

Memorial Opera House Director Application

For Full Length Plays & Musicals

Thank you for applying to Direct for Memorial Opera House! Directing is a rewarding opportunity to work and direct a team in order to produce a high quality theatrical production. Each director that is chosen will have the full resources of Memorial Opera House to produce their selected production. When choosing a play, please keep in mind that two of the Opera House's main goals are to foster a creative process that is fully inclusive of all community members and to tell theatrical stories that reflect the diversity of our world. All Directing Candidates must read the Opera House Mission Statement and Casting Policy and use this as a guide to choose a play, cast an ensemble, and create a production process that reflects the values of Memorial Opera House.

Requirements

- A Passion for Theatre and its process
- Theatrical Acting and/or Backstage experience
- Experience working on a theatrical production team
- Strong Organization and Open Communication Skills
- Respect for fellow Actors, Directors and Stage Crew
- Ability to work in a collaborative team setting
- Able to foster a collaborative bridge between the Stage Crew and Actors
- Have the desire to give all community members an equal opportunity in Theatre
- To keep an open inclusive mind throughout the casting process.
- Heading Production Meetings with the technical staff before and during your production process as well as one on ones with Business Director.
- An ability to network and select qualified production staff.
- All applicants must represent and promote the ideals of Memorial Opera House.

Applications are due to Scot MacDonald, Memorial Opera House's Business Director, or Michael Glorioso, Selection Committee Chair, by Saturday March 18th 2017

Applicants should feel free to contact Scot at smacdonald@memorialoperahouse.com or Michael at mrglorioso@hotmail.com with any questions.

The selection will be made by a committee of volunteer made up of past directors, actors, community members and board members. The Applicants will be notified the week of March 27th 2017 regarding a decision. ***Note all selections are contingent on if we can secure the right to the show you are proposing.**

Director Application

(Please turn this page in with your application)

Name:	Email:
Address:	City/State/ZIP:
Best phone:	

Title of Proposed Production:

Author: _____

Title of Proposed Back Up Production:

Author: _____

The Back-Up Production may be used as a back up if for any reason there are problems acquiring the rights for your play

Would you be willing to Direct a play/musical that you did not submit? YES NO

If chosen would you be willing to assistant direct or have an assistant director? YES NO

Application Questions/Information

Each application should be typed and put together in a packet suitable for presentation to members of the selection committee.

Please include the following in your written presentation:

**note: Please make the written part of your application as detailed as possible. This will help the selection committee make the best choice for the Memorial Opera House and it's 2018 season. Musicals and Plays will be selected based on their appeal to a wide audience, name recognition and competency of the director.*

The Production

- A brief summary/synopsis of the play you are proposing.
- Please provide character descriptions including a breakdown of Male and Female roles.
- What research have you done regarding this show?
- Why is this show good for the Opera House?

Themes

- What is your overall directorial vision of this play? What themes or visual pictures do you think you will use throughout the production?
- What are your ideas for your set? What concept do you want to communicate to the audience the moment they see it? Please feel free to submit a sketch/set design with your application. (Please note that final set/light design must be a collaborative effort between the director, artistic director and set/light designers.)
- What type of budget would you need to produce your play? (Think about royalties, sets, costumes, props, make-up, etc.).
 - Do you see any special items that could be hard to find or costly?
[Note: This should be an estimate.]
- Is there any “show-specific” additional help you will need for your show? (Ex. Accents, fight choreography, etc.)

You As A Director

- Please discuss your theatrical background and how that experience will make you a successful director. Please be specific and/or provide a resume.
- Directing is a huge time commitment. How will you schedule your daily life and work load to accommodate the process?

Director applicants will be chosen based on the strength of their application, interviews, cast size, diversity, and production date flexibility. We also want directors to have a true desire to work in a team setting as well as collaborating on all aspects of the production process that represent the ideals of Memorial Opera House's Mission.

