Kenan Fellowship in Directing at ACT Theatre
Description & Application Form

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) and ACT are pleased to announce the Kenan Fellowship in Directing. The Kenan Fellowship is made possible by generous support from the Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts. ACT — A Contemporary Theatre, in Seattle WA, is now accepting applications.

MISSION
The Kenan Fellowship and ACT seek to provide emerging artists with practical knowledge and experience as artists embarking on a career in regional theatre.

Each Kenan Fellow is mentored by Artistic Director, John Langs, ACTLab Production Coordinator Katie Burnett, and Artistic and Executive Manager, Samie Detzer, as well as by the entire ACT staff, in varying capacities. Mentors support and assist the Fellows through their learning of ACT's approach to making theatre and guide the Fellows through the challenges and realities of what it means to be an artist in Seattle. Additionally, the Fellowship supports time to pursue artistic growth, attend performances, and the further development of networking in their professional field. Kenan Fellows are also encouraged to apply to produce and develop their own performance project.

ELIGIBILITY
This six-month Fellowship is open to recent graduates of UNCSA's Undergraduate Degree programs from the School of Drama, from the classes 2014-2018.

One Kenan Fellow will be selected this year:

- Please apply by October 1, 2018 for Fellowship beginning in February 2019.

FELLOWSHIP COMPONENTS
Each Kenan Fellow will observe and offer creative support for ACT productions in The Falls Theatre, Eulalie Scandiuzzi Space, The Allen Theatre, and The Bullitt Cabaret. Fellows participate as important components of the creative process with some of the most respected American and international directors working in theatre today, learning valuable skills from, and making important connections with, their principal directors.

Responsibilities
As part of their responsibilities, Kenan Fellows will assist the Artistic Department in many creative duties which may include script reading and feedback, researching for and creating dramaturgical packets, grant research, community outreach, preparing and leading pre- and post-show discussions, donor interaction and board relations, participating in the production process and developmental stages of productions and participating in educational outreach.

Mentorship
Kenan Fellows will primarily be mentored and supervised by Samie Detzer and John Langs, with additional guidance from other ACT and Seattle directors, production professionals, actors, and theatre artists. Mentors may: help Fellows find directing or assistant directing opportunities; identify teachers and accompany them to performances; introduce them to colleagues; guide them through rehearsals and performances of their personal projects; and help them meet other challenges that emerging artists face.

Performance Observing Opportunities
Kenan Fellows will have curated opportunities to attend performances around Seattle, at both large and small theater companies, helping to expand their directorial aesthetic and explore Seattle's sizable and diverse theatre community.

Personal Artistic Project (ACTLab Showcase)
Kenan Fellows are encouraged to develop their own performance projects. ACT offers them, as emerging artists, the opportunity to focus on their craft in ACTLab's supportive and energized environment. Fellows apply to have their projects produced in an ACTLab showcase by submitting a proposal that includes a project description and budget. Finished projects will be presented in the Artistic Fellow Showcase.

Evaluation and Reflection
Kenan Fellows keep journals and write reflective essays and responses to assignments given by their mentors. They meet bi-weekly with the Artistic Fellowship Director for evaluation and reflection. Each Fellow writes a final essay to help staff assess the Fellow's success in the program, and to help each Fellow capture a snapshot of their learning journey. Fellows are asked to contribute to the *Kenan Fellowship at ACT* blog with regularly written posts focusing on different aspects of the Fellowship.

A YEAR AT A GLANCE
One Kenan Fellow will be selected for the ACT 2019 season. Applications must be submitted by October 1. The Fellowship will begin in early February 2019 (exact date to selected with the Fellow and ACT Theatre)

Application Deadline:
Midnight PST, October 1, 2018

Interview (October/November 2018)
Will be conducted over the phone, skype, or in person. Interviews for selected applicants will be arranged at ACT on October 15, 2018. Phone or skype interviews may be possible for candidates who cannot interview in Seattle.

Initial Visit: (Late January/ Early February 2019)
While ACT will not scout or secure housing for you, we are happy to offer advice, and strongly suggest that you schedule an initial visit to secure your living situation/location to best use your housing stipend.

Orientation: (Late January/Early February 2019)
Lead by Samie Detzer, Artistic and Executive Manager, the first four days of your Fellowship will be an in-depth orientation, introducing you to ACT and your role here and in the Seattle theatre community.

Weekly check-in:
Artistic and Executive Manager and Artistic Director for questions/assignments/scheduling.

Monthly Evaluation/Reflection:
To set goals and assess progress and growth.

Directors' Coffee:
Bi-Weekly with Artistic Director John Langs and occasional special guest directors.
Office Hours:
Kenan Fellows will have regularly scheduled office hours in the Artistic Department when not in rehearsal.

