

"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

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## All Those Awards

For the second year, the actor, playwright, novelist and drag performer **Charles Busch** ("The Tale of the Allergist's Wife," "Die, Mommy, Die!") will be the host of the New York Innovative Theater Awards, honoring achievement in Off Off Broadway theater, to be presented on Sept. 18. This year's nominees, chosen by a system that polls both audience members and appointed judges, were announced last

week at a party in the East Village. Mr. Busch, right, was the host at the inaugural awards ceremony last year and wanted to do it again be-



cause he "thought it was fascinating," he said in a telephone interview (during which he fumbled with a new cellphone that he thought might be taking pictures of his ear). "I think it's an important thing that they're doing," he said, "and I like that it encompasses a wide range of people who are working Off Off Broadway." Last year, the group used the Lucille Lortel Theater for the presentation, but, in an indication of interest in the awards, it is looking for a bigger location this time. Presenters include the playwrights **Lanford Wilson** and **Lisa Kron** ("Well").