

The Hi-Desert Star's View: Hail to the drama kings and queens

Hi-Desert Star

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Congratulations to all the Morongo Basin nominees for the Desert Theatre League's annual awards. The Hi-Desert Cultural Center in Joshua Tree and Groves Cabin Theatre in Morongo Valley each earned a more than respectable number of nominations.

Their achievements are even more impressive when you consider these local playhouses were competing against larger venues with deeper pockets in the Coachella Valley for recognition in this annual awards ceremony.

The Hi-Desert Cultural Center, which took Best Production nominations for both comedy and drama, is under relatively new management with a new board of directors who have instituted a major rehaul in the way the playhouse operates and what it offers.

We're sure they're on their way to more nominations and full houses in the seasons to come.

Grove Cabin Theatre, which also earned an Outstanding Production nomination, is remarkable for both its size and its edgy repertoire. Both were spotlighted in the 2006-07 season with productions that all but swept the one-act play categories in the nominations.

We think you'd be hard-pressed to find many other theaters anywhere in the world where award-winning productions are staged inside a very small home on a bumpy dirt road in a very small community.

And we must point out that although Theatre 29 wasn't nominated this year, this Twentynine Palms playhouse consistently attracts packed houses of enthusiastic audiences.

Everyone in the Hi-Desert can be proud of all our local theater venues. Why not support them by joining the audience in the 2007-2008 season?