

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA THEATRE CRITICS CIRCLE  
ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF  
SPECIAL AWARDS FOR 2009

Date: April 7, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

San Francisco/Bay Area -- In addition to the 73 outstanding performance award categories for Bay Area productions in 2009, the 23 members of the SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle voted for 3 Special Awards.

The prestigious **Paine Knickerbocker Award**, named for the former theatre critic of the *S.F. Chronicle*, is presented annually to a person or organization that has made a continuing contribution to Bay Area theatre. This honor is presented to **PlayGround**.

The **Barbara Bladen Porter Award**, named for the former arts critic of the *San Mateo Times*, is presented to an active, mid-career member of the theatre community. This year's recipient is playwright **Octavio Solis**.

The **Gene Price Award**, named for the former critic and arts editor of the *SF Bay Times*, honors a person, production, event, or theatre company not eligible for competition in any other Critics Circle voting category. This year the award goes to **SF Playhouse**.

On Monday, May 3, 2010, the SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle will host their 34th Annual Awards Ceremony to celebrate Bay Area theatre excellence during 2009. Awards will be given at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre Lobby for outstanding accomplishment in: Touring, Over 300 Seat Theatres (Drama and Musical), 100-300 Seat Theatres (Drama and Musical) and Under 99 Seat Theatres (Drama and Musical).

The public is invited to join the Circle in recognizing and applauding the talented theatre folk who make magic on our local stages. In addition to presenting the Awards, there will be light refreshments and entertainment. Dress is business casual to formal. Free parking. Tickets (\$20) at [BrownPaperTickets.com/event/103150](http://BrownPaperTickets.com/event/103150)  
Or tickets may be purchased at the door (\$20 cash only).

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