



Nomination for 2019 Selection

Application deadline: **Friday, March 29 by 5 p.m.**

DELIVER TO: City Hall, 101 N. Main St., Winston-Salem,
Marketing & Communications Department, Suite 336

OR MAIL TO: City of Winston-Salem
Marketing & Communications Department
P.O. Box 2511
Winston-Salem, NC 27102

Nominee's Stage Name: Doris Pardington Given Name: Doris Pardington

Address at Time of Death: 1837 Elizabeth Ave. W-5 State: NC

Winston-Salem Resident: Beginning: 1922 (year only) To: 1991 (year only)

Category: Music Visual Arts Dance Motion Pictures
 Theater Television Writing Radio

Criteria:

- The nominee(s) exhibited sustained excellence in his or her field for at least five years.
- The nominee(s) made distinguished contributions to the community and civic-oriented participation.
- The nominee(s) is deceased (must provide copy of death certificate).
- The nominee(s) was a resident of Winston-Salem for at least five years.
- The nominee(s) made a significant contribution to the arts or entertainment industry in one or more of the following areas: music, dance, theater, writing, visual arts, motion pictures, television, or radio. A "significant" contribution would be iconic in terms of renown and the impact on the artistic disciplines or popular culture.
- Application must include nominee's performance/accomplishment biography.
- Attach nominee's biography with dates which must include at least 5 years of accomplishments in the arts, culture, or entertainment field.
- Attach a list of nominee's civic/community involvement.
- Attach a copy of nominee's death certificate.

Sponsor: Georgia N. West

Address: 318 Carolina Circle

City: Winston-Salem State: NC Zip Code: 27104

Email: wfgnw@aol.com

Phone: Home: (336) 722-3203 Cell: _____

Signature: Georgia N. West Date: 3/24/2019

DORIS PARDINGTON

Founding Member of The Little Theatre Of Winston-Salem

My nomination is Doris Pardington, who, with other prominent members of the community, met on the evening of October 3, 1935, to organize a theatre that would go on to entertain and enrich generations in the Triad: The Little Theatre of Winston-Salem. Her tireless efforts over the next 36 years to bring quality performances to the community, encourage children and teens in the theatrical arts and provide opportunities for volunteers from every walk of life to participate in live theatre are without question the reason The Little Theatre succeeded then and continues to do so today.

From the beginning, Doris was a mainstay of both the organization and the community. While she taught speech and drama for a brief period at Salem College, she became quite occupied with a growing family (4 children). Her theatrical interests in the 1930s and early 40s, as such, were confined to acting and directing with the growing Little Theatre. Rehearsals, in fact, often took place in the Pardington's living room, along with the Trotman House on Fifth Street and a drafty barn on Robinhood Road (performances were held in a number of facilities, including the West End School, Reynolds Auditorium and the second floor space over the Moxley Piano Company).

With the US entry into World War II and the drafting of radio announcers, station WAIR persuaded Doris to join their staff. In 1942, Doris was the first woman announcer in the city and state and the first woman program director at a radio station. During these years, she continued to work actively in many capacities of The Little Theatre, helping to nurture and grow the organization.

As it grew, providing increasingly popular plays with more and more volunteers, The Little Theatre established a reputation for giving back to its community. From performances taken to schools in rural areas, to War Bond campaigns and help given to the Red Cross, the Children's Home, churches and other civic organizations, The Little Theatre – and the people behind it – showed their heart for their community.

In 1945, Doris Pardington became the first woman president of The Little Theatre's Board of Directors and in 1946, its first two-term president. In 1950, she left her position at the radio station to take the position of managing director – the first to be employed by The Little Theatre on a full-time, professional basis. From this time, until her retirement in 1971, Doris directed every Little Theatre production. In addition to this, she devoted a great deal of time and energy to working with children in Little Theatre sponsored workshops and in the productions of the Children's Theatre Board.

If it had not been for the passion Doris had for all facets of theatre work and the devotion she had for this theatre, The Little Theatre would not be where it is today, 84 years later. Therefore, having worked with Doris in the past, both on stage and off, I highly recommend Doris Pardington for The Winston-Salem Arts, Culture and Entertainment Memorial Walk of Fame.

