

**STAGE-M Program Selection Committee (PSC) – Minutes**  
**October 24, 2018**

**I. Call to order in the Second Floor Conference Room at the United Church**

*Time:* 6:32

*Members present:* Frank, Chris, Laura, Kristy, Bob

*Members absent:* Ed, Bruce

*Guests:* Aaron Wilkinson, Emily Aslakson, Phil Himebaugh

The committee began with Items III and IV for discussions with the guests.

**III. Applications to direct - Conversations**

*Summary Discussion:*

- A.** Kelley Samuels-Good - application to direct “La Cage Aux Folles”  
(Though invited Kelly was unable to attend this meeting – Frank will contact, as Kelly had indicated interest in directing some shows other than the one above. Frank will advise her that she could submit her two alternate suggestions for directing before the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for consideration.)
  
- B.** Aaron Wilkinson - application to direct “August: Osage County”  
Aaron stated the show is a dark comedy that is female-heavy. Education about the show to the audience might be necessary. It would probably play better as a Fall show. Others suggested the show may need disclaimers. Aaron sees this as a show which could be done at Crossroads.
  
- C.** Emily Aslakson - application to direct “The Foreigner”  
Emily knows the show and thinks this broad comedy would play well here. Jon Taylor has taken a look at the script and is aware of some of the staging needs. Emily suggested it as a Spring show at Crossroads. If “August: Osage County” is recommended “The Foreigner” would add balance to that much darker comedy.

*Action:* No action taken.

**IV. Production Suggestions (Each of these suggestions has met the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to be considered for possible recommendation for the 2019-2020 season.)**

*Summary Discussion:*

- A.** “Noises Off” requested by Aaron Wilkinson  
Aaron spoke to the show, suggesting it be kept on the list for another year but that he would prefer “The Foreigner” for the next season. It requires a very challenging set. Jon Taylor is quite excited about making this set and thinks it could be done at Crossroads.
  
- B.** “Where’s Charley” (musical)/“Charley’s Aunt” (play) requested by Gordon Mallett, Sr.  
Gordon mentioned with his application he would direct but would like a younger person involved as well.
  
- C.** “Evita” requested by Aaron Wilkinson who would be interested in directing it with Laura Taylor as Music Director. Aaron spoke to this show. It’s the one he’s most enthusiastic about directing. Everyone who auditioned could possibly be cast in some role. It does provide opportunities to have children in the show where they hold a candle and sing. The principal cast is very small: a strong female lead and 2 male leads. Laura calls the show: “difficult but amazing.” They both mentioned it was one of the best female leads in musical history.

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- D.** “Dancing at Lughnasa” requested by Philip Himebaugh who would be interested in directing it. Philip spoke to this show in which he has performed in the past. Someone asked about using accents, and he said Emily has done a wonderful job teaching Irish accents in the past. He thinks the show is poignant and touching. It could be presented as either the fall or spring show. It does require some choreography. He would suggest the choreographer he will be using for “Little Shop of Horrors”. It was pointed out that this show was on the Stage-M schedule four years ago, but casting challenges resulted in an alternative being selected.

*Action:*

Aaron was asked to post all of the shows discussed above to the website for consideration, with links to a summary of the shows. Frank mentioned that a STAGE-M member had verbally suggested “Anatomy of a Murder,” but has not yet submitted (or had submitted on his behalf) the suggestion form. The primary agenda item in November will be firming up our recommendations for the next season. It was noted that we are asking feedback about shows, not using input as a voting mechanism. There may be cards in the Nutcracker programs asking for feedback about the selections.

**II.** Comments re: STAGE-M meeting of Saturday, October 6, 2018

- A.** ‘Old Business’ items did not impact the work of the PSC
- B.** Ad hoc Bylaws Committee draft bylaws were made available to those present:
  - 1.** ARTICLE 4: Committees, Section 4.01. Standing Committees
  - 2.** ARTICLE 4: Committees, Section 4.01.08. Program Selection Committee
    - a.** if the proposed bylaws are approved the Vice Chair of STAGE-M will serve as the Chair of the PSC  
(Frank noted this would be a change from having the PSC Chair elected from the members of the committee. Having an officer from the Board as Chair might improve committee communication with the Board.)
  - 3.** The Ad hoc committee is considering the suggestion that each STAGE-M season be coincident with the calendar year – this would alter the PSC’s deadline for recommendations
- C.** Action was tabled on the suggestion to have draft minutes of each monthly STAGE-M meeting made available to standing committee chairs no later than a week after said meeting [*Note: if the proposed bylaws are approved as drafted, the chairs of the standing committees would all be members of STAGE-M’s Executive Board*]
- D.** The STAGE-M Executive Board 2018 Ballot (as of 10/05/2018) was presented
- E.** Other Comments – there were no additional comments

**V.** New Business

None

**VI.** Adjourn

*Time:* 7:45pm