

Missions Through Arts

This is a sampling of the many groups around the world that are using the performing arts to express God's love for humanity. Some of them have additional information that will help expand your vision of how to use the arts in missions.

Christians in Theatre Arts

CITA has been networking performing artists in North America for about 20 years. Recently they started a Latin American branch and an outreach called CITA to the Nations. Rich and his wife Joyce helped lead a team to Jordan and Israel. A dozen theatre artists flew to Amman, where they taught theatre classes to middle and high school students. Then they crossed into Israel where they performed sketches where they took place. They're planning a return soon. Executive director Dale Savidge led a trip to Kenya for a gathering of theatre artists for training and networking. The trip was organized through Julisa Rowe, an ethnodramatologist based in Nairobi. Find out more at www.CITA.org. Find out more about Julisa's work at www.Ethnodrama.com.

MasterWorks Festival

MasterWorks is a month-long training intensive for students in the performing arts. They have had students from every inhabited continent. Their goal is to train up young people to reach the world as professional musicians, dancers, singers and actors. Rich directs their theatre program. The Festival takes place every summer in Winona Lake, Indiana, home of the great evangelist Billy Sunday. They have hosted festivals in England, Hawaii, China, and they are preparing for a festival in Latin America. Watch a report on their recent Festival in China, where the government paid for their housing and rented them the best hall in the province at www.RichDrama.com/MWFCChina. Find out more about the Festival at www.MasterWorksFestival.org.

Lusanne Congress

Rich served on the media and arts planning committee for the most recent Lusanne Congress, which gathered artists from all over the world in Cape Town, South Africa, to perform pieces from their own countries to the glory of God. Part of the intent was to raise awareness of how the arts can impact cross-culturally. Find out more at www.Lausanne.org.

Project Dance

Each year Project Dance shuts down major streets in nine cities around the world including New York, Atlanta, London, Sydney and Hong Kong to dance before the Lord. Started in New York by Cheryl Cutlip while she danced for the Radio City Rockettes they shut down 44th

Street, right on Times Square. When teams are not dancing they're handing out material and ministering to the audiences that gather all day long. Workshops are offered for the dancers who come from all over the world for the events. Find out more at www.ProjectDance.com.

Salvation Army

The Eastern Territorial Arts Ministry sent their Creative Arts Service Team (CAST) to Italy to perform choreodrama, a technique in which they use music, dance and mime to tell stories beyond language. Visit www.theTAMjam.com to see what they're up to these days. The Salvation Army, which used their brass bands to attract people to their services right from the start, sends their bands and songsters (choirs) around the world for ministry: www.SalvationArmy.org.

Youth with a Mission

YWAM has been training up performing arts troupes all over the world. Rich performed in one of their productions, *Judah Ben Hur*, in Singapore. Thousands saw Jesus crucified and resurrected during the two-month run in a major performing arts center: www.JudahBenHur.com. YWAM has a world-wide dance ministry called Island Breeze: www.IslandBreeze.org.NZ. Find out more at www.YWAM.org.

Rich Swingle

Rich has been translated into 11 languages for his performances and workshops on five continents and in 25 nations and is raising funds to accept invitations at over a dozen others. Find out more and help send the Swingles to the nations at www.RichDrama.com/Africa. Rich is available to teach acting workshops and would be thrilled to tailor it for a missions trip. Sign up for updates of the Swingles' world-wide adventures at www.RichDrama.com/Updates.

More

There are other groups out there. Visit www.RichDrama.com/Missions, where you can post links to the groups you know about and download a PDF of this sheet with clickable links.

Rich performed for Filipinos on the streets of Hong Kong during the Beijing Olympics. The Filipino Sunday school class that hosted him was inspired to celebrate birthdays on the streets every month.

