

Student Applicant: _____

Mentor PI _____

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

UNIFORM APPLICATION COVER PAGE FOR INTERNAL SUPPORT FROM URCA

(In addition to the electronic application, this printed and signed cover page must be submitted to the Program Director.)

PROPOSAL TITLE: The Association of Theater in Higher Education New Play Development Workshop

MENTOR APPLICANT(S): (Name, CofC ID number, CofC email address, and Department):

Dr. Franklin Ashley, ID AND EMAIL HERE, Theater

UNDERGRADUATE APPLICANT(S): (Name, CofC ID number, CofC email address, and Primary Major):

Whitney Hinds, ID AND EMAIL HERE, English

REQUESTED DATES OF PROJECT SUPPORT: From August 2nd to August 6th _____

Award Type Requested (Check one)

_____ RPG Travel _____ AYRA Project ___X___ MAYS Project _____ SURF Project

Total Amount requested from URAC: \$1,000.00

Additional Information

- 1. Does the proposal involve research on human subjects? Yes X No
- 2. If yes, status of the IRB request (no funds can be awarded until IRB is approved) Submitted Approved
- 3. Does the proposal involve research on vertebrate animal subjects? Yes X No
- 4. If yes, Status of the **IACUC** request (no funds can be awarded until **IACUC** is approved) Submitted Approved
- 5. Have student applicants received URCA support for this or any other project in the past year? Yes X No

List the source, amounts and dates:

- 6. Will the faculty member be paid for other work during the project period? Yes X No
- 7. Is there another internal proposal pending for this research/creative work? Yes X No

List the source(s): _____ Amount: \$ _____

8. Will each student applicant be enrolled at the College during or immediately after the period of URCA funding? *(If no, it must be clearly stated why this as an undergraduate project in the proposal narrative.)* Yes No

- 9. Is there an external proposal pending for this research/creative work? Yes X No

List the agency(s): _____ Amount: \$ _____

- 10. Does the project involve biohazards or other safety issues? Yes X No
- 11. Does this project have potential for copyright or invention? Yes No

Signatures (Required for All participants): Please read the Participants Responsibility Statement Page prior to signing this page. Signatures below indicate awareness of and intention to follow appropriate Program, Departmental, School, College and State rules and regulation for conducting projects, travel, and expenditure of funds.

SIGNATURE & DATE, Undergraduate Applicant(s):

SIGNATURE & DATE, Faculty/Mentor Applicant(s):

Chair/Dean: Funds for successful proposals will be transferred into the departmental R & D account.

SIGNATURE, Chair/Dean _____ Date _____

Original copy signed by all parties submitted to FJH

Participants Responsibility Statements Page

Statement of Student Responsibility:

If this request is funded, the student is expected to commit sufficient time to the project to make reasonable progress. The student is not expected (nor allowed) to let work on this project interfere with other course work. The student is expected to submit a brief formal report before the start of the examination period in the academic semester in which the project is performed that summarizes the results of the project to date. Failure to submit a report may jeopardize the ability of the faculty mentor listed on this request to serve as a mentor on any future requests and it will jeopardize the ability of the student to obtain future funding from the 4th Century Initiative Funds to support undergraduate research. If at all possible, the student is expected to communicate the results of the project at a college-wide, public event. The participants further promise to acknowledge the support of the Mini-grant program and the College of Charleston and the 4th Century Initiative in any presentations or communication of the results of the project.

Statement of Faculty Responsibility:

If this request is funded, the faculty mentor is expected to provide the encouragement, advice, support and time necessary to adequately mentor the student on this research or creative project. This promised commitment is not expected (nor allowed) to compromise the faculty member's ability to fulfill the other duties incumbent upon them.

Statement of Chair Responsibility:

If this request is funded, the sponsoring department chair is expected to oversee the proper expenditure of funds that are transferred from the College of Charleston Undergraduate Research Account to the sponsoring department's research account. In the event that the awarded funds are either not spent or are not accounted for within two weeks of the conclusion of the funded project period, the chair will return the unspent or unaccounted for funds to the College of Charleston Undergraduate Research Account to support other worthy student research efforts.

Financial Procedures:

If this request is funded, the purchase of supplies and materials must proceed according to the guidelines established by the Procurement Office of the College of Charleston. For travel, participants must submit an approved College of Charleston Travel Authorization form to the Controller's Office not less than four days prior to the commencement of travel. To qualify for reimbursement, participants must then complete the necessary paperwork no more than 10 days after the travel.

Mini-grant funds will be transferred into the sponsoring department account for disposition. Within two weeks of completing the project, the signatures to this application promise to submit a Final Report to the Director of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities, with an attached copy of the submitted expenditure authorization form. The sponsoring department is obligated to transfer any unused monies back into the College of Charleston Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities account within two weeks of the completion of the project.

MAYS/SURF Student Statement of Intent (One page per student)

Directions to the student applicant: Provide a statement (12 pt font, 1 inch margins, single spaced) explaining why you want to work on this project and what you hope to learn or accomplish from the experience. You should work with your faculty mentor while preparing the statement. For MAYS applicants, if you will work on the project while taking courses, provide your planned curriculum and a self-assessment of how your work on the project will fit into your academic schedule and any nonacademic activities you have planned. (SURF applicants are not to be enrolled in courses when working on the SURF project.) For all applicants, if the work will be (or become) part of a bachelor's essay, tutorial course, or somehow related to other earned academic credit, be sure to indicate that. Use only the space provided on the front of this page.

I would like to attend the Association of Theater in Higher Education's (ATHE) New Play Development Workshop in Chicago August 2nd-6th so that I might further develop my original ten-minute play, "The Big Break," and have the unique opportunity of seeing it performed in a staged reading. I submitted my play to ATHE's contest in December 2005 and was informed of my success in April 2006. I am honored to be one of seven playwrights selected nationally from a pool of professional playwrights and graduate and undergraduate faculty and students to have my play read at the conference.

This learning experience will not only benefit my education now as I prepare to take Dr. Franklin Ashley's Playwriting III course in the fall but will continue to enrich my life in the future. I hope to continue writing for the theater as either a part-time or a full-time vocation and possibly attend graduate school for playwriting. According to the experience of Dr. Ashley as the former Chair of ATHE's Playwright's Program and mentor to two other College of Charleston winners of ATHE's New Playwright's Competition, the results of this staged reading can be career-altering. Students have been offered scholarships to excellent graduate programs and professors have been offered tenure as a result of their status as winner of this competition. In the words of Judith Royer, New Play Development Workshop Co-Coordinator, "The New Play Development Workshop affords playwrights the opportunity to work on their scripts with artists from all over the country who are experienced in dealing with original material and to have their work presented to the largest academic theater conference in the world. In past years, plays which have gone through this process have achieved a high rate of success in securing subsequent productions and publications." In fact, every few years, ATHE publishes an anthology featuring the winners of their New Play Development Program as well the work of other artists at the conference. Therefore, by the time of my anticipated graduation, in addition to other possible opportunities, my play, "The Big Break," would be published in the latest edition of this anthology.

The process of developing this play for the conference begins long before the actual event. Ms. Royer has assigned Ed Menta, an experienced director, professor, and former ATHE winner, to direct my play as well as David Rush, an Obie award-winning writer, to work as dramaturg. I will work with each of these gentlemen from now until before the play will be read at the conference to refine it. Furthermore, the lessons I learn from revising this play will be used not only now but in all my future writing.

In addition to the two to three hours of daily rehearsal at the conference, the event also features dozens of other workshops that will be extremely useful to me, especially those exploring religion and women in theater, two topics which I have a keen interest in as a writer. At night, I will be witnessing a dynamic new work at Chicago's famous Steppenwolf Theater and seeing a performance by cutting-edge artist, Karen Finley. To conclude the conference, my play will be read along with the works of the other New Play Development Winners and will be critiqued by David White, Literary Manager of the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, and Adrienne Thompson, a New York University professor, Associate Artistic Director of the First Look Theater Company, and founding member of the Signature Theater Company. Not only will I be given great exposure and networking opportunities from this honor, but I will develop greater maturity in the writing and revision process.

MAYS/SURF Project Description

(No longer than five pages 12 pt font, 1 inch margins, single-spaced. Appendices are not allowed)

(a) Project Abstract:

On August 2nd-6th, 2006, Whitney Hinds, a junior English major, will attend the Association of Theater in Higher Education's conference in Chicago as part of ATHE's New Play Development Program. Whitney was one of seven playwrights selected from a national pool of professionals, graduate and undergraduate faculty and students to be given a staged reading of her ten-minute play, "The Big Break," on the final day of the conference. Her work will be critiqued by David White, Literary Manager of the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, and Adrienne Thompson, a NYU professor, Associate Artistic Director of the First Look Theatre Company, and founding member of the Signature Theatre Company. Whitney has been assisted every step of the way by her mentor and playwriting professor, Dr. Franklin Ashley.

