

**James L. Read, Jr.**

**November 14, 2017**

**PERSONAL DATA:**

Born 11 August, 1933; Fulton, Kentucky  
84 years old, three sons ages 49 -53  
Height - 5'-7"; Weight - 150#

1959 - 1962 Yale University School of Drama, MFA;  
first graduate in Theater Engineering;  
1958 - 1959 University of Kentucky, BA;  
major - English, Speech & Dramatic Arts; minor - math.  
1954 - 1955 U. S. Naval Training Command;  
commissioned Ensign; Naval Aviator No. V-7931;  
1951 - 1954 University of Kentucky; English, Speech and Dramatic Arts;  
1947 - 1951 Amherst Central High School; Buffalo, New York.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

American Society of Theater Consultants, past President  
  
Acoustical Society of America, Member  
  
National Council of Acoustical Consultants, Member  
  
Illuminating Engineering Society of North America, Member

**EXPERIENCE:**

1998 - pres. George C. Izenour Associates: Theater/Acoustical Consultants, Partnership with R. Duane Wilson and Jeffrey Millet (now deceased).  
  
1985 - 1998 Theater/Acoustical Consultant: Independent practice in addition to affiliations with George C. Izenour Associates and Consulting for Theater Systems.  
  
1984 - 1985 Drama Dept., Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.  
1 yr. appointment as Associate Professor, Drama; Technical Production Manager. A consulting project to assist with curriculum development, teaching of Theater Production Option, and development of student production team for all department productions.

- 1977 - 1984 Self employed Theater and Management Consultant. Projects include maintenance contracts; system and building renovations; new facilities programming, planning, and construction; personnel and operations evaluation.
- 1966 - 1977 Theater Techniques, Inc. Co-founded in 1966.  
Director and Treasurer, 1966-1971.  
Chairman of Board of Directors and President, 1971-1977.  
During this period TTI grew to a \$1.3 million national supplier of theater systems with an employment of 45.
- 1966 Devices, Inc. Treasurer and associate management of a manufacturing operation of theater lighting dimming equipment.
- 1965 Yale University, School of Drama, Research Associate in Theater Engineering. Taught math as "Background for Theater Technicians". Worked on development projects.
- 1962 - 1965 Associate to George C. Izenour, Yale University.  
During this time I participated in the research and development of electro-mechanical control systems—winches, lifts, and orchestra shells—for such theaters as UCLA; Loeb Drama Center, Harvard University; Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College; Assembly Hall, University of Illinois; Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, Houston, Texas; and many others. I designed and built the first 12,000 watt electronic dimmer; designed and built first digital computer to reposition movable architectural building structures (Jones Hall).
- 1960 - 1964 Technical Advisor, Caravan Theater, Dorset Playhouse, Dorset, VT; consultant and advisor on technical equipment and production problems; including installation of the first commercially available portable SCR dimming system (Edkotron) in a summer stock playhouse.
- 1959 - 1960 Technical Director, Caravan Theater, Dorset Playhouse, Dorset, Vermont; designed lighting and supervised construction, mounting and operation of 26 productions.
- 1958 - 1959 Lighting Designer, Electrician; Guignol Theater; University of Kentucky.
- 1955 - 1956 Lighting Designer; Guild Players; Jacksonville, Florida.
- 1954 - 1958 United States Navy - Fifteen months in flight school. Thirty-three months as officer and pilot, Fighter Squadron 43, Jacksonville, Florida and at sea. I was Electronics Officer and Ordnance Officer responsible for all electrical, electronic and ordnance systems in fourteen jet aircraft. A considerable amount of time was under my own command developing new gunnery techniques using radar and guided missiles. I achieved the rank of Lieutenant.

