

OUDS Michaelmas Term Funding Provocations

OUDS is a student society which funds student shows and supports the aspirations of students in their theatrical work. We encourage students to consider the following questions which will constitute a particular focus throughout our upcoming funding interviews.

- 1) How will your production be accessible to neurodivergent people, and people who have little experience? How does the production team and the play speak to the diversity of talent within Oxford including racial diversity, gender diversity, and diversity of disabled and non-disabled students?
 - What does your play offer to the community in Oxford? Who does this performance speak to?
 - How can you make your application/audition process as clear and accessible as possible?
 - Who have you reached out to? Are you hosting an auditions workshop?
 - Have you looked at the casting toolkit before casting? <https://www.theatrecastingtoolkit.org/>
 - Whose voice does your story foreground or privilege?
 - Have you thought about if there are any roles/aspects of the script that you must treat especially sensitively, both in terms of direction of the show, but also in terms of the casting process?
 - How have you tried to maximise the diversity and range of backgrounds within your cast and crew?
 - Why this show and why now?

- 2) How do you want to run your rehearsal room?
 - How will you look after yourself and your cast and crew throughout the process?
 - Do you have a welfare rep? (As per the Constitution, you must have a welfare rep to secure OUDS funding).
 - Will you integrate body mapping and tapping in and out at the start and end of each rehearsal? (See info on these topics on the OUDS website)
 - When will you schedule breaks into your rehearsals?
 - Will you need to hire a certified intimacy coordinator (not a student) for your production?
 - Have you made sure to let all actors know what intimacy is required as part of the play and how will you work with your actors' boundaries rather than pushing against them?

- 3) How does the production innovate?
 - Is there anything particularly exciting or innovative about your production that you would like to tell us? (We want to hear what makes you excited about this production!)

- 4) Producing questions:
 - *Have you secured rights for the show? This includes any personal adaptations of films/books that are still within copyright. If your show contains music, have you investigated obtaining a PRS license?
 - *Does your venue deduct the venue hire fee off the show's revenue after show week, or do you pay the venue hire fee upfront? Different venues do different things, and it could alter how you create your budget.
 - *How are you going to be sustainable in the way you market?
 - *Have you taken out Public Liability Insurance? Is it already covered by your venue? Please check, as OUDS this year are insisting that all production companies obtain insurance to receive funding.

We hope that in asking these questions we will collectively strive to make conscious and creative work that excites, challenges, and broadens our perspective. We cannot wait to see what you create. If you have any questions, concerns or just want to know more about Oxford Drama please email me at treasurer@ouds.org, or Leah, the president, at president@ouds.org. If you don't know where to begin with OUDS, want to put on a show and don't know how, you can always email or check out our site ouds.org which also has lots of resources.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Harry Brook
OUDS Treasurer
On behalf of the OUDS Committee 2023-24