(b) Project Objectives.

On a short-term scale, I have three objectives for this project. I hope to collaborate with the director and the dramaturg during the revision process to create the best work possible, refine my revision and writing skills, and learn the maximum amount from the rehearsal process, conference workshops, and critiques of the staged reading. In terms of long-range goals, I hope to apply the education from this whole experience to my future writing and utilize this polished play in my portfolio for a playwriting graduate program.

(c) Project Significance.

Attending ATHE's conference would not only be of great significance to me but would also reflect positively upon the College. From this opportunity, not only would I develop more mature writing skills and experience the evolution of my work from the revision to the rehearsal process to the final staged reading, but I would also be given excellent exposure that could lead to subsequent productions and/or graduate school scholarships. Most likely, by the end of my undergraduate career, the play will be published in an anthology of other new works featured at the conference. In addition, the College of Charleston will also receive positive exposure at the largest academic theater conference in the world.

(d) Methods of Work

Spring Semester 2006

Received news that my play, "The Big Break," was selected as a winner of the New Play Development Workshop

Began discussing funding options with Dr. Franklin Ashley

Maymester 2006

Am informed by Ms. Royer that actors have been assigned

Continued dialogue with the director and dramaturg

Summer 2006

Will intensify dialogue between director, dramaturg, and myself

Will focus more heavily upon script revisions

Student Applicant: _____

Mentor PI _____

Met with Mr. Rick Heldrich to discuss which research grant might be most appropriate

Began work on the MAYS application

Will continue to keep Ms. Royer and Dr. Ashley updated and seek assistance when necessary

Met with Todd McNerney, Theater Department Chair, to discuss departmental funding

Continued updates to Ms. Royer and Dr. Ashley

Will receive information about whether the Student Fellowship Fund has been granted or not

Registered for the ATHE conference and as an ATHE Student Member (necessary for conference registration)

Considered possible revisions to script

Spoke to Dr. Ashley's Governor's School Playwriting class about the evolution of the script and the approaching ATHE conference

Booked flight reservations

Applied for the Student Fellowship Fund Grant (which waives registration fees in exchange for six hours of volunteer service at the conference)

Arranged to room with Dr. Susan Kattwinkel, Theater History professor at the College of Charleston, and made hotel reservations

Began dialogue with the director and dramaturg

Continued updates to Dr. Franklin Ashley and Judith Royer, Co-Coordinator of the New Play Development Workshop

Work on the project will be conducted via phone and e-mail leading up to the conference. Thus far, I have already conversed with the director and dramaturg by e-mail, and we are beginning the revision process. On a regular basis, I have provided updates to my mentor, Dr. Franklin Ashley, about the progress being made. He has been extremely active in the process of completing the MAYS application and, having provided his home phone number, is always available to answer questions about any aspect of the ATHE conference. He has also facilitated conversation between the Theater Department Chair, Todd McNerney, and myself in regards to departmental financial support.

Student Applicant: _____

Mentor PI _____

Travel to the ATHE conference in Chicago will be necessary for the completion of this project. Without my presence at the conference, no staged reading will take place, and I will relinquish my position to the second alternate. Flight arrangements have already been made for the most reasonable prices available.

Please see the timetable of project goals and their estimated completion.

- (e) Other Project Support. (Departmental support for all projects in which the student earns or will earn academic credit for MAYS or SURF supported efforts is required.)

Internally, I have been granted \$215.00 from the Department of Theater at the College of Charleston to help with the financial costs of the trip. In addition, I am hoping to receive external funding from the Association of Theater in Higher Education's Student Fellowship Fund based upon my application. This would waive the \$120 registration fee in return for six hours of volunteer service at the conference. I should know whether or not I was successful with my application to the Student Fellowship Fund within the coming month.

- (f) Project Dissemination.

For several years in the past, either the student-run theater club, Center Stage, or the Theater Department has produced a show entitled "Under the Lights" which features ten-minute works by College of Charleston students incorporating student actors and directors. This show traditionally runs for two nights and is free to College of Charleston faculty, staff, students, and the general public.

In April 2006, I had the privilege of directing one of my own original works in this showcase. I think this would be a perfect venue to perform "The Big Break" next spring.

In addition, I have already had the opportunity to see "The Big Break" script performed by the South Carolina Governor's School Class of 2006. Dr. Ashley invited me to the Governor's School playwriting class that he was teaching on June 16th in which his students performed the script several times using the various versions or evolutions of the script that I have written since I submitted the original in December 2005. I then talked to the students about the ATHE conference and the process of writing and revising. I will be sending further revisions to the students throughout their time at Governor's School so that they might continue to be part of the process.

