

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

COC THEATER

Mission of the Theatre Production Program Production Selection Committee and Season Selection Process

MISSION OF THEATRE PRODUCTION PROGRAM

The mission of the College of the Canyons Theatre Production Program, the production wing of the Department of Theatre Arts, is based on the following premises:

1. To create for students and faculty alike a laboratory in which they can test out, and experiment with, the practical and theoretical artistic skills and concepts that originate from the academic curriculum;
2. To enhance the cultural life of the College of the Canyons and Santa Clarita communities through the presentation of the best educational theatre possible – in particular, a type of theatre not readily available in the community or commercial sphere – to audiences of all ages, but serving, primarily, the adult theatre goer;
3. To provide theatre majors and other students actively involved in the program during the course of two-year rolling cycles, with as wide a range as possible of fine dramatic literature from various cultures and various ages, presented in a variety of theatrical modes; without threatening standards of excellence in the art form of theatre.
4. To lend support to the evolution of American theatre by presenting new, unproduced scripts by student and/or established playwrights each year; this production also has an “in-house” benefit of providing faculty and students with an opportunity to observe and be involved in the evolution of a script from its beginnings to a finished production.
5. To be a leader among two-year colleges in California by providing the structure for the creative process and product interrelationship (both parts of which are, and must be, equal in value) without which theatre people cannot exist.

THREE SEASON PROPOSAL

Given the fact that faculty and students will always be at various levels of artistic understanding and creative proficiency, the accomplishment of its mission cannot occur within a singular production situation. As a consequence, the College of the Canyons theatre program should provide three general categories of productions – each one is vital and important to the realization of the mission at College of the Canyons theatre:

- MainStage Season
- **Studio Season**
- **Workshop Season**

PRODUCTION SELECTION COMMITTEE

A committee responsible for selecting a production season should be established consisting of the following personnel:

1. Theater Chair (Paul Wickline)
2. Full time theater faculty (Susan Hinshaw)
3. Full time theater faculty (T.B.A.)
4. PAC Technical Director /Lead Designer (Brodie Steele)
5. PAC Theatre Manager (Tami Toon)
6. *Elected Adjunct Theatre Faculty Member
 - a. Chair solicits requests for participants willing to serve
 - b. Committee reviews requests and by 2/3 consensus selects adjunct.

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

The Production Selection Committee is responsible for the following:

1. Making the selection of the productions for the season
 - a. Priority is given to selection of MainStage considerations
 - b. Committee also functions to advise in selection of Studio/Workshop seasons
2. Scheduling rehearsal and production dates and spaces
3. Assigning production teams (designers, managers, etc.)
4. Creates, approves, and oversees production budgets

PRODUCTION SELECTION COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

To aid the committee in its implementation of the theatre production mission statement, several precepts, practices, and methodologies need to be in place:

- Committee follows a very clearly defined method of choosing a “MainStage” and a “Studio” season.
 - MainStage season is performed solely in the PAC and BLACKBOX theatres and is advertised in the PAC season brochure.
 - Studio season may or may not be presented in the BLACKBOX theater space and is NOT advertised in the PAC season brochure.
- Committee members follow a timeline
 - **November/December:** Suggestions are solicited from faculty, staff, and students via the ***Season Selection Submission Form***. This is a submission of scripts to be done for **2 academic years**.
 - **February:** The form is due by first Monday of Spring semester (**February 9**).
 - **February/March:** Committee meets to review all proposals and title suggestions.
 - **Mid-March:** Season selected and announced (**March 13**).
- Committee members examine submissions from several perspectives (pedagogical benefit, technical demands, budgetary concerns, available talent, etc.) with emphasis on THEATRE DEPARTMENT MISSION and in terms of the goals of the theatre production program.
- Committee members use a matrix of six script categories into which the play suggestions are put. During the course of a two-year production cycle, at least one script from each category must be programmed for the MainStage and Studio seasons.
 - **Period or Modern classic** (*Comedy of Errors, Macbeth, Antigone, Lysistrata, Volpone, The Rivals, A Doll’s House, Arsenic and Old Lace, Private Lives, etc.*). At least one classic should be presented during each two year cycle.
 - **Musical** (*South Pacific, Company, Pirates of Penzance, Baby, Robber Bridegroom*). Every other year, a large cast musical may alternate with a small cast musical if a larger cast play is selected to balance the selection of a small cast musical. There is tremendous benefit for student actors in participating in smaller cast musical productions.
 - **Modern Realism** (*Noises Off, Getting Out, Death of a Salesman, Some Girls, etc.*)
 - **Modern or Contemporary Non-Realism** (*Waiting for Godot, The Birthday Party, The Adding Machine, Alice in Wonderland, American Dream, The Bald Soprano, All in the Timing, etc.*)
 - **Risky** (*The Long Christmas Ride Home, Curse of the Starving Class, Mr. Marmalade, American Buffalo, Fuddy Meers*). This would traditionally be done as an “off center/studio offering” and may contain adult themes/subject matter.
 - **New Play or New Works** (This would traditionally be done as an “off center/studio offering.” Exceptions can be made.)