DORIS PARDINGTON

Founding Member of The Little Theatre Of Winston-Salem

The Little Theatre of Winston-Salem Involvement

- 1935 Member of a group of citizens which included John Fries Blair, Douglas Angel, Meade Willis who met together to organize a theatre
- 1935-1950 Worked as a volunteer in all areas of stage production, with an emphasis on acting and directing
- 1945 Elected first woman president of The Little Theatre Board of Directors
- 1946 Chosen for a second term on the Board of Directors
- 1950 First person to be employed by The Little Theatre as Manager-Director on a full-time, professional basis
- 1950's Found a space for the theatre over the Moxley Piano Company on W. 4th Street. Helped build the stage, lighting room, and make-up and dressing rooms
- 1950-1971 Directed every production for The Little Theatre of Winston-Salem
- 1958 Moved the theatre company to the Arts Council Theatre on Coliseum Drive
- 1959 Directed first show at new theatre: *The Teahouse of the August Moon*.
- 1971 Retires from The Little Theatre

Community Involvement

- 1940's Along with other LTWS members, presented a series of weekly radio dramas
Served as choreographer and dramatic director for the Piedmont Operetta Association
Worked with the Junior League, directing fairy tales for schools
- 1942 First woman radio announcer in the city and state at WAIR
- 1946 First woman program director at a radio station
- 1949 Active member of The Little Theatre when it became a charter member of the Arts Council of Winston-Salem, one of three organizations

A Bouquet

1971

WHEN the curtain fell on a fine production of "Oklahoma!" Sunday afternoon, it also ended an era for the Little Theatre of Winston-Salem.

In the minds of thousands it was the Doris Pardington era; for no other person has done as much as she to make the Little Theatre the thriving, healthy institution that it is today.

In a sense, Mrs. Pardington was the Little Theatre. She was a charter member when it was founded in 1935, and for the next 15 years she voluntarily gave her talents and energies to every kind of job that it takes to move a play off the script and onto the boards — business, production, acting, directing. In 1950 her outstanding contributions were recognized when she was appointed the Little Theatre's first full-time manager and director.

In an interview that same year Mrs. Pardington said, "The real aim of the Little Theatre is not necessarily to give polished productions, but rather to allow a large group to enjoy participation in its productions."

If that was her real aim, she exceeded it. For polished productions we have had, and the overall quality has been consistently higher than that in most Little Theatres in cities of comparable size.

Her forte, some of her admirers

say, has been in casting. From a limited number of hopefuls, she usually managed to make the best available match between the role and the volunteer performer.

The theater, perhaps more than most fields, is a medium in which talent and ego feed on themselves to produce outstanding performances — and outbursts of temper and bruised feelings. Yet Doris Pardington's most loyal followers are the very people who worked most closely with her on stage and behind it. Her ability to work with amateurs, to find a few moments for soothing ruffled feathers and hurt feelings, and at the same time to goad her players toward excellence, has been in no small measure responsible for the success of the Little Theatre.

Mrs. Pardington has reached retirement age, and the Little Theatre board has decided that the best arrangement for the future is to hire a full-time administrator and employ guest directors next season.

So the old order changeth, as sooner or later it had to. But Doris Pardington leaves a tradition of high standards, and we wish the new management every success in providing Winston-Salem audiences with the fine productions to which they are accustomed.

Love to you "MOMMA"



Doris C. Pardington

Mr. & Mrs. W. G. Hill
Mary Campbell
Bob Daye
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ousley
Ann Evans
Fannye Hill
Howard Hall
Gordon Spaugh
Mary Kerr
Elizabeth Taylor
Jo Nelson
Larry Odom
Jerry Walker
Sam Syme
Larry Weiss
Boyd Morris
Jim Sutton
Cam Murchison
Jack Armstrong
John Keeton
Johnny Smith
Mrs. W. M. Hanes, Sr.
Dr. & Mrs. Henry B. Day
Nona Porter
Sarah Turner
Armando Veranes
Martha Siceloff
Joe Siceloff