- 1951 - 1954 Electrician, Stage Manager, Shop Foreman; Guignol Theater; University of Kentucky. I designed and executed lighting; supervised construction and rigging, and stage managed 24 major productions and over 100 one-act plays, dance recitals, and musical shows; designed scenery for 3 major productions; and maintained all lighting, rigging, audio and shop equipment.
- 1954 Lab Technician, Glowmeter Corporation. I worked in the development of a new type of motion picture projection screen that was visible in daylight.
- 1949 - 1951 Stage Manager, Amherst Central High School Stage Crew, Amherst (Buffalo), New York. I was the administrative and operational head of a group of nine boys responsible for operating all presentational performances in a large community high school auditorium that also served as the community performance hall. This position was autonomous, requiring no faculty supervision; directly responsible to the principals office for budget and scheduling alone.
- 1948 Built my first theater--a movie theater with stage, curtains, screen, footlights, a control booth with two projectors--in my basement. I presented movies every Saturday, 10 cents admission for an audience of 8 -12 neighborhood kids.

**PARTIAL LIST of over 100 CONSULTING PROJECTS:**

MATHENA CULTURAL ARTS CENTER, Princeton, WV  
940 seat performing arts center, under construction

INGRAM CENTER for the PERFORMING ARTS  
Blair School of Music, Nashville, TN  
600 seat concert hall, completed 2001

MEETING HOUSE THEATER, Proctor Academy, Andover, NH  
450 seat private school theater / meeting space

IRVINE AUDITORIUM, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA  
Renovation of existing auditorium to concert hall, completed 1999

NORTH CHARLESTON P. A. C., North Charleston, SC  
2,263 seat Performing Arts Center, completed 1999

MICHIGAN TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, Houghton, MI  
500/1000 Multi use Performing Arts Theater; completed 9/2000

JESSE H. JONES HALL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, Houston, TX.  
Designed Auditorium Ceiling Control System to replace world's first solid state digital computing device used to position architectural elements. Completed 6/96.

COOLIDGE AUDITORIUM, JEFFERSON BUILDING, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
Washington, DC. Auditorium renovation; completed 1/98

DOUGLAS ANDERSON SCHOOL, Jacksonville, FL  
600/300 seat Performing Arts theater, black box theater, dance studios, music  
practice rooms, and TV studio; completed 9/92

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY, Bethlehem, PA  
Performing Arts Center: 1,000/350 seat multi-use theater,  
384 seat drama theater, and black-box theater, Completed 9/96

BEN FRANKLIN BRIDGE, Philadelphia PA;  
Photometric and ballast design; bridge lighting project.

KOGER CENTER for the Performing Arts, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC;  
2,236 seat performing arts facility, recently opened.

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE, Swarthmore, PA;  
600 seat multi-mode theater/cinema facility; completed.

SPEECH and INTERPRETATION CENTER, Northwestern University;  
Design and construction of a new theater facility containing a 500 seat thrust, a  
350 seat proscenium, and 2 laboratory theaters, rehearsal, shop, and office spaces.

FINE ARTS BUILDING, University of Wyoming;  
700 seat concert hall, 500 seat theater, experimental theater and ancillary spaces.

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- 1985 "The Lab: Lessons and Legacy" - 70 pp., article included in Theater Technology by  
G. C. Izenour, McGraw Hill, early 1988.
- 1983 "The Study of the Human Interactive Process" - 90 pp.,  
grant proposal for two year study project at Carnegie-Mellon University,.
- 1962 - pres. Over 100 evaluations, recommendations, reports and considerations, in excess  
of 10 pages each, submitted in conjunction with various projects.
- 1980 "An Analysis of Sound Reinforcement Issues" - 29 pp.,  
Report submitted to administration, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College
- 1962 "Performance Evaluation, Synchronous Winch System" - 70 pp.,  
Independent work credit, School of Drama, Yale University

1962 "Digital Device for Telemetry and Control" - 72 pp.,  
MFA Thesis, School of Drama, Yale University

1962 "Device for Digital Positional Telemetry & Control of an Object in Television or  
Theatrical Applications." Application submitted to U. S. Patent office.

**TEACHING:**

1984 - 1985 Drama Department, Carnegie-Mellon University, Assoc. Prof.  
Three levels of technical production courses

Feb. 1984 "Stage Machinery - Survey and Engineering Design"  
four week course - honoraria, Carnegie-Mellon University

Fall 1978 "Techniques of Maintenance and Repair"  
one term course - honoraria, School of Drama, Yale University

1965 "Background for Theater Technicians" - math. section  
School of Drama, Yale University