



Kearsarge Arts Theatre Company, est. 1981

- Kearsarge Arts Theatre (KAT) was started to provide youngsters in rural areas the chance for access to the arts. Each summer, 40 professional artists and teachers offer the highest calibre in fine and performing arts to nearly 300 children between ages 4 and 18. KAT does not turn anyone away due to an inability to pay.
- KAT youngsters represent 35 New Hampshire cities and towns as well as our New England states and others across the country. This year, as in years past, KAT is honored to host students from several foreign countries.
- KAT is an award-winning nonprofit organization honored in 2002 with the Moss Hart Award, the highest honor given for theatrical productions in New England by the New England Theatre Conference (NETC). The award encourages the highest standards of excellence in theatre. It recognizes play scripts that present affirmative views of human courage and dignity, that have strong literary and artistic merit and which, in their productions, exemplify fresh, imaginative, creative treatment within the intent of the playwright.

KAT has performed nationally at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and internationally in England, South Africa, Lithuania and Ireland. This summer KAT performers will travel to New Zealand to create a collaborative theatre production with a group of children in a Maori school.

- KAT's Founder and Artistic Director, Dr. Trish Lindberg Dr. Patricia Lindberg, professor of education and M.Ed Integrated Arts Coordinator at Plymouth State University, is founder and artistic director of the award-winning Kearsarge Arts Theatre (KAT). Lindberg is also artistic director and co-founder, with Dr. Dan Perkins, of the award-winning Educational Theatre Collaborative (ETC). In 2003, she co-founded, with Dr. Gail Mears and Dr. Gary Goodnough, and the support of the College of Graduate Studies and Alex Ray of the Common Man Family, TIGER, a professional theater company that has performed its original musical productions on difficult social issues faced by children in our schools today for over 70,000 NH school children to date.

The New Hampshire State Council on the Arts has recognized Trish's work by presenting her with the 1999 Governor's Arts and Education Award. In 2002 she won the prestigious NETC Moss Hart Trophy for Best Overall Production of 2002 for her original international work *A You and Me World*, based on children's writings about how to make the world a better place. In 2003, she received the National Youth Theatre Director of the Year Award from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE). In 2003, she was also named The Plymouth State University Distinguished Teacher of the Year and one of New Hampshire's most remarkable women by New Hampshire Magazine. In 2004, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education presented Dr. Lindberg with the 2004 New Hampshire Professor of the Year Award in Washington, DC. She was selected from among nearly 400 top professors in the U.S.

Trish has directed close to 100 productions for family audiences, including performances in Ireland, England, South Africa and Lithuania. This summer, along with Gaye Gould, a PSU colleague, she will travel with American children and PSU graduate students to New Zealand to create a collaborative theatre production with a group of children in a Maori school in Gisbon, New Zealand.

- Each summer over 3,000 audience members come to enjoy and support KAT. Together, for 26 years, KAT has made "magic" and memories for thousands of children.