Clint Willard
Mrs. Fred Bahnson
Mrs. Reid Bahnson
Mrs. Winfield Blackwell
Mrs. William T. Graham
Mrs. John Burress
Mrs. Amelie Owen
Mrs. Hudnall Christopher
Mr. & Mrs. Ira Julian
Mr. & Mrs. Warren West
Mr. & Mrs. Bob McHone
Mary Alice Neilson
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Mellette
Mrs. Ruby Burrows
Bob & Betty Jean Heath
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Blair
Marie & Stu Bellin
Mr. & Mrs. Donald House
Bill Burton
Mr. & Mrs. Heartt Bryant
Jack White
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Spencer
Marley Willard
Corneilia Garber
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Vogler
Liz Trotman
Vince Ridolfi
Mr. & Mrs. John Garrow

David Cayer, M. D.
Mrs. Mildred Cayer
Mildred Alyce Cayer
Jackie Oerter
Ed Oerter
George Lee
Linda Bowermaster
Janice Wheelon
Richard Thayer
Sandra Byrd
Steve Sisk
Cathy Stern
Jean Creed
Doris Allred
Marie O'Neal
Nell Scott Weaver
Donald Weaver
Edward Weaver
Nell R. Lee Weaver
Ruth Lee
Dr. R. G. Abernathy
Sybil Ramsbotham
Nancy Bertie
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Kellogg
Mr. & Mrs. C. J. Redburn
Janet Banzhof
Mr. & Mrs. Denny Vickland
and others

FORSYTH COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

Lynne Johnson, Register of Deeds

last update: March 22, 2019 02:35:26 PM

[Click Here for Printer Friendly Version](#)

Name Search Criteria

Last Name Sounds Like

Index Types* Last Name* Date

DTH ~ DEATH PARDINGTON

First Name M.I.

foris Search

Book/Page Search Criteria

Book Type* B ~ BIRTHS

Book* Page*

Search

Your Search Returned 1 hit(s)

Date	Father	Mother	Sex	Bk Type	Book	Page
PARDINGTON, DORIS GERTRUDE						
05/11/1991	ALBERTO LEE CHIPMAN	MERTIE AIMEE JORDAN	F	D	93	1399

[Previous Record](#)

[Next Record](#)

Doris Gertrude Pardington in the North Carolina, Death Indexes, 1908-2004

Name: Doris Gertrude Pardington
[Doris Gertrude Chipman]

Gender: Female

Race: White

Marital status: Widowed

Social Security Number: 245262354

Father's Last Name: Chipman

Age: 86

Date of Birth: 6 Aug 1904

Residence City: Winston-Salem

Residence County: Forsyth

Residence State: North Carolina

Date of Death: 11 May 1991

Death City: Winston-Salem

Death County: Forsyth

Death State: North Carolina

Institution: General Hospital

Attendant: Physician

Burial Location: Cremation in state

Source Vendor: NC Department of Health. North Carolina Deaths, 1988-92

Source Information

Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, Death Indexes, 1908-2004* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007.

Original data:

- *North Carolina Deaths, 1997-2004*. North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics, Raleigh, North Carolina.N
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. *North Carolina Death Records, 1968-1996*. North Carolina Vital Records, Raleigh, North Carolina. N
- North Carolina Archives and Records Section. *North Carolina County Records, 1908-1967*. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Description

This database is an index to deaths that occurred in the State of North Carolina, USA, between 1908 and 2004. The following information is included in this database: name of deceased, death date, death place (usually a county), age at time of death, gender, race. [Learn more...](#)

PARDINGTON

Born Chipman Pardington 26, 1877 Elizabeth Avenue, died Saturday in Medical Park Hospital in Winston-Salem. She was born in Poland, Maine on August 6, 1904 to the late Alberto Lee Chipman and Mervie Annee Jordan Chipman. She was a retired director of the Little Theatre of Winston-Salem. She was known as "Mama" by Little Theatre members. She was managing director on a professional basis from 1962-1972. Prior to that she had been a charter member of the Theatre since its establishment in 1930 and had served as Director, makeup chairman, and on the Board of Directors in a volunteer capacity. She directed the Junior League in adaptations of fairy tales for the public schools. She served with the Piedmont Operetta Association as choreographer and dramatic director and was instrumental in the building of the Hanes Community Center. In 1970 she came out of retirement to direct the Kernersville Little Theatre's production of Arthur Miller's "The Crucible". She graduated from New Haven Normal School and was a graduate of Arnold College, which is now Bridgeport University, in 1923. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Davies Pardington Sr., who died November 4, 1944, and a daughter, Angela Davies Lloyd. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Don Pearson Hedrick of Lexington,

Ms. Susan P. Freeman, Hamilton, Ohio, one son, Edward Davies Pardington, Jr. of Winston-Salem, 15 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements are incomplete. Vogler's Piedmont Lexington is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County, 1100-C S. Stratford Road, Suite 201, Winston-Salem, NC 27103 or Little Theatre of Winston-Salem, 610 Coliseum Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27106.