Researching and applying for grants, reading plays, and writing coverage for literary are some of the projects that will populate these regular office hours. Observing rehearsals can be woven into this time, as well.

In Rehearsal:
When the Kenan Fellow is supporting a production, and attending daily rehearsals, office hours continue, but are more limited.

Attending Shows in Seattle:
Subject to Kenan Fellow's schedules, and ticket sharing arrangements, the Fellows will attend many free or discounted performances around Seattle both with their mentors and independently.

ACT LAB Fellow's Showcase: (June 2019)
Kenan Fellows showcase their directing skills in ACTLab. This Fellow-driven project, under the guidance of the Artistic Department, features several fully-produced short plays. The ACTLab application process and production schedule dictates when and how many of such projects may occur.
*** NOTE: These dates are yet to be confirmed and are subject to change.**

TIME COMMITMENT
The Kenan Fellowship at ACT is a full-time employment commitment. Fellows are expected to put forty hours (+) per week toward the goals and mission of the Fellowship. Within those forty hours there is flexibility, and the day-to-day schedule will vary. A one- or two-day absence during the Fellowship may be requested for an interview for professional work which is scheduled to commence after the conclusion of the Fellowship. Should a Fellow be offered a professional opportunity that would require an absence of more than two days prior to the conclusion of the Fellowship, the Fellow may choose to terminate their Fellowship by submitting the request in writing.

STIPEND/HOUSING AND TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

- Fellows receive a bi-monthly stipend of $1,100.
- For residents outside the Seattle area, a one-time travel stipend of $400 is paid to each Fellow during the first month of the Fellowship, to supplement the expense of moving to Seattle.
- The Fellowship does not include health insurance coverage.

APPLICATION FOR THE KENAN FELLOWSHIP AT ACT

Preferred Qualifications:

- Candidates must be able to articulate a strong personal connection to the ACT Manifesto.
- Candidates must demonstrate strong communication and organizational skills to maintain a complicated schedule and to juggle differing assignments and timelines.
- Candidates must be actively pursuing a career in directing.
- Candidates will be expected to articulate the following during the interview:
    - *Why are you interested in the Kenan Fellowship?*
    - *What are you hoping to learn or achieve from this experience?*
    - *What are your expectations of the Fellowship?*
    - *What are your artistic goals for the future?*
    - *What excites you about coming to Seattle?*
    - *Have you been mentored, or mentored someone before?*
- Candidates must demonstrate a desire to learn and grow as an artist and as an individual.
- Candidates must demonstrate curiosity and interest about ACT and their role in the Seattle theatre community.
- Candidates must demonstrate interest and openness in developing a mentor/fellow relationship and in receiving guidance and input from their mentor and other ACT staff.
- Candidates must be self-starter individuals and cooperative and supportive members of the team of Fellows, mentors, and ACT staff.

Application: Each applicant should submit:

- Application form (attached)
- Cover letter, no longer than two (2) pages (see Application form for full guidelines)
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Three (3) current references (at least 1 from UNCSA faculty)
- Two (2) letters of recommendation from arts professionals

Send materials to*:

ACT Theatre Artistic and Executive Manager Samie Detzer samie.detzer@acttheatre.org

**all application materials are to be submitted electronically to the email above and become the property of ACT. Submission of application materials does not guarantee an interview.*

Application deadline:

Midnight PST on October 1, 2018

Interviews:

Interviews for selected applicants will be conducted by phone or skype starting in early November.

Additional information on the Fellowship is also available at:

http://www.uncsa.edu/mysa/currentstudents/services/career-services/fellowships.aspx#fellowships

For information about ACT, please visit www.acttheatre.org or contact emily.penick@acttheatre.org.

Kenan Fellowship at ACT Theatre
2018/19 Application Form

APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Name:	Date:
Year(s) attended UNCSA:	Degree:
UNCSA Faculty Studied with:	Current address:
Phone:	Email:

Please attach to this form the following application materials:

- Cover letter, no longer than two (2) pages, that addresses the following:
  - *Why are you interested in the Fellowship? What attracts you to this particular Fellowship?*
  - *What are your goals as an artist? Where do you want to be in a year? How will this*
  - *Fellowship help you achieve your goals?*
  - *What interests you about ACT - A Contemporary Theatre?*
  - *Tell us something about yourself: your experiences, dreams. What do you bring to this community of Fellows, mentors, and ACT staff?*
  - *Why are you a fit for this particular Fellowship?*
  - *Have you been mentored, or mentored someone before?*
- Resumé or curriculum vitae
- Three current references (at least 1 from UNCSA faculty)
- Two (2) letters of recommendation from arts professionals

Send materials to: samie.detzer@acttheatre.org
Deadline for receipt of materials: October 1, 2018