





TONEA STEWART

DR. TONEA STEWART

- 1997 - Image Award Nominee
- 1999 - New York World Fest Gold Medal Winner
- 1999 - Gabriel Award Winner
- 2000 - Emmy Award Honoree
- 2008 - Disney Theo Award Winner
- 2009 - Operation Push Honoree



Tonea Stewart, a native of Greenwood, Mississippi, has lived in Montgomery Alabama since 1990. She is a professional actress, play director, national museum exhibit director, tenured professor, and the Dean of the College of Visual & Performing Arts at Alabama State University (ASU).

As Dean of the College of Visual & Performing Arts, Tonea serves as administrator over the Departments of Art, Music, and Theatre. She also serves as professor, role model, motivator, and mentor to the students. Since her arrival, the number of Theatre majors, minors, and the number of graduates from the Department of Theatre Arts have soared. Over seventy-five percent of the ASU theatre graduates have received full scholarships to major graduate universities such as Brown, Yale, Louisville, the University of California in Los Angeles, Washington State, New York University, and Louisiana State University—to name a few. Youth and adults from the Montgomery area and across the nation have been touched by Tonea's artistry through T.A.P.S. (Theater Artists Performance School), Camp 3T (Teaching Through Theatre), TTI (Technical Theatre Initiative), ARPAC (Adult Repertory Performing Arts Camp) and Camp Gifted for persons with disabilities—all are summer performance and enrichment programs.

After receiving a B.S. degree in Speech and Theatre from Jackson State University (Jackson, Mississippi) and a M.A. in Theatre Arts from the University of California at Santa Barbara, Tonea completed her Ph.D. in Theatre Arts at Florida State University (FSU), in 1989. She was the first African American female to receive a doctorate from the FSU school of Theatre and the first McKnight Doctoral Fellow in Theatre Arts. During her study at FSU, Tonea also received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



As an actress, Tonea is perhaps best known for her recurring role of Miss Etta Kibbee in *In The Heat of the Night*. She earned an NAACP Image Award nomination for her role in the film adaptation of John Grisham's *A Time to Kill* and a New York World Festival Gold Medal Award for the narration of Public Radio International's series "Remembering Slavery." Tonea began her acting career in 1969 and became the first African American to direct and star in a leading role on stage at New Stage Theatre, the most prestigious equity theatre in Mississippi. Since then, she has directed major museum exhibitions such as the Rosa Parks Museum, African American Museum of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and The International Civil Rights

Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina. Stewart has performed in Canada, Mexico, South Korea, Scotland, Turkey, and throughout the United States, including Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Her screen and television credits include: *A Time To Kill*, *The Rosa Parks Story*, *Mississippi Burning*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers III*, *Living Large*, *My Stepson/My Lover*, "Walker, Texas Ranger," "Memphis Beat" "Matlock," "Leave of Absence," "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," "ER," "Touched By an Angel," "Mississippi Damned", and several Lifetime movies—the latest being "The Wronged Man."



Tonea has served as spokesperson for "One Church, One Child" of Alabama and for NOSAP, a Texas-based organization aimed at youth development. She was inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame and holds honorary doctorates from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa; Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas; and Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Tonea is a member of the Order of The Golden Circle, a life member of the NAACP, SCLC, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and a dedicated member of Hutchinson Missionary Baptist church. She is married to Dr. Allen Stewart. They have three children and five grandchildren.

FILM:

MISSISSIPPI DAMNED	Miss Alice (Tina Mabry, Dir.)
A TIME TO KILL	Gwen Hailey – Warner Bros. (Joel Schumacher, Dir.)
ALABAMA LOVERS	2Bertie– Associate Producer/Actress
WEST TEXAS CHILDRENS' STORY	Elderly Woman
CONSTELLATION	The Rev. (Jordan Walker Pearlman, Dir.)
TARA	Vetta Taylor (Leslie Small, Dir.)
ROSES	Connie (Frank Patterson, III. Dir.)
INVASION OF BODY SNATHCERS 3	Teacher – (Abel Ferrara, Dir.)
LIVING LARGE	Night Life, Inc. – Miss Davis – (Michael Schultz, Dir.)
MISSISSIPPI BURNING	Mrs. Walker – (Alan Parker, Dir.)

