?The Educational Association (EdTA) and its student honorary division- the International Thespian Society (ITS)- named John Marsh, retired principal at Floyd Central High School, as a 2008 Administrator's Award recipient. The award was presented on Friday, June 27 at the International Thespian Festival, on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Marsh was nominated for this honor by Chris Bundy, director of Thespian troupe 1794 at Floyd Central High School.

"As an educator, I am always challenged to be creative," said Bundy. "John has not only encouraged that creativity, but backed it through the resources available to him. When he sees something that will provide a cultural benefit to our students and community, John is always at the forefront in providing support and encouragement for it."

"School administrators play a vitally important role in the success of a school's theatre program," says EdTA Executive Director Michael J. Peitz. "Their support for and belief in the value of a theatre component to the curriculum contributes greatly to its success. We are proud to honor John Marsh with national recognition for all that he has done to promote the theatre program at Floyd Central High School."

The EdTA Administrator's Award is presented to outstanding school administrators who have demonstrated exemplary support for educational theatre. EdTA members submit nominations for individuals or administrative teams by filling out an application that is then reviewed by EdTA's Executive Director.

In addition Marsh, the 2008 Administrator's Award was given to James E. Montepare, superintendent at North Adams Public Schools in North Adams, Massachusetts.

About the Educational Theatre Association

The Educational Theatre Association (EdTA) is a professional organization for theatre education founded in 1929. EdTA's mission is to create a network for theatre arts educators, students, professionals, and enthusiasts to share ideas and support the effort to have theatre arts education (including film, television, and other related media) recognized in all phases of education and lifelong learning. EdTA operates the International Thespian Society (ITS), an honorary organization for middle school and high school theatre students. The organization also publishes Dramatics,

a monthly magazine for high school theatre students, and Teaching Theatre, a quarterly journal for theatre education professionals.

About the International Thespian Society

The International Thespian Society (ITS) is an honorary organization for high school and middle school theatre students located at more than 3, 700 affiliated secondary school across America, Canada, and abroad. The mission of ITS is to honor student excellence in the theatre arts. High school inductees are known as "Thespians" and junior high/middle school inductees are known as "Junior Thespians." ITS is a division of Education Theatre Association (EdTA).

About the International Thespian Festival

The International Thespian Festival is an annual, week-long event for high school theatre students, celebrating student excellence in theatre arts. The event features workshops presented by theatre professionals, individual and group performances, and opportunities to audition for college admission and scholarships. The International Thespian Festival is currently held on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is presented by the International Thespian Society (ITS), the student honorary of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA).