



Frequently Asked Questions

Directing and Program Selection Process

How does the process work?

BCP seeks submissions from interested directors. We feel this allows directors to submit shows that they are passionate about and this passion comes through in the final production. We solicit submissions once a year for the following season and require submissions be postmarked or received by the submission deadline.

The Program Selection Committee, comprised of BCP members, reads each submission and then submits a rating based on their opinion of the written work itself. The members meet on a periodic basis throughout the reading process. Once all pieces have been read, the committee members meet one last time to discuss and decide on a cohesive season.

The committee's proposed season is then presented to the Board of Directors for approval. If the Board of Directors approves the season, it is then submitted to the membership for approval. If the Board or membership does not approve a season or specific selection within a season, the Board of Directors will then provide the Program Selection Committee with clear directives to complete the season selection.

How many plays/musicals can I submit?

As many as you would like! BCP encourages the submission of multiple shows for consideration. Submitting a variety of work will better your chances of obtaining a directing slot.

Can I submit shows that BCP has done in the past?

Yes, you can submit shows that BCP has done in the past; however, while we do not initially rule out submissions of shows that we have already produced, you will only better your chances by submitting pieces that the theatre has never done before. BCP has only repeated five productions in its thirty plus years of existence. Four of these repeated shows were in our inaugural *Season of Bests* and one very successful holiday production. You can find a list of prior BCP productions by clicking on 'History' at www.buckcreekplayers.com.

Do I have to be a member of BCP to direct?

No, you do not have to be a member of BCP to direct. We do encourage people to become members as membership is inexpensive and does have various benefits such as being eligible to serve on the Program Selection Committee! If you are interested in

becoming a member of BCP, check out the details by clicking on the 'Membership' tab at www.buckcreekplayers.com.

Am I responsible for the Box Office if I direct at BCP?

No. BCP has members that take care of reservations and the Box Office.

If my submission is chosen, do I have a choice of when I will direct?

On your submission form you will be asked to rate your choices of production time slots. These time slots are a general indicator of when the show would be in production. If chosen to direct, the Board of Directors will work with you to choose exact dates that fits your needs and the needs of BCP.

How many weeks will the theatre be available for the rehearsal process?

The theatre is typically available for 6 to 8 weeks prior to opening for your rehearsal period. The Board of Directors will work with you to determine the exact amount of time you will need to successfully produce your production.

Do I need to provide my own staff?

Yes. BCP wants each director to have a staff that is excited and has a good working relationship. The first staff person we recommend lining up is your producer. The producer is the only staff person that must be a member of BCP and must be approved by the Board of Directors as this person will help guide you through working at BCP. Once you have lined up a producer, the two of you will be responsible for getting your staff including: lighting designer, sound designer, costumer, stage manager, set designer, tech director, vocal director, etc.

Does BCP provide me with a budget for my show?

Yes. Prior to the start of the season in which your production will appear, the Board of Directors will work with you to set the budget for your show. This budget will be based on your needs, the needs of past similar productions, and the capacity of BCP to meet those needs.

Is every show chosen in this method?

No. Not every show is chosen through the Program Selection Committee; however, 95% of shows and all Encore eligible shows are chosen through this process. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, choose additional shows for a season. These shows are a rare occurrence and have traditionally only included fundraisers, workshops, or non-encore eligible shows. The Board is very supportive of the selection process and believes it is the best method for choosing shows.

Technical Direction, Lighting, Sound, & Set Construction

Does Buck Creek Players supply a technical director, lighting designer, or sound designer for my show?

No, BCP does not supply staff members for any show. As an all-volunteer community theater, all staff positions are volunteers. There are several members and volunteers that have been involved in past productions that we can put you in contact with, either to potentially serve on your staff and/or mentor, or to assist new staff who are not familiar with BCP.

What sound equipment is available for my production?

BCP is very fortunate to have a reasonable amount of equipment available to help fulfill a production's sound needs. Equipment includes:

- Allen & Heath Sound Board
- Hanging stage microphones
- Wireless lavalier microphones (typically reserved for musical productions)
- Professional two disc CD-Player
- Multiple wired stand microphones
- Permanent main stage speakers
- Flexible stage monitor speakers

What lighting equipment is available for my production?

BCP has a variety of lighting equipment available to meet a production's lighting needs, including:

- ETC Lighting Console with 54 dimmers installed
- A variety of lighting instruments including ETC Source 4, Fresnel, and strip lights
- Various cables, tie-line, gels, gobo's, and holders

Are there video monitors backstage?

Yes, BCP has video monitors on both sides of the stage, in the dressing room, green room, and box office.

Can youth assist with sets and technical aspects of a performance?

Yes, we encourage youth to get involved in our productions as available and appropriate; however, adult supervision is required.

What tools are available to construct the set?

BCP has a fairly well-equipped set construction area and scene shop. This would include:

- Hand tools – hammers, screwdrivers, clamps, hand saws
- Stationary saws – a cross-cut saw and a miter saw

- Air compressor & pneumatic tools
- Cordless drills
- Latex paint
- Brushes & rollers
- Sponges & other items to provide texture

All of these tools are available to construct sets at BCP.

How is a set constructed at BCP?

A set is constructed out of a variety of pieces typically made up of flats and platforms.

Flats are wall units made of 1/4" plywood that is attached to 1" x 4" boards to create a more rigid, but lightweight wall section. Individual flats are then assembled to create entire walls. Windows and doors are incorporated with trim to provide the complete appearance of a real wall. Wall sections are then assembled to create the entire space and braced to provide stability. Our flats are typically sized in 8' or 10' heights and in width ranging from 1' to 4'.

In order to create multiple levels on a set, platforms are used. Platforms at BCP are made up of 1/2" to 3/4" plywood that has been attached to a frame. Platform frames are made of 2" x 4" lumber to provide the structural support. Platforms are then raised in the air using legs made of 2" x 4" lumber and bolted to the platforms using carriage bolts. The legs of the platform are then screwed to the stage floor and diagonally braced to provide stability. Our platforms are typically sized in 4', 6', or 8' lengths in widths ranging from 1' to 4'.

Everything is held together utilizing drywall screws so that it can be disassembled and reused for future productions.

Costumes & the BCP Costume Closet

Does BCP supply a costumer for my production?

No, BCP does not supply staff members for any show. As an all-volunteer community theater, all staff positions are volunteers. There are several members and volunteers that have been involved in past productions that we can put you in contact with, either to potentially serve on your staff and/or mentor, or to assist new staff who are not familiar with BCP.

What is available for use in my production?

All costumes and accessories in the BCP inventory are available for your use during the run of your production. For the most part, the costumes are sorted by men's and women's clothing. BCP has volunteers that head up our costume closet that will be happy to work with you to find a particular item you might need.

Where is the costume closet located?

All of our costumes are on-site in the 2nd floor storage area of the playhouse

Is fabric available if we want to make costumes for the production?

BCP does have some fabrics available for use; however, please check with the head of the costume closet before using any fabric to ensure it has not been set-aside for another show. Additionally, some costumes can be de-constructed and the fabric used for another costume. If the item appears to be a vintage or specialty item, please check before altering it. Fabric may also be purchased using your production budget for costumes.

What is expected of using costumes from the costume closet?

We ask that you take as good (or better) care of the BCP Costumes as you would your own clothing or costumes. We have a washer and dryer available on-site for laundry needs. We also have an arrangement with a local dry cleaner for discounted dry cleaning. We ask all costumes be cleaned after the final production and placed back into the costume closet.

What type of costumes are available?

We have the standard items such as suits, shirts, pants, dresses, coats, slacks, blouses, shoes, etc. We also have a wide selection of accessories such as ties, belts, suspenders, crinolines, corsets, etc. We also have several formal gowns, military uniforms, and fur coats. Many of these require special care and cleaning, but are available for use.

Are any hats or wigs available?

BCP has a selection of hats and wigs available. We have over 50 different wigs to choose from including full wigs, hair pieces, and beards.

If you have any questions, please contact us at buckcreekplayers@yahoo.com.