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# Dowdy-Windsor Nominated as Outstanding Director

February 2, 2018



Lindenwood Theatre graduate Mike Dowdy-Windsor has been nominated for a 2018 St. Louis Theatre Circle Award for Outstanding Director of a Musical, *Lizzie*, for New Line Theatre.

*Lizzie*, which was presented by New Line Theatre Co. last fall, is the story of infamous accused axe murder Lizzie Borden set to song in a rock musical, according to Dowdy-Windsor, who graduated from Lindenwood in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in musical theatre performance and in 2010 with a master of arts in theatre. Dowdy-Windsor said the project ranks among the favorites he's directed.

"It's a great story," Dowdy-Windsor said. "The legend about Lizzy Borden has baffled people and kept them mesmerized for a long time. This is a really interesting way to re-tell the tale."

Dowdy-Windsor said he isn't worried about whether he wins or loses the award, because the nomination was so gratifying.

"I try not to think about things like that," said Dowdy-Windsor about whether he'll win the award. "It's a huge honor to be recognized for the hard work everyone has done with a nomination. I'm a little biased. I want to win, because everyone worked so hard. But we'll be happy with being nominated."

Larry Quiggins, Dowdy-Windsor's mentor in the Lindenwood University Theatre Department, said he knew from the start that the aspiring thespian would achieve great things.

"He was not content with just being a wonderful singer when he came here, and he worked hard to become well-rounded in all aspects of theatre," Quiggins said. "He assistant directed 'Scrooge: The Musical' to open up the new J. Scheidegger facility and has been the associate artistic director of Newline Theatre for the past few years. He has worked with Stages and The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and has given Lindenwood many reasons to be proud of him as an alumnus."

Quiggins said he has long been impressed with Dowdy-Windsor's talent and dedication to his craft.

"I am so proud of him and his accomplishments, and I truly believe that more great things and nominations lie in store for him in the future," Quiggins said.

Dowdy-Windsor credited Quiggins with teaching him many of the skills that made him the director he is today.

"I was lucky enough to get a lot of opportunities at Lindenwood," said Dowdy-Windsor. "It was such a great education, not only on stage but behind stage. It really made me grow and made me think. I was originally a performer but learned my love for directing in school. I learned to ask a lot of questions to push my characters forward."