



SETC NEWS

September / October 2007

New Fall Graduate School Auditions Expand Prospects for Students, Faculty

Members spoke. SETC listened. For the first time in its history, SETC will host Graduate School Auditions in the fall. The auditions were added to meet the needs of representatives from a number of elite graduate theatre programs, who said they wanted to see prospects early in the academic year. But the big winners will be undergraduate students at colleges and universities throughout the region.

Fall Graduate School Auditions will be held September 8 at Spirit Square in Charlotte, NC. Just like the program held during our March convention, the fall auditions will allow acting students and design/tech students to take the stage in front of several graduate schools simultaneously. The grad auditions will become a regular part of the fall activities, which already include committee and board meetings, receptions and professional auditions. They will not replace the graduate auditions at the annual convention, just add to the opportunity.

How did this come about?

Recently, several graduate school recruiters told SETC officers that the March convention dates can fall too late in their academic calendar to provide the best results. Often professors had already awarded

It's Not too Late to Register!

Yes, you can still sign up to participate in the Fall Graduate School Auditions.

Who: Actors and designers/technicians seeking Fall 2008 grad school admission. School representatives from theatre graduate programs.

Where: Charlotte, NC

When: September 8, 2007

How: Contact Lori Leigh in the Central Office via e-mail (lori@setc.org) or phone (336-272-3645)

Deadline: September 5, 2007

More Info:

www.setc.org/auditions/graduatefall.asp

admission or financial aid to applicants they had seen months before.

By contrast, some universities wanted to keep the program in March, finding that the annual convention offered a great time to see prospective students. Even those favoring the September auditions planned to use the March event to recruit for classes in future years. (Attention, college juniors!)

Then came the brainstorm. Why not have both? Sounds good, but why would students

attend fall auditions if they plan to attend the spring convention?

◆ Practice

Auditioning and interviewing are skills that can be honed. As your presentation skills improve, you are giving yourself the best opportunity for the graduate school of your choice while making yourself more marketable overall.

◆ Networking

As with any profession, people in theatre find opportunity often hinges on meeting the right people. Adding another round of auditions increases the chance of meeting people, both professors and peers.

◆ Marketing

Studies show that shoppers buy products with familiar names, and voters elect candidates they know. That's why products have commercials and campaigns include signs, flyers and personal appearances. Similarly, this is another chance to offer your own commercial in the form of applications, resumes and a personal appearance for a VIP audience.

◆ Victory

And the No. 1 advantage? You just might be one of the fortunate auditionees that wins early admission or a scholarship from a college or university at the fall auditions!

From the President

David S. Thompson



We're Cooking up Drama at the Bistro

After three years of classes, 16 hours of comprehensive exams, an additional four years writing the dissertation, and finally the oral defense, I at long last held my PhD in Theatre. This, along with a bachelor's and a master's in the same field, was to prepare me for a lifetime of college teaching, was it not? But wait, what my graduate professors never told me was that, amazingly, this would also prepare me for restaurant ownership.

Somehow, on April 3, 2007, my husband and I – along with four other family members and friends – opened Bistro 239, a fine dining restaurant in the town of Rome, GA.

How this happened is actually quite interesting, but perhaps even more interesting are the uncanny similarities between opening a show and opening a restaurant.

For example, in a live theatre production, we have the front of house, supervised by the house manager, and backstage, which is supervised by the

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From the Secretary

Anna Filippo



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It All Starts in the States!

Don't Miss the Excitement at Your State Convention!

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SETC NEWS

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Looking for a job?

Land a role at SETC's Fall Professional Auditions in Charlotte, NC!
September 9-10, 2007: Auditions for Actors, Singers and Dancers
 Audition onstage at Spirit Square's McGlohon Theatre for approximately 30 professional theatres.
Pre-register by August 15; Actor walk-ins accepted September 10

*More info and application:
www.setc.org/auditions/fall.asp*

From the Secretary

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stage manager.
 The same is true for fine dining. In the front of house are the "actors," those who interact with the public, such as the servers, the stewards, the host, the bartender and the managers. Backstage, or back of house, there's the "crew," including the chefs, cooks, prep cooks and dishwashers. There exists a line, of sorts, that separates the front of house from the back. When someone crosses that line, the demeanor changes, for now he is "onstage," performing for the "audience," or the clients. There is also a script that servers learn to help them properly interact with customers, for as in any fine dining establishment, there are certain expectations of service.
 The show begins when the front of house opens, and everyone assumes a role to produce an experience that is both enjoyable and creative – very similar to the experience we hope to have at the theatre. Interestingly enough, I put my directorial skills to work each night. It just depends on whether it's in the black box or at the Bistro.

Ooops! No Job?

Walk-ins accepted September 10 at
SETC Fall Professional Auditions

*See www.setc.org/auditions/fallwalkin.asp
 for requirements and application*

SETC 2008

Chattanooga, TN March 5-9

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS!

Fall Board Meetings
 in Charlotte, NC
 September 7-8, 2007

Executive Committee Meeting
 Saturday, September 8
 9 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 - 4 p.m.

*Members are invited
 to attend ExCom meetings.
 Board members are expected
 and encouraged to attend
 these meetings to participate
 in discussion of proposals
 before the board.*

Where to Send News

SETC News is published bimonthly for the Southeastern Theatre Conference. Deadline for the next issue is September 10.

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