Production Date Information

Choosing a show date for your proposal depends upon your flexibility, conflicts, and space availability. We hope to accommodate everyone's first choice, however, we may not be able to. Please rank the month below you want your show dates to be. Rank them from 1 to 7 with 1 being your first choice and 7 being your last. For example, if you want your show dates to be in November, then write a 1 next to November. If your second choice is April then write a 2 next to April. Please allow 6-8 weeks before your show dates to hold auditions and produce your play. Put an X next to the months that you cannot have your show dates. Please remember these dates are an approximation.

Audition Dates and Production Process will be discussed and decided at the Directors' Orientation.

Rank your proposed show dates from 1 to 5

February/March

April/May

July

September/October

November/December

What months or specific weeks will you have actual or potential conflicts in 2016-2017? Please be specific when listing your conflicts. Next year's show dates will be set by the end of June. Please note that presenting new or last minute conflicts will not change your accepted show dates. With so many shows and outside rentals we need to accommodate many events and people as well as coordinate the spaces needed for the productions. We will do our best to give everyone what they need, but choices and compromises will be needed to make the process fair for everyone. Thank you for your understanding.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL CANDIDATES!!!

Important Memorial Opera House Information for All Directing Applicants

Memorial Opera House Mission/Artistic Statement

Memorial Opera House is an arts centered community that emphasizes the process of artistic collaboration and instills a disciplined work ethic. By practicing professionalism, collaboration and emphasizing individual development, we bring to the stage high quality theater productions.

Our mission is to spotlight history, community, and the arts by preserving a National Historic Monument dedicated to increasing opportunities for all people to appreciate, participate in and enjoy the arts.

And you don't have to be in a show... to be in a show! By staging 5 main stage productions each year, Lunch Time Cabarets, Moonlight Cabarets, Children's Theatre, and other events, Memorial Opera House offers a wide variety of opportunities for participants to have a complete hands-on learning experience in all aspects of theatre arts, both on and off stage. We strongly encourage all volunteers to participate in all areas of production.

Memorial Opera House Casting Policy

Directors should always strive to cast fairly, with the guiding objective of assembling the overall cast that will best serve the directorial vision for the show. This requires many hours of careful analysis by the Directors and Artistic Director, who take their responsibility in this area very seriously. The Artistic Director typically watches every audition and as needed participates as a mediator and guide through every casting process.

Memorial Opera House casting decisions are not based on peer group, or years of participation in its programs. Participants are cast solely on his or her fit for a given role as revealed through a rigorous and thoughtful audition process. Auditioning for a show can be competitive and sometimes daunting.

Diversity

Memorial Opera House values and celebrates diversity of all kinds. Encouraging diversity of participation is an overall goal of the theatre. Memorial Opera House actively encourages all community members to participate in productions as members of cast or crew. All participants who audition are considered equally in an inclusive environment and in accordance with Memorial Opera House casting principles. The Opera House hopes to be a reflection not only of the varied backgrounds and experiences of its staff and volunteers but also of diverse world cultures, life experiences, and theatrical traditions. By carefully selecting a range of different shows each year we strive to tell theatrical stories that represent the richness of our world while offering a wide range of opportunities for all.

On Casting

Casting is a very complex process. In the end, the Directors must choose the auditionees who best fit the roles in many dimensions, both by the individual skills they present in audition, but also in the dynamics that develop between actors who will be creating the driving energy of the show in scenes together. Such dynamics are a large part of what is explored in the "Callback" round of auditions. For community members, auditioning is an exciting, yet difficult, process that can bring about greater success, whether cast in the production or not.

The feeling of "rejection" over not getting cast seems disappointing at first, but we strongly urge you to encourage your child to get right back to work as soon as possible so they can sharpen their skills for a future audition. In theatre, as in life, all of us experience both disappointment and success.

There are also opportunities to be an assistant director or stage manager, which you can discuss with the Artistic Director or the Director. If slots of interest are not available in the current show, please consider looking into such opportunities in an upcoming show.

On- and off-stage participants equally share the wonderful spirit of camaraderie and collaboration that develops during shows. Keep an open mind, and seek out a new experience! GET INVOLVED!

I have read the application above and understand the mission and casting policy of Memorial Opera House. If selected to direct you will be required to follow the ideals and spirit of this mission and policy.

Applicant signature _____ Date _____