Best Director of a Musical: GSC Artistic Director Eric C. Engel for *Spring Awakening***; **Best Actress in a Play: Lindsay Crouse for *Driving Miss Daisy*** and **Best Actor in a Play: Johnny Lee Davenport for *Driving Miss Daisy***. Over 30 people represented Gloucester Stage Company at this 18th annual ceremony, including cast members, directors, choreographers, crew, staff from the 2013 season, as well as Board members.

Gloucester Stage Company's production of ***Driving Miss Daisy*** garnered the two top acting awards of the evening in its category: **Best Actor** and **Best Actress** in a Play. Both winners, Lindsay Crouse and Johnny Lee Davenport, were at the ceremony to accept their awards. Gloucester resident and GSC favorite Lindsay Crouse was thrilled to be honored as Best Actress in a Play, "Occasionally in a lifetime of acting one is lucky enough to be part of a production where all the participants come together for the highest good. ***Driving Miss Daisy*** at the Gloucester Stage was an event in our lives. Anything I was able to accomplish was due to the skill and generosity of my fellow players, Johnny Lee Davenport and Robert Pemberton and the superb guidance of my director, Benny Sato Ambush. I share this award freely with them."

GSC Artistic Director Eric C. Engel accepted two awards in the highly competitive Musical category as he won **Best Director of a Musical** for ***Spring Awakening***. The top musical honor of the evening also went to ***Spring Awakening*** for **Best Musical**. Engel summed up the atmosphere and the importance of the evening quite eloquently by saying: "Anyone at the Cyclorama couldn't help but take notice of the breadth and depth of theater taking place in the greater Boston area. It's an honor for Gloucester to be a part of that."

Gloucester Stage Company's 35th Anniversary Season opens on June 12 with ***Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris***, the internationally acclaimed musical revue of satirical and poignant songs by the late Belgian genius, Jacques Brel, directed by IRNE Award winner Eric Engel. This is followed by Jack Neary's comedy-thriller ***Auld Lang Syne*** featuring Paula Plum and Richard Snee, opening on July 10. Amy Herzog's award-winning ***4000 Miles*** featuring Nancy E. Carroll opens on July 31 and August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize winner, ***Fences*** opens on August 21.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call the Gloucester Stage Box Office at 978-281-4433 or visit www.gloucesterstage.com