



Artistic Direction Apprenticeship

The Artistic Direction Apprenticeship offers the opportunity to learn and develop the wide range of artistic and leadership skills necessary to work in the professional theatre. By working at Magic, a mid-sized theatre with a national reputation for new play development, the apprentice will have unique access to artistic and management leadership. Magic is large enough to allow the apprentice to work with leading playwrights from around the world and top professionals from around the United States and, at the same time, small enough that an apprentice will have an integral and hands-on role in the day-to-day work of the theatre. Magic is a fast-paced, exciting, and fluid work environment, and the Artistic Direction Apprentice must seek and thrive in that kind of situation.

The apprentice reports to Associate Artistic Director Sonia Fernandez and is mentored by Artistic Director Loretta Greco while working closely with all members of the artistic staff.

Responsibilities include:

- **ARTISTIC PLANNING:** participate fully in all activities involved in developing and producing new work; participate in Artistic staff meetings and season planning; organize and maintain the administrative side of the Artistic office; read plays and participate in Literary Committee meetings; cover the Bay Area theatre scene; assist the producer and assistant producer of the Virgin Play Festival; develop workshops and readings throughout the year; and participate in local casting.
- **ARTISTIC ADMINISTRATION:** support the Artistic Director by monitoring correspondence and performing other administrative tasks required for smooth operation of the company. (These tasks require organizational, verbal, and quantitative skills.) Provide general administrative support as needed.
- **ASSISTANT DIRECTION:** work directly with directors such as Trip Cullman, Jackson Gay, Loretta Greco, Jessica Holt, Victor Maug, Jon Moscone, Robert O'Hara, Niegel Smith, Daniella Topol, and Jon Tracy. While each director uses his or her assistant director in a unique way, assisting usually includes some combination of observing rehearsals, working with actors on lines, providing support to stage management, participating in design meetings and note sessions, contributing to all aspects of script evolution and development, and serving as an artistic voice for the production in development events and pre- and post-play discussions with the audience. The Artistic Direction Apprentice will serve as an assistant director on one or two Magic Theatre productions from pre-production to closing.
- **PRODUCING:** act as associate line producer for all workshops, readings, festivals and special events at Magic, including the Virgin Play Festival. Duties include, but are not limited to, assisting in casting, coordination and communication with creative teams; scouting locations and organizing event details; managing the running of events; and keeping all AEA paperwork organized and up to date.
- **PRODUCTION:** serve as a production assistant to the stage management team, from rehearsal preparation through the end of the run, for one main stage show during the season. This assignment enriches the apprenticeship experience by providing familiarity with all aspects of the mechanics of play production.



- **DRAMATURGY AND AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT:** provide support and content for contextual events around main stage and new play fest programming; serve as a marketing brain trust with Artistic staff; help run and participate in Friday evening Talkbacks; contribute to Magic blog; participate in postering and other public awareness efforts. Artistic Direction Apprentices participate in building a collage of dramaturgical images for rehearsal for each production and are encouraged to be creative with design and aesthetic.

Specific Requirements

- In addition to the general requirements for all Magic Theatre interns, the Artistic Direction Apprentice should hold a bachelor's degree in a theatre-related field and/or professional theatre experience. Excellent collaborative, analytical, and writing skills are required.