

The Boston Theater
Critics Association

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS

www.ElliotNortonAwards.com

The 37th Annual Elliot Norton Awards Recipients

Melinda Lopez
Receives Annual
Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence

Faye Dunaway is Guest of Honor

**-- Awards Presented at Ceremony on Monday, May 20
at the Huntington Avenue Theatre --**

Awards were presented to more than two dozen outstanding actors, directors, designers, and ensembles tonight by The Boston Theater Critics Association (BTCA) at **The 37th Annual Elliot Norton Awards** ceremony, held at the Huntington Avenue Theatre.

This year's recipient of the **Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence** was Melinda Lopez, who has consistently enriched the Boston theater community as a playwright, actress and educator. A Special Citation was awarded to Zeitgeist Stage Company, which will be concluding its 18-year residency in Boston at the end of this season. "The Elliot Norton Arts Education Award" was given to the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild with matching support from Broadway in Boston and Ernie and Kelsey Boch to enable resource-limited high schools to participate in its annual High School Drama Festival and to provide awards to the winners of the high school Scene Partners Contest.

Legendary actress **Faye Dunaway**, winner of an Academy Award, three Golden Globes, a BAFTA, and an Emmy, was the Guest of Honor at the much anticipated annual event. She is set to portray Katharine Hepburn in Matthew Lombardo's one woman play "Tea at Five," which chronicles Hepburn's turbulent childhood, her unlikely rise to stardom, and her heart-breaking romance with Spencer Tracy. The play's only pre-Broadway engagement will be at the Huntington Avenue Theatre June 21-July 7.

Joyce Kulhawik, President of the BTCA, stated, "This night is more and more exciting every year! It was thrilling to have the legendary FAYE DUNAWAY who started out onstage in Boston, back here

The Boston Theater
Critics Association

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS

www.ElliotNortonAwards.com

on the very stage where she will make her only pre-Broadway outing just ahead of her Broadway engagement in "Tea at Five." We have also honored the most diverse work ever, as our theater community continues to outdo itself. The BTCA has its hands and notebooks full keeping up with our thriving Boston Theater scene, and in a rare turn of events, there was a tie in one of the major categories! We continue to be honored to celebrate the artists who make our city a cutting edge cultural destination! "

The 37th Annual Elliot Norton Awards continues to turn a spotlight on the importance of the arts in our country. In addition to the presentation of the awards, the evening featured performances by the casts of the nominated musical productions. These included Nicholas Christopher in a performance of "Wait for It" from Hamilton, a preview of the American Repertory Theater's world premiere musical "We Live in Cairo," and a performance by SpeakEasy Stage Company from their production of "Once."

The 2019 awards were presented with the support of the Huntington Theatre Company and the New England Conservatory, where the after party was held in the new Student Life and Performance Center, Burnes Hall. The reception was sponsored by Rebecca's Café/East Meets West.

The Elliot Norton Awards are presented annually by The Boston Theater Critics Association (Don Aucoin, Jared Bowen, Terry Byrne, Carolyn Clay, Christopher Ehlers, Iris Fanger, Joyce Kulhawik, Kilian Melloy, Bob Nesti and Ed Siegel) to honor the outstanding productions, directors, designers and performers that audiences have seen on greater Boston stages throughout the season.

The Elliot Norton Awards are named for the eminent Boston theater critic Elliot Norton, who remained an active supporter of drama, both locally and nationally, until his death in 2003 at the age of 100. The Boston theater community carries on his legacy and can be proud of its remarkable growth at a time in our nation's history when the arts still struggle to survive.

Special and honored guests at the awards in past years comprise a Who's Who of distinguished artists whose work has appeared on Boston's stages, including: Edward Albee, Lea DeLaria, Brian Dennehy, Olympia Dukakis, Julie Harris, Cherry Jones, Sir Ian McKellen, Al Pacino, Randy Rainbow, Lynn Redgrave, Chita Rivera, Jason Robards Jr., Tommy Tune, August Wilson, and Mary Louise Wilson.