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

MainStage Season considerations

- Productions are chosen on a two-year cycle
 - First year is firm
 - Second year is alterable during first year
 - Account is taken of the needs of the students currently involved in the program
 - Script selection should acknowledge the professional development needs of the students and members of the faculty.
 - Budgetary concerns and fiscal constraints are taken into account before selection is made
- Shall consist of two to three productions annually (Fall and Spring semesters)
- Shall be fully mounted productions, presented in the PAC theaters
- Shall be designed and directed by faculty members (full time and adjunct)
- Shall be produced with significant production budgets
- Shall be partially supported by the public through patron, subscription, and/or per show ticket sales
- Shall be determined, with production staff assigned (to the extent possible), in the Spring Quarter of the preceding academic year.
- **Shall represent, to the monetary and artistic extent possible, the completely realized production.**

Studio ("Off Center") Season Considerations

- Productions are chosen on a two-year cycle
 - First year is firm
 - Second year is alterable during first year
 - Account is taken of the needs of the students currently involved in the program
 - Script selection should acknowledge the professional development needs of the students and members of the faculty.
 - Budgetary concerns and fiscal constraints are taken into account before selection is made
- Shall consist of two or three smaller/less complex productions
- Productions shall be fully or minimally-mounted productions, presented in either the PAC Black Box theatre, STCN-130, Pico Canyon Hall band/choir rooms, outdoor amphitheater, COC cafeteria, or other appropriate venue. (For minimal mountings, fully realized designs may be displayed at the production.)
- Productions are more student oriented
- Selection process still involves application process
- Shall be designed by qualified students, faculty members and staff.
- Shall be produced with moderate to minimal production budgets
- Shall be minimally supported by the public through the sale of per show tickets.
- Shall be determined, with the production staff assigned (to the extent possible), in the Spring quarter of the preceding year.
- **Shall represent, to the monetary and artistic extent possible, the emerging realization of the complete theatre product.**

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

Workshop Season Considerations

- Shall consist of an undesignated number of productions annually
- Shall be essentially non-mounted productions (i.e., set pieces pulled, but not modified, from stock; costumes pulled and modified minimally from stock; and absolutely minimal lighting)
- Presented in the Black Box, STCN-130, Pico Canyon Hall band/choir rooms, outdoor amphitheater, COC cafeteria, or other appropriate venue.
- Shall be designed and directed by qualified students, staff, and faculty.
- Shall include curriculum based project showcases (TH 126, TH 141, etc.)
- Shall be produced with budgets limited only to royalties and script expenses.
- Shall be supported only with ***Associated Student Body Drama Club*** funds
- Shall be determined in the ***academic semester prior to their presentation***, excepting Fall semester when they will be determined as early as possible in that academic term; and
- **Shall represent, to the monetary and artistic extent possible, the realization of specific training objectives of the students and faculty involved in the project/productions.**

Directions: Complete this form and submit it to Paul Wickline, Chair/Producer of the COC theater department (paul.wickline@canyons.edu) . This form must be submitted with each proposed selection and preferably accompanied by a script when possible.

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

Deadline for consideration for 2012-2014 is Friday, February 10th 2012

Script: _____ Playwright: _____

Genre: _____ MainStage / Studio / Workshop* (circle one)

- MainStage = production in the season slot on the PAC or BLACK BOX stage.
 - Studio = Not advertised in PAC brochure/non-season/may take place in Black Box or alternative space
 - Workshop = Class or drama club produced production / may take place in Black Box or alternative space
- Note: If this is a WORKSHOP proposal please answer the questions on page 3.**

CAST: (Fill in appropriate numbers)

Men: _____ Women: _____ Children: _____ Over 40: _____

Roles requiring people of color: _____ Roles could double: _____

TOTAL number of cast: _____

Other casting concerns: _____

Project proposed for _____ semester.

ARTISTIC STAFF: (Check those needed for this play or production idea)

Musical Director: _____ Dance Choreographer: _____ Fight Choreographer: _____
Dialect Coach: _____ Specialty Hire: (Specify what kind) _____
Orchestra/Band (Specify what size): _____

SCENERY/PROPS: (Check those needed for this play or your concept of the play)

Unit set: _____ Number of settings: _____

Historical period: _____ Geographic location: _____

Brief description of set concerns or special requirements:

Approximate number of props: _____ period: _____

Difficult or unusual props Yes No (Circle One)

Please explain:

WEAPONS / FIREARMS: How many _____ Describe: _____

COSTUMES: (Check those needed for the play or your concept of the play)

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

Approximate number of costumes per character: _____

Historical period: _____ Season: _____

Special requirements: _____

Have you seen this script produced: Yes No (circle one)

If you have done this play before, describe your involvement in the production:

Why should we do this play?

What are the drawbacks (If Any) to doing this production?

Submitted By _____ Date _____

Email: _____

WORKSHOP QUESTION ONLY

COC Theatre Season Selection Process

Given the limited technical support available to Workshop projects, how do you intend to handle any specific technical demands/requirements your project may seem to have which will not be met by the standard Workshop resources at your disposal?

Will your project require the payment of royalties? _____ YES _____ NO

If so, how much? _____

Who are the leasing agents? _____