

# Theatre Oxford

Thank you for your interest in directing a play for Theatre Oxford's **2011-2012** Season. The purpose of this document is to outline the application and selection process, as well as to clarify our selection criteria. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Casey Cockrell, Vice-President of Theatre Oxford, 601- 467 -1783, casey@olemiss.edu

## Application Process

- Read through this document.
- Complete page 1 of the *Application*
- Submit a resume OR complete page 2.
- If you want to suggest a play, please complete page 3
- Submit your items to the Theatre Oxford Play Selection Committee with all necessary materials by the dates below.
  - Applications are due by **February 1, 2011**.
- Remember to include with your *Play Submission Form*:
  - 1 copy of the script
  - 1 copy of the libretto (if you are submitting a musical)
  - 1 copy of a CD or tape of the music (if you are submitting a musical)
- Applicants will be notified about Theatre Oxford's decision by **April 30, 2011**.

## Selection Process

- The Play Selection Committee will read the submissions and generate a packet of recommended applications and suggested plays for the 2011-2012 season.
- The list will be submitted to the Theatre Oxford Board of Directors for approval at a board meeting.

## Selection Criteria (in no particular ranking or order)

- The Play Selection Committee will make its decision regarding submissions based on the following criteria:
- **Director's experience in theater**
  - Like most community theaters, Theatre Oxford is funded primarily by ticket sales. Thus, we must take into consideration a potential director's previous production experience, such as directing, assistant directing, and stage-managing. If you are a potential director with no previous production staff experience, please consider gaining more experience before tackling a production of your own or consider applying to direct a 10 Minute Plays Festival production. Directing is NOT a skill that you want to learn "on the fly."
- **Director's experience working with Theatre Oxford**
  - The more prior experience that you have working with Theatre Oxford, the more familiar you will be with our facilities, infrastructure, and resources. Each community theater has its own way of doing things, and each stage has its own unique spatial and technical

quirks. Familiarity with Theatre Oxford and the Powerhouse greatly increases your chances of producing a successful show.

- **Director's "people skills"**
  - Theatre Oxford is a 100% volunteer-operated organization. Folks volunteer to participate in Theatre Oxford productions because they love theater, and because it is just plain fun to do so. No matter how brilliant your vision, your ability to work with people will determine whether or not those volunteers return to us in the future.

### **Play Submission**

The *Play Submission Section* is your chance to "sell" a play you would like to direct to Theatre Oxford. The level of preparation, organization, and thought that goes into the assembly of your Play Submission Packet could be seen as indicative of how you might run a production, as well.

- **Appeal of play to audience**
  - Given that the sustainability of Theatre Oxford depends almost entirely on ticket sales, the marketability of your play is crucial. If your play is not especially well known, or it is not written by a well known author, you might strengthen your submission by discussing what aspects of the play could be emphasized in publicity to "hook" an audience.
- **Balance of material and roles for any given season**
  - Theatre Oxford strives to offer a nice variety during any given season. Furthermore, we try to balance the number of male and female roles. In order to increase your chances of getting a play to direct, consider submitting both a comedy and a drama, or if you submit a play that has mostly male roles, consider also submitting a play with mostly female roles.
- **Ability of Theatre Oxford to produce the play, given our resources and budget**
  - Across seasons, Theatre Oxford's financial situation and available resources vary. Also rehearsal space in the Powerhouse must be balanced against the needs and obligations of the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council. Please feel free to talk with the Play Selection Committee Chair about what the organization can realistically produce.

### **Deadlines**

- **February 1, 2011** – Applications are due.
- **April 2011** – Play Selection Committee submits recommendations for directors and plays to the Board of Directors.
- **April 30, 2011** - Applicants will be notified about the final decision.

# Theatre Oxford

## Application to Direct

Please indicate what you are interested in applying for by checking one of the boxes below. If you are interested in applying for several plays or nominating several plays, please submit separate applications.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 2011-2012 Season

10 Minute Plays Festival – September 2011

Usually 5 or 6 10 Minute Plays by local authors and 1 play is the winner of the National Contest held in the previous February – we need 1 director for each play

Vignettes or Dinner Theater - October/November 2011 – 1 night – Dinner Theater

An evening of vignettes, can include monologues, short sketches, readings from celebrity biographies OR light entertainment that can involve the theatergoers or not – the goal of this evening is to showcase theatrical talent from a wide variety of community members and to have a fun time and raise some money for Theatre Oxford. Date is dependent on the Ole Miss Football season

Holiday Play – tentative dates - December 2, 3, & 4 2011

A family friendly play usually holiday related. The play must include children.

Spring Play – tentative dates - February 23, 24, & 25, 2012

Usually an experimental play, preferably one that allows many diverse community members to become involved in the performance

Dinner Theater – late March/early April 2011 – 1 or 2 nights

An evening of light entertainment that can involve the theatergoers or not - the goal of this evening is to for the theatergoers to have a fun time and raise some money for Theatre Oxford

Summer Children's Theatre Camp – July 2012

We would like to sponsor a theatre camp during the summer that teaches the students about theater. The goal is to host a production for family and friends at the end of the camp.

Summer Play – tentative dates - August 9, 10 & 11, 2012

Usually a fan favorite or classic play

Complete this application and mail to: **Theatre Oxford, Director Applications, PO Box 1321, Oxford, MS 38655**  
or e-mail to [casey@olemiss.edu](mailto:casey@olemiss.edu)

## **Application to Direct, page 2**

Please list previous theatre experience in the space below.

Please list specific directorial experience in the space below.

Please describe your audition procedures.

Do you have an assistant director, stage manager and/or technical director in mind or will you need someone provided by Theatre Oxford?

Attach a sample rehearsal calendar showing how you will organize your rehearsal schedule or describe your process for developing a rehearsal schedule.

# Application to Direct, page 3

## Play Submission Section

If you are also nominating a play, please include a sample copy of the script of the show you wish to direct. If you would like this script returned to you, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

<b>Play Title:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	
<b>Play Service:</b>	
<b>Royalty Fee Per Show:</b>	
<b>Proposed Date for Show</b>	
<b>Genre &amp; Brief Synopsis:</b>	

## Cast Demographics

	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Number				
Age Range				

In the space below please tell us what makes the play special and how it would appeal to the Oxford and Lafayette County Community. Use this section to “sell” a play you would like to direct to Theatre Oxford. Please tell us what makes the play stand out.