THINK IT OVER



Photo added by Marshall Lloyd

Doris Gertrude *Chipman* Pardington

BIRTH 6 Aug 1904
Poland, Androscoggin County, Maine, USA

DEATH 11 May 1991 (aged 86)
Winston-Salem, Forsyth County, North Carolina, USA

BURIAL Salem Cemetery
Winston-Salem, Forsyth County, North Carolina, USA [Show Map](#)

MEMORIAL ID 39610840 · [View Source](#)

Director of the Little Theater in Winston-Salem.

Family Members

Parents



Alberto Lee
Chipman
1878–1958



Mertie Aimee
Jordan Chipman
1879–1961

Spouse



Edward Davies
Pardington
1901–1944 ([m.](#)
[\(marriage\)](#), 1926)

Siblings



Osra Alberta
Chipman Grimes
1901–1968



Donald James
Chipman
1903–1985

Children



Angela Davies
Pardington Lloyd
1926–1987



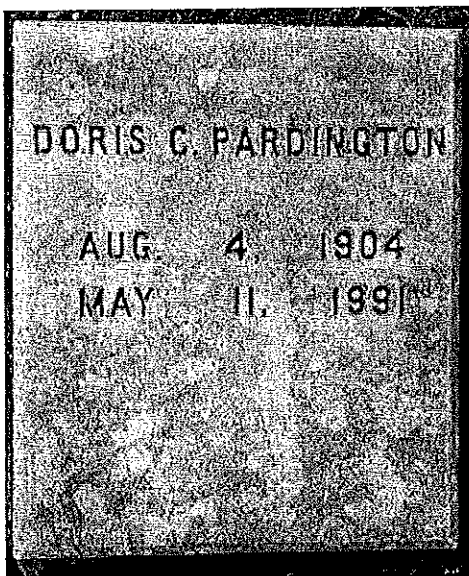
Edward Davies
Pardington
1935–2003



Susan French
Pardington
Freeman
1936–2019



Added by Marshall Lloyd



Created by: Marshall Lloyd

Added: 18 Jul 2009

Find A Grave Memorial **39610840**

Winston Little Theatre's 'Mama' Dies at Age 86

By **W.H. Lingo**
CULTURAL REPORTER

Doris C. Pardington, the first lady of the theater in Winston-Salem, died yesterday after a long illness. She was 86.

Mrs. Pardington was a charter member of Winston-Salem's Little Theatre in 1935. She acted in most of the group's plays in its early days but had a hand in just about every aspect of the Little Theatre's operation.

She became the Little Theatre's first full-time managing director in 1950.

Janet Banzhof, a friend of Mrs. Pardington's who appeared in many of the plays she directed, said that Mrs. Pardington did "a thousand things" for the Little Theatre.

"There would not have been a theater, I don't believe, without Doris there," she said. "She meant a whole lot to all of us. . . . She was a good director and she knew how to pinch pennies when we had to."

Mrs. Pardington had four children, 16 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. But a great many actors and actresses in the Little Theatre also knew her as "Mama."

"We called her Mama and she deserved it," Mrs. Banzhof said. "She was like a mother to everybody there. The kids came to her and she took them under her wing."

Another friend, who asked that her name not be used, said that Mrs. Pardington was a good director who almost always found the person she needed for a role.

"If she couldn't find the right person, she would go out and look for them," she said. "She got people interested in theater who hadn't been interested before."

Mrs. Pardington said in an interview last year that she has never counted, but she estimated that she had directed more than 200 plays for the Little Theatre.

In spite of protests from many people, Mrs. Pardington's contract with the Little Theatre was not renewed in 1971. But she still occasionally came out of retirement to direct a few plays. Mrs. Banzhof said that a group had planned to do something to honor Mrs. Pardington at the Little Theatre's production in June. "We did not plan for it to be 'in memory of,' but I guess it will have to be," she said.