For more details on the 37th Annual Elliot Norton Awards, including a full list of awardees and nominees, [visit http://www.elliottnortonawards.com](http://www.elliottnortonawards.com)

###

The Boston Theater
Critics Association

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS

www.ElliotNortonAwards.com

37th Annual Elliot Norton Awards

Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence

Melinda Lopez

Guest of Honor

Faye Dunaway

Outstanding Visiting Production

"Measure for Measure," Cheek by Jowl and Pushkin Theatre Moscow, presented by ArtsEmerson

Outstanding Visiting Musical Production

"Hamilton," presented by Broadway In Boston

Outstanding Visiting Performance

Vaishnavi Sharma, "Bedlam's Pygmalion," presented by Underground Railway Theater

Outstanding Visiting Musical Performance, Actor

Nicholas Christopher, "Hamilton," presented by Broadway In Boston

Outstanding Visiting Musical Performance, Actress

Ani Djirdjirian, "Spamilton," presented by the Huntington Theatre Company

Outstanding Production, Large Theater

"Man in the Ring," Huntington Theatre Company

Outstanding Production, Midsize Theater

"The Wolves," Lyric Stage Company of Boston

"Between Riverside and Crazy," SpeakEasy Stage Company

Outstanding Production, Small or Fringe Theater

"The Audacity: Women Speak," Sleeping Weazel

Outstanding Musical Production

"The Black Clown," American Repertory Theater

Outstanding Actor, Large Theater

John Douglas Thompson, "Man in the Ring," Huntington Theatre Company

The Boston Theater
Critics Association

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS

www.ElliotNortonAwards.com

Outstanding Actress, Large Theater

Jordan Boatman, "The Niceties," Huntington Theatre Company

Outstanding Actor, Midsize Theater

Tyrees Allen, "Between Riverside and Crazy," SpeakEasy Stage Company

Outstanding Actress, Midsize Theater

Amanda Collins, "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley," Merrimack Repertory Theatre

Outstanding Actor, Small or Fringe Theater

Ken Baltin, "My Station in Life," Gloucester Stage Company

Outstanding Actress, Small or Fringe Theater

Jennifer Rohn, "Dark Room," Bridge Repertory Theater

Outstanding Musical Performance, Actor

Davron S. Monroe, "Breath & Imagination," The Front Porch Arts Collective and Lyric Stage Company of Boston

Outstanding Musical Performance, Actress

Mackenzie Lesser-Roy, "Once," SpeakEasy Stage Company

Outstanding Director, Large Theater

Bryn Boice, "Universe Rushing Apart: Blue Kettle and Here We Go," Commonwealth Shakespeare Company

Outstanding Director, Midsize Theater

A. Nora Long, "The Wolves," Lyric Stage Company of Boston

Outstanding Director, Small or Fringe Theater

Olivia D'Ambrosio, "Dark Room," Bridge Repertory Theater

Outstanding Design, Large or Visiting Theater

"The End of TV," by Manual Cinema, presented by ArtsEmerson: Sound design by Kyle Vegter, puppets by Lizi Breit with associate puppet designer and storyboard artist Drew Dir, costumes by Mieka Van Der Ploeg, lighting by Claire Chrzan with associate Shelbi Arndt, masks by Julia VanArsdale Miller

The Boston Theater
Critics Association

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS

www.ElliotNortonAwards.com

Outstanding Design, Midsize, Small or Fringe Theater

“Brokelahomo!” and “Nightmare on Elf Street,” Gold Dust Orphans: sets by Windsor Newton, costumes by Scott Martino, lighting by Michael Clark Wonson

Outstanding Ensemble

“Small Mouth Sounds,” SpeakEasy Stage Company

Outstanding Solo Performance

Sara Porkalob, “Dragon Cycle: Dragon Lady and Dragon Mama,” American Repertory Theater

Outstanding New Script

“Dragon Mama,” by Sara Porkalob, presented by American Repertory Theater

Outstanding Choreography

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, “Jagged Little Pill,” American Repertory Theater

Outstanding Musical Supervision/Direction

Steven Ladd Jones, “Once,” SpeakEasy Stage Company