

## ANDREW JANS RECEIVES 2013 DRAMA CLUB SCHOLARSHIP



Andrew Jans with Drama Director Jacklyn Keagy at the 2013 Dover High School Awards Banquet

*Following is the text of Mrs. Keagy's introduction speech for Andrew's award.*

One of the challenges and also one of the most fun parts of participating in theatre is the opportunity for an actor to play many different kinds of roles. When I was writing an introduction for Andrew as the winner of Dover's Encore Award at this year's high school theatre awards event, I reflected on all the different types of characters he's portrayed during his 6 years on the Dover stage. Let me recap:

He started as a member of the Lollipop Guild in **Wizard of Oz**, then played gambler Brandy Bottle Bates in **Guys and Dolls**. That was followed by a student named Ken in the play **Nothing But the Truth**, the bishop and a

soldier in **Les Miserables**, Mr. Bucket and an Oompa Loompa in **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**, Jacob and Potiphar in **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**, the red neck racist Bob Ewel in **To Kill a Mockingbird**, Daddy Warbucks (complete with shaved head) in **Annie**, the rebel student, Joe, who goes **Up the Down Staircase** and the anti-dancing Reverend Moore in **Footloose**. Throw in 3 years of traveling players, a drama class play and this year's spring one act play and that's well over a dozen different characters- each one expressing a different aspect of humanity.

Not only does acting give a person the chance to express himself creatively, but it also fosters leadership skills, self-discipline and makes the person feel part of a larger group endeavor. All traits I've seen in Andrew but what I particularly love about him is his enthusiasm and dedication for whatever role he is cast in. In his application letter for this scholarship, he mentioned that he always looked forward to each audition with the anticipation of a kid opening presents on Christmas morning.- See what I mean about enthusiasm?

Another thing Andrew said in his application letter was that he viewed the Dover Drama program as a gift and that is why I am pleased to pass that gift forward to him with a \$300 drama scholarship - made even sweeter since Andrew is attending my alma mater Kutztown University.