SHORTS:

GENIUS IN HEELS	Rosalette
SIX BLOCKS WIDE	Gray
CONFESSIONS OF A FLORIST	Connie

TELEVISION SPECIALS:

THE WRONGED MAN	LMN – Miss Newton
RACING FOR TIME	Counselor (Charles "Roc" Dutton, Dir.)
THE ROSA PARKS STORY	CBS – Johnny Carr (Julie Dash, Dir.)/ Associate Producer
GRAMPS	NBC – Rae Ellen (Bradford May, Dir.)
LEAVE OF ABSENCE	NBC – Cora (Tom McLoughlin, Dir.)
TRUMAN CAPOTES	One Christmas – Evangeline – (Tony Bill, Dir.)
THROUGH HAZEL EYES	The Hazel Brandon-Smith Story – CBS -Henrietta (Keach, Dir.)
DEAD GIVEAWAY	USA TV – Libby (Noel Nassock, Dir.)

CAROLINE
MY STEPSON, MY LOVER
COURTSHIP
INVICTUS
I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS
DON'T LOOK BACK
MISTRESS OF PARADISE
NIGHTMARE IN BADHAM COUNTY
MINSTREL MAN

Nurse Diane (Joe Sargeant, Dir.)
USA Movie – Delia (Mary Lambert, Dir.)
PBS – Amer. Playhouse/Aunt Charity (Howard Commings, Dir.)
NBC – Bernice (Dick Lowry, Dir.)
CBS – Lillie (Fielder Cook, Dir.)
ABC – Mama Paige (George C. Scott & Richard Cola, Dirs.)
ABC – Sister Sarah (Peter Medak, Dir.)
ABC Circle Film – Alma (John Moxey, Dir.)
CBS – Carla – Tomorrow Enterprises (Paul Cameron, Producer)

TELEVISION SERIES:

MEMPHIS BEAT
TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL
IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT
WALKER, TEXAS RANGER

ER
MAMA FLORA'S FAMILY
WALKER, TEXAS RANGER
MATLOCK
THE MISSISSIPPI
BEULAH LAND
JUST AROUND THE CORNER
FIGURE OUT
ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY

TNT-"I Want to be Free"
CBS – "Living the Rest of My Life – Lois (Tim Van Patten, Dir.)
CBS – Aunt Etta Kibbee (Recurring Role)
CBS – "Rise to the Occasion"/Principal Rivers (Michael Preece, Dir.)
NBC "Middle of Nowhere" – Pearl Johnson (Jonathan Kaplan)
CBS – Bessie (Porter Warner, Dir.)
CBS – Judge Paxton (Michael Preece, Dir.)
ABC – "The Jury" – Henrietta Dorsey (Frank Thackery, Dir.)
ABC – "Going Back to Hannibal" – Shirley Willis
CBS – Cook (Virgil Vogel, Dir.)
ETV – Brenda
ETV– Rae
ABC – Mrs. Avery (Jean Moore, Producer)

THEATRE:

SO LONG ON LONELY STREET
SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY
TOO MUCH CHAIN TO SWIM WITH
TARTUFFE
UNCLE MAROJE
MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT
FLY BLACKBIRD
A RAISIN IN THE SUN
MEMBER OF THE WEDDING

American Stage/New State Theatre – Annabel Lee
New Stage Theatre
Florida State University – Chloretha
New Stage Theatre – Dorine
Santa Barbara – Courtesan
Santa Barbara – Mrs. Love
Santa Barbara – Big Betty
Jackson State University – Lena Younger
New Stage Theatre – Berenice

TRAINING:

Ph.D.
M.A.
B.S.
ACTING

DANCE TRAINING
ACTING WORKSHOP

Theatre Arts: Florida State University
Theatre Arts: University of California, Santa Barbara
Speech and Theatre: Jackson State University
(The Concept of Being) Frank Silvera/Beah Richards/E.J. Fisher
(Modern/African) Floyd Gaffney
(Shakespeare's Hamlet) Joseph Papp & (The Method) Sonya Moore

SPECIAL SKILLS:

- Singing
- Storytelling
- Cycling
- Working with Children