

FY 2012 – 2013 SDCF ACTIVITIES (As of June 10, 2013)

Observership Program

We received 305 applications for the 2012-2013 Observership Program, up 6% from 2011-2012. All have been evaluated, and 182 applicants have been accepted into the pool of active Observer applicants. Application period is now over until next spring. More than 20 evaluators (all SDC Members) participated in the selection process.

An Observership Open House was held on July 12. Approximately 30 applicants attended the Open House, at which Program details were shared and attendees were given outlines of other Foundation programs.

New York City

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Status</u>
Trip Cullman	<i>Murder Ballad</i>	Taylor Holt	Completed
Sam Gold	<i>Picnic</i>	Jenna Worsham	Completed
Rob Ashford	<i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i>	Pilar Castro Kiltz	Completed
Mark Brokaw	<i>Cinderella</i>	Ryan Domres	Completed
Michael Wilson	<i>Talley's Folly</i>	Rachel Dart	Completed
John Rando	<i>All in the Timing</i>	Lindsay Hope Pearlman	Completed
Sean Mathias	<i>Breakfast at Tiffany's</i>	Andrew Britt	Completed
Michael Wilson	<i>A Trip to Bountiful</i>	Sydney Chapman	Completed
Chet Walker	<i>Pippin</i>	Patrick Boyd	Completed
Trip Cullman	<i>Choir Boy</i>	Kristen Parker	In Progress
Brian Kulick	<i>Caucasian Chalk Circle</i>	Kevin Hourigan	Completed
Mandy Moore	<i>Nobody Loves You</i>	Shelby Kaufman	In Progress
Bill Castellino	<i>Storyville</i>	Christian Fleming	In Progress

New York State

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Status</u>
Igor Goldin	<i>South Pacific</i>	Michael Rader	Completed
Mark Cuddy/Skip Greer	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Felicity Stiverson	Completed

National

<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Status</u>
Marcia Milgrom Dodge	<i>Under My Skin</i>	Zi Alikhan	Completed
Art Manke	<i>Three Musketeers</i>	Joshua Gold	Completed
Michael Halberstam	<i>Hamlet</i>	Joshua Sobel	Completed
Doug Hughes	<i>Hughie</i>	Hunter Bird	Completed
Timothy Douglas	<i>Clybourne Park</i>	Michael Kinnan	Completed
Emily Mann	<i>A Delicate Balance</i>	Kathryn Moroney	Completed
Joseph Haj	<i>Cabaret</i>	Paula Bennett	Completed
Susan Stroman*	<i>Big Fish</i>	Amber Mak	In Progress
Dan Knechtges	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Abigail Strange	Completed
Sheldon Epps	<i>Sleepless in Seattle</i>	Walid Chaya	Completed

* Rehearsals in New York City, performances in Chicago, IL

The Observership Program Guidelines and Application for the 2013-2014 season are posted online. An application Workshop will be held in April in NY with national access by conference.

Fellowships

The **Reginald Denham Fellowship** is an annual award given to directors to further develop their directing skills by providing \$2500 in financial support for the Director's fee for a particular project. This year, the Fellowship will be awarded to Director Rachel Alderman for her production of *Freewheelers* produced at The Broken Umbrella Theatre in New Haven, CT.

The **Sir John Gielgud Fellowship** (Classical Play) for this year is currently in the selection part of the process. This year's candidate, selected from 25 applicants, will observe and work alongside Bill Rauch, Director and Artistic Director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, who will be directing *King Lear*. The Fellow is being selected by Bill Rauch from a group of finalists chosen based on submitted materials by the selection committee this year, Stephen Burdman, Valerie Curtis-Newton, and Jonathon Moscone. Interviews were held on November 30. Bill Rauch selected Desdemona Chiang as this year's Fellow.

The **Barbara Hauptman Fellowship** (Arts Administration) was completed in November by Brooklyn College M.F.A. Performing Arts Management student Leah Keith. Leah worked primarily on contract analysis and research as preparation for upcoming negotiations of collectively bargained agreements negotiations as well as other smaller projects for various departments.

First awarded in 2011, the purpose of the **Charles Abbott Fellowship** is to provide paid opportunities for emerging stage directors and choreographers to gain access to classic and iconic musicals, of any genre, being produced in major regional theaters under the direction of a nationally-recognized master theatre artist. Prior Abbott Fellows have assisted and observed Molly Smith at Arena Stage and Ted Pappas at Pittsburgh Public Theatre. Selection of finalists for each year's Fellowship is by a committee of established directors and choreographers and chaired by Charles Abbott. This year, the selection committee consists of Edie Cowan, Wendy Seyb, and Charles Abbott, himself. The process is currently underway for choosing a Fellow to work alongside award winning Director, Eric Schaeffer. Schaeffer will be directing the upcoming Signature Theatre production of *Hello, Dolly!* at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.

The **Traube Fellowship** supports the development of future Broadway artists by providing early-career directors and choreographers with the opportunity to assist or observe a master director of choreographers at work on a Broadway production. The Traube Fellowship is administered through and operates as a component of the SDC Foundation's Observership Program, as such, only the current season's Observership candidates will be eligible for this Fellowship. This year, the Fellowship will be mentored by seasoned Choreographer, Chet Walker, on the upcoming first Broadway revival of *Pippin*.

The goal of The **Mike Ockrent Fellowship** is to help early-career directors of promise develop their skills in directing theatre by allowing them to assist a master director on the creation of a big-budget Broadway musical or play. In doing so, the Fellowship will present a new generation of gifted artists with a remarkable education in – and unique understanding of – the directorial skills necessary to create theatre on a Broadway scale. One Mike Ockrent Fellowship is awarded each year. Each Fellow is mentored by a leading director in the field who will share information, insights and resources. This year's Fellowship will be mentored by Sean Mathias on the upcoming Broadway revival of *No Man's Land/Waiting for Godot*.

Upcoming: The George C. Wolfe Fellowship, The Live on Screen Fellowship.

Guest Artist Initiative

Colorado State University received free facilitation services for the hiring of a professional director to direct a new translation by Doug Langworthy of *Spring Awakening* by Frank Wedekind as part of their 2012-13 Theater Department mainstage season. 26 SDC Members applied for the position.

Arizona State University received a \$4000 matching grant and free facilitation services to support the hiring of a professional director to direct a production to be announced for the 2013 spring season. 77 SDC Members applied for the position. The school is in the selection process. They have chosen 4 finalists and are currently conducting interviews.

Eastern Mennonite University: received a \$2000 matching grant and free facilitation services to support the hiring of a professional director to direct their 2013 production of *Arms and the Man*. 13 SDC members applied for the position. The college interviewed 5 Directors and selected Andrea Andresakis.

The Guest Artist Initiative Program Guidelines and Application for the 2013 – 2014 season will be posted in March 2013. Application deadline for universities and colleges will be sometime in mid May. Feedback on applications will be given through April 30.

Director/Choreographer Network (DCN)

07/23/12	<i>Developing Musicals</i> , Stafford Arima and Christopher Windom	40 attendees
10/01/12	<i>Directing Green</i> , The Broadway Green Alliance Panelists: Allen Hershkowitz, James Bedell, Andrea Lauer, Donyale Werle, Marjorie Horne, and Bob Usdin, moderated by John Carrafa	45 attendees
11/26/12	<i>Contracts: What Every Director and Choreographer Should Know</i> , Randy Anderson (SDC’s Deputy Director of Contracts) and Mauro Melleno (SDC Director of Contracts)	28 attendees
12/17/12	<i>Theatre for Social Impact</i> with panelists Erik Ehn (Playwright/Director/ Head of Brown University Playwriting MFA) and Kamilah Forbes (Artistic Director, Hip Hop Theatre Festival)	35 attendees
01/07/13	<i>Understanding Automation</i> with Technical Directors/Production Managers David Benken and Martin Pavloff	33 attendees
04/08/13	<i>Fight Direction</i> with Erica Gould and Rick Sordelet	
05/06/13	<i>Balancing a Directing Career and Theatre Company</i> with Oliver Butler and Jack Cummings III	30 attendees
06/03/13	<i>Opportunities and Programs of the LMCC</i> with Danielle King, Prachi Patankar, William Penrose and Haowen Wang	
06/24/13	<i>Marketing Your Show</i>	

DCNs are hosted in conjunction with SDC and are open to the public. The discussions are audiorecorded for future podcast through the SDCF’s *Masters of the Stage* on AmericanTheatreWing.org

Conversations – National

Through Members, SDCF is working out sponsoring or co-sponsoring conversations in Los Angeles on *Directing Green* and on recent casting issues.

One-on-One Conversations: Open to the public, these conversations with theatre’s prominent artists offer rare insights into the creative process and personal experience of forging an artistic career.

06/12/13 Tony Award winners, Pam MacKinnon and Kathleen Marshall

Awards

The **Callaway** Awards for Excellence in Directing and Choreography were awarded on November 15, 2012. Selection was made by the Callaway Committee and the awardees were announced at a special reception. This year, the Callaway Award was given to both John Tiffany and Steven Hoggett. Each won the award for his individual work on *Once*, produced by New York Theatre Workshop. This is only the second time in history that both the director and choreographer of the same show won the award. The last instance was in 2007 when Thomas Kail and Andy Blankenbuehler each won for *In the Heights*.

The fourth **Zelda Fichandler Award** to recognize a Director or Choreographer for courage in and commitment to theatre outside of NY was selected and presented to Bill Rauch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. The Award was presented on November 12 at Los Angeles, CA, with roughly 80 attendees present. The 2012 Finalists for this award were Loretta Greco, Jane Jones, and Dámaso Rodriguez, each of whom attended the presentation. Following the presentation, Laura Penn and Bill Rauch presented the awards for direction and choreography at L.A.’s Ovation Awards, where the Fichandler Award was also spotlighted.

The “**Mr. Abbott**” Award, bestowed through SDCF by a committee of Directors and Choreographers to one of their peers, is named in honor of renowned Director George Abbott and is presented to a director or choreographer in recognition of lifetime achievement. Past recipients of the award include Hal Prince, Bob Fosse, Mike Nichols, Agnes DeMille, Michael Bennett, Trevor Nunn, Susan Stroman, Graciela Daniele, and the 2011 recipient, George C. Wolfe. This year, this prestigious award for lifetime achievement was awarded to Jerry Mitchell to honor his work in the theatre. The award was presented at a gala held at B.B. King Blues Club and Grill in New York City on May 13, 2013. Nearly 300 attendees were present at the event.

Archives

61,078 free podcasts were downloaded from ‘SDCF Masters of the Stage’, bringing the 2012 (calendar year) totals to roughly 152,823. We continue to upload 2 programs each month.

Emerging Artists Symposia

Scheduled for MTC rehearsal studio:

05/20/13	Symposium on musicals	65 attendees
06/17/13	Symposium on plays	68 attendees scheduled to participate

Community Events

SDCF oversaw administration and staffed volunteers for *Broadway Salutes*, presented by The Broadway League and Coalition of Broadway Unions and Guilds (COBUG) in September 2012. The event was a unique public celebration honoring the myriad artists who have made Broadway great for decades - with special recognition for those individuals who have worked 25, 35 and 50 years in their respective theatrical craft.

Outside Opportunities

SDCF promotes and encourages professional and educational connections throughout the United States. For example, through the use of web campaigns, SDCF is able to notify its members about various opportunities. These opportunities include teaching and directing positions at various universities (Pennsylvania State University, University of San Diego) and regional and professional productions (*Babes in Arms*). On occasion, the Foundation will also promote local and national grant opportunities, such as those supported by the New York Foundation for the Arts and the Lower Manhattan Culture Council. The Foundation will also announce several theatrical opportunities outside of the country, as well as various paid assistantships offered throughout the theatrical community, such as a recent assistantship with Steven Hoggett.