

# DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

## Outline of Process and Guidelines for Play Selection

1. The Planning Production Chairperson is elected at each Summer GM, and members have input through the nomination and election process.
2. The Planning Production Chairperson will put out a call for volunteers to serve on the Play Selection Committee. Subject to the conditions set out below, any member may offer to serve on the Play Selection Committee.
3. The Play Selection Committee will be chosen by the Planning Production Chairperson, who has the final decision with respect to committee members, subject to the following guidelines and conditions:
  - a. In choosing the Play Selection Committee, the Planning Production Chairperson is to strive to select a Committee that represents a range of the membership, and in that regard, may wish to consider including:
    - i. an actor
    - ii. a director (consideration should be given to whether or not that director wishes to direct a play for the upcoming season)
    - iii. a member with technical knowledge
    - iv. a long-standing or Life member
    - v. a newer member
  - b. Apart from the Active Production Chairperson, who may be selected to serve on the Play Selection Committee, no other member of the Board may be selected serve on that Committee
4. The Production Chairperson will put out a call to the membership to submit plays for consideration by the Committee, and any member is welcome to submit plays for consideration.
5. The Production Chairperson and the Play Selection Committee will select the proposed upcoming season of plays. It is recommended that at least one alternate play be identified in the event there are issues (such as difficulties obtaining rights) or concerns with the season as proposed.
6. The Production Chairperson will present the slate of plays to the Board for review and decision in November or December, to be voted on by the Board no later than the December Board meeting.
7. The Board has responsibility to ensure the ultimate sustainability of the theatre – artistically and financially. The Board is elected by the membership to make decisions on behalf of the membership in the best interests of the theatre, including the decision as to whether or not to approve the proposed season.
8. In considering the proposed season as presented, the Board should strive to balance respect for the process undertaken by the Production Chairperson and Play Selection Committee, consideration for the fiscal well-being of the Guild, and consistency with the theatre's artistic vision and direction. In this regard, it is suggested that the Board adopt the following, two-staged approach to the decision regarding the proposed season:

- a. First, is there any one play that causes the Board as a whole concern? (this limit will respect the Chairperson and Committee's process and efforts); and
  - b. Second, is the Board reasonably confident that the season as a whole will bring in the requisite 70% paid attendance?
9. When the Board votes on the proposed season, the following guidelines apply:
- a. the Planning Production Chairperson who proposed the season is not permitted to vote (as a result of the perception of conflict of interest);
  - b. all other Board Members, including the Active Production Chairperson (even if her or she is a member of the Play Selection Committee), but excluding the President, are to vote on the proposed season;
  - c. no Board Member should abstain from the vote regarding the proposed season; and
  - d. if there is a tie with respect to the proposed season, the President casts the deciding vote.
10. The upcoming season is formally announced at the January AGM, but the membership may be advised earlier by newsletter or other communication.