

MT09 Week 5 OUDS Minutes

E and A

Workshops scheduled with Othello and the Magic Toyshop. Noted that participants will need CRB checks.

Cuppers Judging

Noted that 4 tickets must be reserved for judges. Nominations for prizes to be made on the Friday, winners announced on the Saturday. Suggestion to have these announcements at Thirst Lodge. Need to contact them. Event to be advertised on Facebook and UDO mailing list. Beth to create Facebook group. OTR would like to hand out flyers with each ticket. Decision to have a stack on the table for audience members to take. Saturday judging is only to consider best show only. One panel of judges to judge all cuppers Saturday shows.

NWF Script Reading

Approximately 3/5 of the scripts have been read, 7 double yes's confirmed. All need to have been read by Sunday 15th November. Helen Eastman to judge next round of NWF readings. She is running a rehearsed reading of a new play at eh classics faculty next Tuesday (Onasis).

NWF

Chloe Courtney presenting NWF bid (due in at the BT on Monday). Festival will have a more unified feel, esp. through marketing. Budget has been cut. Festival to be advertised to freshers to increase involvement. Direction is going to be blind, posed as a challenge to directors (to direct a show they have not seen before). Writer would have to discuss matters of artistic license once directors have been assigned. Incentive that marketing is completely provided for. Acting auditions to be blind as well. Scripts will be available for actors to read beforehand, and can subsequently put their preference. Bidding for 7th week Hillary. Previous year's budget was £1600, now down to £989.68. Cuts mainly in money being given to shows. Money that shows have would have to from JCR grants. Suggestion to set a limit on budget at £150. Suggestion to have a best production award (separate from the script award) as an incentive to directors. Breakeven is 50% capacity at the BT. Committee to think of one point to be added to an 'examiner's report' style feedback report. Consideration of which week to hold festival in, given strong bids in 7th week thus far. Decision to increase budget by £400 to give each show £100 OUDS provided budget. Suggestion tat number of flyers be lowered to 2500 from 5000. Printing decisions deferred to a later date.

PM Assistance Scheme

Henry Bew explains system of having one top producer for NWF and then separate production managers for each show. Requirement for someone within OUDS to provide support to festival production managers. Also would help with the organisation of marketing. Noted that it would be good to extend this scheme to more clearly create roles for the committee within OUDS. Noted that these services are already offered to some extent by TAFF. Suggestion of greater use of the website to offer information for potential producers. Secretary to send primary contact for all coppers forms to UDO. Suggestion to have a list of potential producer and PM's available (potentially on website). More publicising needed for TAFF website.

OFS Redevelopment

Simon Tavener explains proposed refurbishments for OFS theatre. Studio theatre is being converted into an "Arts Auditorium". Capacity being reduced by 18%. Stage moved to the other side. Therefore stage cannot be used for obstructive set, and will have safety lights preventing blackouts. There will only be one entrance to the stage. No lighting storage area. Retractable seats mean that studio can be used as a rehearsal space for dance (but noted that there is no dance performance space). Serious loss of theatre availability, and interrupts development process for actors, directors and producers. Meeting has been promised by venue over changes (new arrangement being made by Crisis Group, organising 'Places for change' project). Our responsibility is to ensure that auditorium remains usable as a theatre space. Limited dressing rooms mean Youth Groups with actors u16 could not perform in the space. Simon to liaise with other theatre groups who use the space to discuss the changes.