Certainly, the ATHE conference represents a large venue in which "The Big Break" and College of Charleston will be displayed. Not only will this piece be performed at the largest academic theater conference in the world, but it will be worked on by professionals from Michigan to Pennsylvania and critiqued by employees from the prestigious Eugene O'Neill Theater and New York University.

- (g) Student Involvement in Application Process.

I have written all of the application and compiled the budget except for the faculty/mentor biography section and recommendation. Of course, Dr. Ashley has been involved and supportive all the way!

Student Applicant: _____

Mentor PI _____

MAYS/SURF Project References (Do **not** attached original articles, press releases, *etc.*)

My script, "The Big Break," is purely a work of fiction. The only applicable references are the anthologies which the Association of Theater in Higher Education produces every few years in which my work will eventually be included. The following are past examples:

Healthy Primates, 2004

Bind Them Continually, 1999

Does Anyone Want a Miss Cow Bayou, 1996

MAYS Proposed Budget (Use this page for MAYS applications ONLY)

Faculty PI:	PI Department:			
	MAYS Request*	Dept/School Cost-Share	External Support	Total
A. Student Salary (taxable amount)				
B. Student Travel	\$1,000.00	\$25.00		\$1025.00
C. Faculty Travel				
D. Supplies & Materials		\$20.00		\$20.00
E. Other		\$170.00		\$170.00
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:	\$1,000.00			\$1,215.00

* All of the MAYS funds must be expended in the fiscal year in which the award is made. The fiscal year turns over on the last day of June. If an award is made, funds will be deposited into the research account of the Faculty PI's Academic Department.

Budget Justification (Continue on one additional page if necessary. Identify sources of additional support as appropriate.):

A. **Student Salary.** Provide a justification and explanation for any student salary request. It is normally expected that a full time student will spend no more than 10 hrs per week working on a MAYS project.

B. **Student Travel.** Excluding travel for presentation of results, supported by separate RPG awards. Use [ORGA](#) *per diem* and mileage rates as needed. **Transportation:** I have booked a round-trip flight through United Airways totaling \$388 dollars. After extensive searching, this was the most reasonable rate available. In addition, I spoke with the concierge at the Palmer House Hilton hotel where the conference will be held, and she suggested allowing a \$60 budget for transportation to and from the airport. \$30 has also been budgeted for my transportation to and from my apartment in Charleston to the Charleston airport. **Accommodations:** The official hotel of the conference is the Palmer House Hilton Hotel. A single room runs \$159 plus 15.4% sales tax per night, whereas a double room runs \$169 plus 15.4% sales tax per night. I have made arrangements to share a double room with Dr. Susan Kattwinkel, College of Charleston Theater History professor, in order to cut costs. Therefore, my total amounts to \$97.51 per night (including sales tax) for four nights, equaling \$390.04. **Food:** While in Chicago, I will need dinner on Wednesday, August 2nd and three meals daily August 3rd-6th. I will be returning to Charleston on August 6th. However, the most reasonably priced flight available leaves in the evening, requiring me to stay in the airport for seven hours after the 1:00 p.m. end of the conference (hence the inclusion of three meals on August 6th). Based upon ORGA food rates, my total food expenditures for the trip should equal \$144. There is *no continental breakfast* included in the room rate. **Gratuity:** I have budgeted \$13 for travel gratuity. The above totals a request of \$1,025.00.

C. **Faculty Travel.** Must be justified in relationship to the students' work and effort and the project goals or objectives.

D. **Supplies and Materials:** List items over \$50 separately. Items under \$50, such as photocopying, may be listed collectively. The relevance to the project of each request listed must be described here. Additional support for the project must also be described, in which case be sure to specify specific items, or parts of specific items, to be funded with MAYS

Student Applicant: _____

Mentor PI _____

support. All items purchased with MAYS funds are considered to be the property of the College of Charleston, and must remain in the custody and possession of the College of Charleston at the conclusion of the award period.

I have budgeted \$20.00 for photocopying and mailing costs during the revision process that will take place over the summer prior to the conference.

E. Other. Must be justified in relationship to the students' work and effort and the project goals or objectives.

Registration: I paid a total of \$170 to register for the conference. If I am chosen as a recipient of the Student Fellowship Fund Grant in return for six hours of volunteer service during the conference, \$120 of the cost will be waived, leaving a \$50 expenditure.