

JOSEPH JEFFERSON AWARD

PRESENTED BY COMMITTEE PRESIDENT, PAUL FABERSON.
JUNE 9 1997

"ONCE UPON A TIME, WHEN CHICAGO THEATRE WAS STILL INT ITS INFANCY, THERE WAS A THEATER COMPANY AT 3212 N BROADWAY CALLED THE HULL HOUSE THEATER. AND THIS THEATER HAD A DIRECTOR PRODUCER WHO HAD THE GUTS TO INTRODUCED A NEW KIND OF THEATER TO CHICAGO AUDIENCES...PLAYS BY SUCH THEN...UNKNOWN WRITERS AS PINTER, ORTON, BECKETT, ALBEE, ARABAL, IONESCO AND OTHERS. IN THE PROCESS, HE HELPED TO SET THE CHICAGO THEATER COMMUNITY ON A GROWTH CURVE THAT SEEMS TO HAVE NO END.

THE SPECIAL AWARD READS:

FOR HIS VISION AND DEDICATION IN HELPING TO DEVELOP THE CONCEPT OF OFF-LOOP THEATER IN CHICAGO AND FOR HIS UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HULL HOUSE THEATRE AND TO THE PLAYWRIGHTS, ACTORS AND ARTISTS WHOSE CAREERS HE HELPED TO ADVANCE. A SPECIAL AWARD IS PRESENTED TO, DIRECTOR PRODUCER, INNOVATOR BOB SICKINGER

RALPH G. ALLEN
PROFESSOR OF DRAMA, QUEENS COLLEGE
CUNY GRADUATE CENTER
AUTHOR WITH JOHN GASSNER
"THE HISTORY OF THE THEATER"
CREATOR OF THE BROADWAY
MUSICAL COMEDIES

"SUGAR BABIES I"

"SUGAR BABIES II"

"HONKY TONK NIGHTS"

"BOB SICKINGER IS ONE OF THE UNSUNG GENIUSES OF THE AMERICAN THEATER. I HAVE KNOWN HIM FOR MORE THAN FORTY YEARS...IN ALL OF HIS THEATRICAL INCARNATIONS. PRODUCER-DIRECTOR OF "CIRCLE IN THE CITY THEATRE" PHILADELPHIA ; ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF "HULL HOUSE THEATERS" CHICAGO WHERE HE NOURISHED THE TALENTS OF DAVID MAMET, MIKE NUSSBAUM AND "GREASE'S" JIM JACOBS AND WARREN CASEY AND MANY OTHERS ; FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF THE MANHATTAN THEATER CLUB; HIS EXCURSIONS INTO FILM AND TELEVISION

Listed in the Adult Education pamphlet of the Chicago speakers' Bureau in Chicago; Northwestern University weekly seminar; University of Northern Illinois, University of Chicago. McCormick Theological, Oak Park Community Cultural Series. Who's Who In America.