

Report of the Show Selection Committee

The committee met for the first time last month, and looked at a variety of issues relating to the selection process. These included

A. Artistic concerns:

1. Maintain high quality of performance and tech
2. Doing non- G & S shows will almost certainly involve auditioning chorus due to most shows requiring chorus to dance
3. Examine ways to maintain inclusive nature while respecting need for artistic excellence- possibly have auditioned people onstage and unauditioned chorus visible below/on side of stage but not costumed
4. Do not consider plays/shows that require overly large casts, too much tech, gratuitous profanity, nudity. We may aspire to more, but can't do some of this stuff now.
5. Present a variety of shows that address interests of a variety of audiences, casts, and staff

B. Financial concerns:

1. Shows need to cover their own expenses and some part of company's annual expenses
2. Cost of rights to shows varies with how recently stage, currently in big houses or on tour, size of predicted audience, number of performances, musical v. non-musical

C. Producer:

1. Having a producer is critical; we must have one before anything else happens
2. Options for enlisting: producer approaches Board with show in mind; company announces season, seeks producers; producer role rotates through Board; ask directors for shows, they bring producers

D. Other issues/concerns:

1. It is difficult to maintain sense of community when people only gather for one show a year.
2. We should present a season of shows, possibly 3 per year, in different-sized locations. Main show would be in winter in large location, medium show in summer, small show in early fall.
3. Try to shorten length of time required to put on a main stage show, currently about 9 months, to allow for other shows.
4. Consider having shows with children in cast, and determine challenges/advantages of doing so.
5. Decide whether we want to do shows that feel like G & S to ease existing audience into other shows v. doing something more different to encourage other new people. We are planning to do a non-G & S show in 2019, and will be continuing to look at these issues as we decide what other shows to consider.

The committee will be meeting regularly to determine what shows we will be presenting, and when and where we will present them.

Committee Chair: Susan Elberger

Members: Laura Jacobson, Karen Powers, Jim Ravan