

## **JCCI Forward**

### **2001 Issue Forum: Enriching the Community**

Members of this forum group explored the future of professional and community theatre in Jacksonville.

#### **Key findings:**

- There is a lack of funding for emerging theatre companies.
- Theatre in Northeast Florida lacks media support.
- There is insufficient communication among producing organizations.

#### **Action plan:**

- The committee has devised a summary report on their findings and recommendations, entitled *The State of Professional and Community Theatre in Jacksonville*.
- The committee will call a meeting of all the players involved with theatre in Northeast Florida. This will include area schools, area colleges, independent acting groups, community theatres, professional theatres, and Improv houses. It is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 10, 2001 at 6:30 p.m. At the meeting, the committee will release its report.

Issue forum groups met with both community leaders and resource experts who provided valuable information for group discussions. We thank the following individuals for their contributions to the Forward process.

Bob White; Cultural Council  
Milt Russos; FCCJ Artist Series  
Sara Boone; Executive Director; Theatre Jacksonville  
Sharon Hoffman; The Boardwalk Group  
Felicia Walton; Co-founder & Co-director; Alfie's Performing Arts Center  
Lee Beger; Theatre Department Chair; Douglas Anderson School of the Arts  
Warren Skeels; Actor; J Films  
Matt Hemphill; Educational Outreach Director; Theatre Jacksonville  
Bob Prichard; Jacksonville Stage Company  
Tod Booth; Tod Booth Productions

Forum groups met biweekly for five months. They received information from knowledgeable resource people and additional written materials provided by *Forward* staff. We congratulate their efforts, civic involvement, and advocacy.

John Zell; Chair  
Brandi Cook; Vice Chair  
Bob White; JCCI Advisor  
Anthony Brannon

Victor Cora  
Amy Crockett  
Linda Davis-Fructuoso  
Ed Goodman

Bettye Harold  
Shawn LeNoble  
Johnny Pettegrew  
Michelle Simkulet

### **JCCI Forward Staff**

Lois Chepenik  
Caroline Thong  
Wanda Tivey