

Thank you for your interest in directing for the Sumter Little Theatre. The purpose of this application is to outline the director selection process, as well as to clarify SLT's director selection criteria. Selections go before the SLT Board of Directors for consideration. If you have any questions, please contact us at directorapplications@sumterlittletheatre.com.

Application Process

SLT will accept late submissions but cannot guarantee that they will be considered for production during the upcoming season. SLT's production calendar typically begins in early August and runs through May of the following calendar year. The subsequent season is chosen by May 1 and announced in early June.

To be considered to direct for SLT, turn in a completed Director's Application packet, which should include the following:

- SLT Director Application Checklist
- A completed Director's Play-Specific Application Form

How to Submit Your Packet

All materials must be submitted by the deadline listed for the performance you are interested in directing. Submit your completed packet to the Executive Director's office at 14 Mood Ave., Sumter, SC 29150 or email the packet to directorapplications@SumterLittleTheatre.com. Please be sure to include "Director Submission" in the subject line.

Selection Criteria

The Sumter Little Theatre will make its decision regarding submissions based on the following criteria:

- Director's Theatrical Experience. Like most community theatres, SLT is funded primarily by ticket sales, memberships and donations. Thus, we must take into consideration a potential director's prior production experience, such as directing, assistant directing and stage managing. If you are a potential director with no previous directing or production staff experience, that does not exclude you from the selection process.
- Director's Experience Working with SLT. The more prior experience you have working with SLT, the more familiar you will be with our facility, infrastructure, policies and resources. Each community theatre has its own methods and each stage its own unique spatial and technical quirks. Familiarity with SLT greatly increases your chances of producing a successful show.
- Director's Soft Skills: SLT is a volunteer-based organization. People volunteer to participate in our productions because they love theatre and the community that supports us. No matter how brilliant your vision, your ability to work with people will determine whether or not those volunteers return to us in the future.
- The Director's Application Form. The Director's Application Form is your chance to "sell" your vision of the play to SLT. The level of preparation, organization and thought that goes into your proposal could be seen as indicative of how you might run a production as well.

SLT Director Application Checklist

Being a director of a production at SLT requires knowledge of and experience in nearly every aspect of community theatre. It requires artistic vision and exemplary organizational, communication, conflict resolution and leadership skills.

SLT takes the selection of its directors seriously. You are encouraged to consider this list of experiences before you seek a directorship. These are not all-encompassing, and interested directors are encouraged to share their own unique experiences and qualifications that will benefit the production. This form will be reviewed and those who meet these minimum qualifications will be interviewed.

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone who has not directed a play at SLT will be required to serve as an apprentice or assistant director OR have a mentor/director participate.

Have you:

Directed a play at SLT? Names/years: _____

Directed a play outside of SLT? Where was it? What was it? Please provide a reference and contact information. : _____

Acted in a play: Y/N. Names, years, locations: _____

Acted in a musical: Y/N. Names, years, locations: _____

Stage Managed: Y/N. Names, years, locations: _____

Worked on a set: Y/N In what capacity? Painting, designing, building, striking, etc. _____

Worked lights or sound: Y/N If yes, for which shows and where?

Volunteered as an usher or concessions salesperson: Y/N

Volunteered backstage: Y/N

How many years have you been involved with SLT: _____

What are your special skill sets: Lighting/audio tech, costuming, makeup, set construction, etc. (Use back of page or additional pages if necessary) _____

What do you think is the most important role of a Director? Explain your response, please.

Handling stress and conflict well is key to directing the cast and crew of a theatre production. How would you handle conflict between participants? What would you do if you had a conflict or stressful encounter with a cast or crew member? Do you have a specific example from your own theatre work?

Do you agree to abide by all policies, procedures and rules set forth by SLT? _____

What else would you like us to take into consideration as we review your request to direct?

Director's Play-Specific Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Show Title Interested in Directing: _____

Why do you want to direct this show? What are some ideas you have for staging this production?

Have you ever directed, assistant directed or apprenticed during an SLT production? (If you have not, please include three references with contact information.)

Please list dates, productions, theatre groups, and the role/responsibilities you served:

Sumter Little Theatre is a volunteer organization. While the Board of Directors is committed to making each production successful, it is the responsibility of the Director with the support of the Production Committee to gather their production staff. Do you currently have team members ready to join you in producing this show if selected? If so, please list their names and responsibilities below:
