

All College Theatre
The College of New Jersey – Brower Student Center
P.O. Box 7718
Ewing, New Jersey, 08628-0718
Email: act@tcnj.edu

March 6, 2016

Potential Director:

All College Theatre (ACT) at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) in Ewing, NJ is currently seeking proposals for our 2016-2017 season. ACT is an entirely student-run organization for students interested in all aspects of theatrical production. We provide opportunities for actors, writers, directors, producers, stage managers, set/light/sound/costume designers, props masters, carpenters, etc. The goal of our organization is to provide TCNJ students with practical skills and experience within a professional theatre environment. We are open to all members of the TCNJ community, and are financed by the Student Activity Fund. Our membership is a multi-talented, energetic, and diverse group, all of whom possess a genuine love of theatre. ACT provides one of few outlets for theatrical performance at TCNJ, which currently does not have a formal theatre program. As a result, our focus is on both *education* as well as *performance*.

Our organization produces two full-length plays per season. There are two nights of auditions, approximately four to six weeks of rehearsal, and a four-day performance run, Wednesday through Saturday (with two shows on Saturday) for each show. There are two spaces that are eligible for our performances. The first is the Don Evans Black Box Theater in Kendall Hall at TCNJ, a fully functional studio theatre with approximately 100 seats. The other is the Kendall Hall Main Stage Theater, an 830-seat proscenium theatre with orchestra and balcony seating, a motorized orchestra pit, and state of the art lighting, rigging, sound, and video systems.

The location of our shows is to be determined based on availability. We will be using the Don Evans Black Box Theater for both productions unless there are scheduling conflicts that move us to the Kendall Hall Main Stage Theater.

We are looking for shows that will engage and challenge our members, and for collaborative directors who have experience working with growing theatre artists. Many of our members continue to pursue theatre after college, and thus take their commitment to the organization and production very seriously. Below is our membership's ideas on what they would be interested in seeing for next year's season, as well as a list of professionally directed shows we have done in the past 5 years.

Shows

- The Tempest
- A Midsummer's Night Dream
- Laramie Project
- Stop Kiss
- You Can't Take It With You
- Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead
- Arms and the Man
- Dog Sees God
- The Metal Children
- The Miracle Worker
- Art
- God of Carnage
- Red
- Time Stands Still
- It's Only A Play
- Trojan Women
- The Penelopiad
- Cyrano de Bergerac
- Noises Off

- A View from the Bridge
- The Motherfucker with the Hat
- Man and Superman
- The Enemy of the People
- Recent Tragic Events
- Macbeth

Themes

Redemption, discrimination, hard-topic/controversial issues, larger (ensemble) casts

Genres and Playwrights

Comedy, Drama, Farces, Thrillers, Dark Comedy, Contemporary Plays, Shakespeare, Arthur Miller, Harold Pinter, Tennessee Williams

Previous ACT Productions

Lend Me A Tenor by Ken Ludwig (2011)

Metamorphoses by Mary Zimmerman (2012)

The Last Days of Judas Iscariot by Stephen Adly Guirgis (2012)

Picasso at the Lapin Agile by Steve Martin (2013)

Lysistrata adapted by Ellen McLaughlin (2013)

Proof by David Auburn (2014)

Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare (2014)

Dead Man's Cell Phone by Sarah Ruhl (2015)

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde (2015)

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike by Christopher Durang
(our current production)

We understand that the above suggestions above cover a wide range of plays and ideas. We encourage you to take these suggestions as *suggestions*, and use them as a way to learn more about our membership. The most successful proposals have come from directors with strong visions and passion for the proposed play, with a willingness to collaborate and learn with our membership.

Directors are provided with a full production staff including set, lighting, sound, props, costume, and makeup designers, carpenters, stage managers, board operators and build crews. Our designers are students, who often have little to no experience. This staff is chosen and overseen by two members of the ACT executive board, who serve as the production managers of the show. About 30-50 people usually come out to auditions, at a roughly even gender ratio. Our actors and designers usually range between the ages of 18-25. Our productions are allocated approximately \$7,000 to cover set construction, props, costumes, makeup, sound, and lighting expenses. We do have many set pieces, props, costumes, as well as a full range of lighting instruments and sound equipment available to us through the college.

For more information on our organization, I invite you to visit our website at tcnjact.weebly.com, which has pictures from our past productions, a list of our most recent shows, and links to student articles written about our productions. Additionally, our most recent professionally directed show, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, is posted free on YouTube for public viewing. Watching the production may help you gauge the talents and potential of ACT. It is relevant to note that *The Importance of the Being Earnest* had auditions and callbacks August 27th-28th and opened 33 days later on September 30th to sold out audiences.

We offer a stipend of \$4,000 to our professional directors, and may reimburse for reasonable and agreed upon travel expenses. An individual director may propose a maximum of 2 shows, but only

one would be selected and produced in a given season.

If you are interested in proposing a play to direct with ACT, please fill out the attached proposal form, and send it via email to act@tcnj.edu. Please include a copy of your resume with up-to-date contact information, as well as a copy of the script for review by the Executive Board (script can be sent either electronically or via mail as a hard copy). The copy of the script can be returned if requested. Minor changes to a proposal may be made after submission if necessary. **Proposals must be submitted by March 23rd, 2016 at the latest.**

Our decision making process is two-fold. First, on March 30th, 2016 our membership will take a preliminary vote on which shows they are interested in, using solely the written proposals. This vote will determine which directors will be invited to present in front of the membership on April 6th, 2016. The in-person proposals on April 6th will be held at The College of New Jersey at 3pm, and will be by invitation only. If you know in advance that you would not be able to make this meeting under any circumstances, please let us know at the time of your submission. Those invited to the college for in-person proposals will be notified by 6pm on Wednesday, March 30th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. If you are unfamiliar with the organization, or just want to learn more about us, we are more than willing to schedule a phone or in-person interview.

Thank you so much for your time, and we are all looking forward to hearing from you!

Regards,
Matthew Steuerer
President, All College Theatre 2015-2016
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