

Dramaturgy Initiatives – 2005

TPS – Dramaturgical Initiatives to Build Audiences:

- Monthly play-reading group at Seattle Public Library branches
 - To offer drama to people who already love literature
 - Script choices possibly related to current theatre seasons or current events
 - TPS members could also participate in other literary book clubs, to bring a theatre artist's point of view to the discussion, and engender thinking about the "dramatic"
- Periodic TPS newsletter, to be sent to TPS "Patron/Audience" members (& others who want it)
 - A regular behind-the-scenes way to contact this potential new category of TPS membership
 - Newsletter might include dramaturg-hosted access to rehearsals for shows-in-progress
- Cross-Talkbacks
 - Two or three theatres doing projects that are similar or complementary might arrange to attend & present at each other's talkbacks
 - A new TPS Message Board thread might help to facilitate this, as might a TPS dramaturg who looks at theatre seasons statewide & contacts theatres presenting similar plays
 - TPS might help publicize cross-talkbacks in a new special field on www.SeattlePerforms.com
 - Try to extend these beyond Seattle to statewide and even regional, to link cities in NW
 - TPS dramaturg locating theatres doing similar work might suggest other links, beyond Cross-Talkbacks – especially for their Marketing departments, or for other Community Education events, such as a joint-hosting of a film presentation related to the plays presented
- TPS appearance on KOMO's Northwest Afternoon television show
 - To increase exposure of Seattle theatre, and suggest connections between theatre and the world
- TPS contacts with language-training schools
 - To suggest another way for English-learners to study English and English literature, beyond TV
 - Foreign language schools may seek TPS membership, to provide their foreign-language teachers with additional translation opportunities (see Talent Database below), and to recruit additional teachers from among foreign-language-fluent dramaturgs
- TPS play reading series connected to current events
 - To promote the connection between theatre and the "real world"
 - The dates/times, actors, and directors might be pre-scheduled; but the scripts would be TBA, selected as new current events take place
 - Scripts chosen could be previously published, well-known plays, and/or new local scripts received through specific Calls posted on TPS before each event
- TPS hosting films, or videos of play productions
 - To offer resource for both theatre artists and the community – especially regarding hard-to-find videos of previous productions (either by Seattle theatres, or nationally-known artists)
- TPS Historian activities
 - Seattle Theatre History – distribution online or at TPS events, & possible availability elsewhere
 - Add two additional pages between 1962 & present: one on service org's, and another on theatre's link with Seattle?

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TPS – Dramaturgical Initiatives to Help Bring Dream Projects to Life:

- TPS Message Board – new thread on Project Proposals
 - A networking tool to allow local artists to initiate and develop new projects (even idea-stage)
 - TPS might forge more substantial links with Dance community, with dramaturgs as collaborators
- TPS Talent Database – new checkbox for Translators & field for specifying languages (also fluency)
 - A networking tool to allow local artists to initiate & develop projects utilizing foreign languages
 - Also add a field for specifying the instruments played by those who select Musician checkbox, and another field for specifying the types of dance for those who select Dancer checkbox
 - Also add a new checkbox for Literary Manager, and separate Dramaturg into two categories: Dramaturg – Play Development and Dramaturg – Production
- TPS Website links:
 - TPS could add section on website for On-line resources that are outside TPS (i.e. unions, LMDA, Dramatists Guild, Seattle Dramatists, Dramaturgy NW), and these org's could be asked to add a reciprocal link to TPS or SeattlePerforms.com
- TPS Networking Events
 - Speed-dating for dramaturgs, directors, and playwrights
 - Could occur separately from, but *near in time*, to the General Auditions or Fall Forum (perhaps before Fall Forum, to serve as an enticement for Forum attendance)
 - Could include a Trade Show concurrently, or a bigger tech packet sorted by category
- TPS field trip to the University of Washington libraries
 - To familiarize dramaturgs with one of the greatest research resources Seattle has to offer
- TPS conference/ workshop dedicated to joint play development labs – sessions by local theatre co's/Sea Dramatists
 - TPS might commission one or more plays & present a development session itself
- TPS Historian activities
 - TPS Forum transcripts – as resource for Seattle theatre community; other transcripts?
 - TPS Archive of Seattle theatre materials and Library -- how could this be improved to be useful?

LMDA – Dramaturgical Initiatives:

- LMDA dramaturgical initiatives:
 - NW LMDA outreach to Seattle Dramatists (play-development collaboration and playwright-advocacy within larger processes; Becky Hellyer) & to Directors Lab NW (Mark Zufelt & Karen Lund) – LMDA calendar listings in return for formal partnership
 - NW LMDA outreach to other New Works development programs around the state that lack dramaturgs
 - NW LMDA outreach to University of Washington, Senior Seminar on theatre career development (DRAMA 401, Prof. Sarah Nash Gates); and Seattle University (Carol Wolfe Clay/Ki Gottberg)
 - NW LMDA proposal to Seattle Arts & Lectures (www.lectures.org)
 - NW LMDA dramaturg(s) to offer course on Dramaturgy at Freehold or NWAS, or colleges
- LMDA resources to publicize:
 - Script Exchange, Residency Grant
 - Perhaps a Dramaturgy share-pool, between theatres doing plays previously done in NW