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Art Scholar Third-Year Award Application
Faculty Mentor: Dave Dalton

A Summer Internship for Directing

This coming summer, it is my intention to intern at a professional theatre in either directing or artistic directing in order to gain first-hand experience in the theatre industry. I plan on applying to numerous summer internships at various theatres across the country, including Hartford Stage Company, San Francisco Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, as well as a few others. I am currently in the process of submitting applications to these internships, most of which are due towards the beginning of March. All of the internships I am applying to involve either directing or artistic directing for a professional, regional theatre company. They all also require me to be available essentially the entire summer, and most require 40-hour work weeks. For most theatres, directing internships would entail serving as a de facto assistant director, assisting in dramaturgical research, helping with rehearsal tasks, attending production meetings, and working directly with designers and actors. All of these are extremely valuable skills that I will be able to apply both to my studies and to my directing projects in school and after graduation. An internship in assistant directing would entail reading scripts and conducting dramaturgical research, assisting with the casting and rehearsal process, as well as general day-to-day tasks. While an artistic directing internship would not be quite as valuable as a directing internship, it would still be extremely helpful to furthering my studies in directing and will give me a holistic view of the production process, which will be complimentary to my studies in directing.

My main goal for this project is to grow my first-hand experience in the theatre industry. While I am certainly making the most of my education in drama at UVA, there are limited opportunities to get experience in directing here. Furthermore, the opportunities that do exist are often in less professional settings and cannot allow me to experience how the professional theatre industry really operates. For example, at UVA, opportunities to direct are pretty much always done through student theatre organizations, which are forced to operate in a way that prioritizes being a student above being an artist. An internship like the ones I am applying to would allow me to prioritize my work as an artist and focus only on working in theatre. A professional internship would give me the kind of experience that isn't readily available at UVA, allowing me to enter into the theatre industry much more seamlessly upon graduation.

Budget

Expenses	Amount	Details
Housing	\$4200	Cost per month: \$1400 This is based on college student housing prices in San Francisco, by far the most expensive city I could possibly live in, so this number represents a maximum.
Meals	\$800	
Local Transportation	\$150	
Total	\$5150	
Anticipated Income		
Rising Third-Year Grant	\$1500	
Remaining Cost	\$3650	I am applying to other available grants to help curb this cost. However, if these do not go through, I intend to cover this cost through personal savings.

Because most internships are unpaid, I am applying for this grant to offset the cost of accommodations this summer. Since I'm applying to many different internships across the US, it is impossible to give an exact amount as to how much accommodations may cost. However, all of the internships I am applying to are in major cities with relatively high housing prices that would normally be out of reach. Therefore, I am applying for the full amount of \$1500 to offset this price, and plan to cover the remaining costs through other grants and personal savings.

Project Timeline

March 2019

- Submit internship applications

March - April 2019

- Hear back from theatre companies and, if necessary, decide which internship will be the most beneficial

May - August 2019

- Intern at a professional theatre company