

News Release: Prime Stage Theatre honored with 2017 Champions of Learning Award

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(PITTSBURGH, PA - April 3, 2017) Prime Stage Theatre, a Pittsburgh organization that presents professionally produced plays based on literary works, is pleased to announce that it has received the 2017 Champions of Learning Award in the Arts category.

The award was accepted by co-founder and Artistic Producing Director Wayne Brinda at a ceremony this past Saturday night, April 1.

The Champions of Learning Awards, presented annually by the Consortium for Public Education, honors individuals and groups in the Pittsburgh area who have devoted their time, talents and resources to create and expand learning opportunities for local students.

"We are humbled by this honor and greatly appreciate this recognition of our efforts," said Brinda. "For 20 years, Prime Stage has been enriching the lives of Pittsburghers through theatrical productions and literacy programs that offer opportunities for young people, teachers and others. We help them discover a love of reading and the chance to cultivate new dreams and aspirations."

Since 1996 Prime Stage has produced more than 65 plays and has developed numerous programs for both youth and adults. These include the flagship *Literacy in ACTION* program, a student matinee series, summer camp, and a mentoring program. "Our production and education staffs are always busy," said Brinda.

In May, the organization will present its third and final production of the 2016-2017 season, "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," adapted by Hailey Rohn from the New York Times Bestselling Novel by Pittsburgh native Stephen Chbosky. The production will be the play's regional premiere, following the popular film adaptation that was shot in Pittsburgh a few years ago.

More information is available at www.primestage.com.