



Press Release

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St. Cecilia Academy drama teacher inducted into THSSDL Hall of Fame

St. Cecilia Academy's long-time drama teacher Cathie Correia Stamps was inducted into the Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League Hall of Fame on Saturday, Aug. 29 at Belmont University.

The THSSDL Hall of Fame was created in an effort to reward outstanding teachers of the dramatic and forensic arts. Selection of Hall of Fame members is based on years of experience (10 or more years are required), integrity, outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty, willingness to help colleagues, commitment to speech and dramatic arts education and dedication to caring for the individual student and his or her future, according to THSSDL.

Mrs. Stamps, who lives in Franklin, has taught drama, directed drama productions and led the forensics team at St. Cecilia Academy since 1988. In 2006, she was recognized for her creativity and success in the classroom as a Disney Teacher Award Nominee and as a Tennessee Association of Independent School's Hubert Smothers education award winner. Then in 2007 St. Cecilia Academy's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, under her direction, was named the best high school musical in Tennessee by *USAWeekend*. Mrs. Stamps studied speech, English and theater at State University of New York at Fredonia. She is a member of the Pull-Tight Theater's Hall of Fame in Franklin, where this summer she directed a production of *West Side Story*. Presently, she is beginning work on St. Cecilia Academy's fall musical, *The Wizard of Oz*. The musical runs Nov. 6-15 at SCA. She is also currently working on an original historical drama based on the history of St. Cecilia Academy that will premiere next year during SCA's 150th anniversary celebration.

St. Cecilia Academy is Nashville's oldest private high school, founded in 1860 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation. The Academy has been named to the Top 50 best Catholic high schools in the U.S. list four times since 2004. Seventy-eight percent of the Class of 2009 earned college scholarships totaling \$4.6 million. Mrs. Stamps' current student, Kendra Schulz, is the 2009 THSSDL state champion in solo acting.

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Cutline: St. Cecilia Academy drama teacher Cathie Correia Stamps was named to the THSSDL Hall of Fame Sept. 29, 2009, at a luncheon. SCA senior drama students, from left, Kendra Schulz, Catherine Louk and Ellie Vaughn attended the luncheon to honor Mrs. Stamps.