

Santa Cruz Shoestring Players
Board Meeting
11/11/25 at 6pm via Google Teams

Present:

Marcy Miller	Ray Hebert	Mike Manolakes	Diana Ouradnik
Regina Ford	Susan Voorhees	Chad Eggen	Marie Valade
Kara Reynolds	Anne Butman	Janet Gerdes	Don Scarlett
Neil Crapo	Carolina Gay		

Absent: Claire Corlett

Meeting began at 6:04pm. JANET moved to approve the minutes from the October meeting. REGINA seconded. APPROVED.

Next Meeting: 12/9/25 at 6pm at Marcy Miller's house

Officer Reports

Secretary's report was presented by KARA. We had 7 new members join Shoestring since our last meeting. ANNE agreed to send welcome emails to new members. Kara reminded everyone to save all files to the new Google drive for info@santacruzshoestringplayers.org.

Treasurer's report was presented by RAY.

Treasurer's Report 10-1-25 to 10-31-25

Beginning balance	\$44,908.54
Withdrawals	
Site Builder	27.45
MailChimp	13.73
Vista Prints - signs, holders, business cards	
U.F.	215.18
Fantasticks	194.41
Picasso	53.00
Unnecessary Farce Playbuilder	75.00
Unnecessary Set	322.46
Posters	23.58
Picasso Art Rights	1000.00
Matilda Photos	150.00
Ending Balance	\$42,833.73

SUSAN took care of canceling our Sitebuilder account.

Show Updates

Unnecessary Farce: Kudos to the cast and crew on their final weekend, which was sold out.

The Fantasticks: Rehearsals are underway, as is work on the set, costumes, and props.

Picasso: MARCY obtained the rights for Les Desmoiselles d'Avignon, and is working on getting the rights for the Reader's Theater performances. REGINA plans to have different Readers perform for each show, to spread the opportunity amongst more Readers. KARA will send some potential crew member names to Don and Mike.

New Business:

Carolina Gay from Minuteman Press in Tucson (and whose family has participated in a lot of Shoestring shows) gave a presentation on the services her business offers and ways Shoestring might use them. MARCY will provide Carolina with a list of printing services we already use to get price comparisons. CLAIRE will discuss how we might have Minuteman Press run the Shoestring merch store.

Old Business:

KARA and Neil Crapo presented their plan for the summer workshops and showcase (included at the end of this document). JANET moved to move forward with the plan. DON seconded. APPROVED.

ANNE moved to adjourn. RAY seconded. APPROVED.

Meeting adjourned: 7:41pm

Santa Cruz Shoestring Players Summer Workshops Proposal

Dates: April 20-June 28, 2026

Broad Strokes Outline

Seasoned directors, crew leads, and actors from the Shoestring community will teach workshops to train new directors, crew members, and actors from the Green Valley/Sahuarita/Tucson area with the goal of growing the pool of talent available to support Shoestring shows. Participants in the workshops will exercise their new skills to put on a short performance as part of a "Shoestring Summer Showcase." The workshops and showcase will take place in the rehearsal and performance time slot typically reserved for the Summer Show.

Timeline

Director Workshops: April 20-May 2, 6 sessions total, 3/wk

Actor Workshops: May 4-May 9, 3 sessions total

Auditions: Week of May 11th

Rehearsal: After auditions, through June 12 (approx. 4 weeks)

Set load: June 13

Tech week: June 14-20 (spread among shows)

Performances: Week of June 21st

Strike: June 28th

Based on the number of shows we end up doing, it could also look like:

Tech week A: June 14-18

Performances A: June 19-21

Tech week B: June 21-25

Performances B: June 26-28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	MTH
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	A P R I L
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
			Director Workshops				M A Y
26	27	28	29	30	1	2	
			Director Workshops				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
			Actor Workshops				M A Y
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
			Auditions / Rehearsals				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
			Rehearsals				J U N E
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
			Rehearsals				
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
			Rehearsals				J U N E
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
			Rehearsals			Set Load-In	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
		TECH WEEK A			Performance A	Performance A	J U L
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Performance A		TECH WEEK B			Performance B	Performance B	
28	29	30	1	2	3	4	
Performance B							

Logistics

Participants interested in the “director track” will register in Winter. Registrants will attend a preliminary workshop on show selection after the registration window closes, where they will learn about selecting shows, licensing costs and requirements, contracts, and specifically Shoestring’s process for approving shows and getting onto the season slate. After the workshop, registrants will choose a show, and submit it to the Shoestring Board for approval. The Board will take care of licensing the show.

Shows should be less than 30 minutes and have simple set, costume, and prop requirements. Once approved, the registrant is guaranteed a spot in the Shoestring Summer Showcase, providing they attend all 6 director classes. Other participants can “drop in” to the director workshops without registration, but are not guaranteed a spot in the Shoestring Summer Showcase. Additional shows for the Showcase may be approved by the board.

Participants interested in the “actor track” will register in early Spring. Those who register in advance and attend all 3 actor classes and auditions are guaranteed a spot in at least 1 Showcase show. Other participants can drop in to the actor workshops, and participate in the auditions, but are not guaranteed a role in a Showcase show.

The number of performances and schedule of performances can be determined after we see how many people are registered for the Director Track.

Shoestring will provide the crew, who will work on all shows (unless there are so many we feel we can split it up). We can advertise this to Shoestring members as a low-stakes way to learn more about crew positions, as they work with crew leads to put on these shows. Our regular actor base could also be encouraged to take on crew positions to help build up our departments and support the workshops. Crew leads can take any time that works for them during the show period to instruct their crew members on finer points of their positions.

Director Track

The workshops in the director track are designed to be 2 hour classes, to fit in the 6:30pm-8:30pm slot Shoestring usually reserves for rehearsals. Workshops can be held in the set shop, CPAC office, or theater if available. Each workshop will be taught by a different director/expert. Instructors will be paid a \$100 stipend to teach the workshop and provide a handout/other resources to the attendees. The attendees will have already chosen their script before the workshops, so they will be actively working on that show during the workshops.

Proposed classes and instructors:

1. Script analysis and building a creative vision (including special considerations for musicals vs straight plays)
2. Putting together and working with a crew, including AD, SM, and Producer positions + marketing and promoting auditions and performances
3. Building lighting and sound plans, specifically for CPAC’s equipment
4. Holding auditions and making casting decisions

5. How to block scenes, give direction, and get what you want out of your actors (+ The Shoestring Way)
6. Work Day with instructors available to help participants come up with blocking, analyze, light plans, etc.

During the actor track workshops, directors will use the lessons from the workshops to prepare their shows and auditions. They can also attend the actor track classes if desired.

After they complete the workshops, directors are eligible to join a production from the '26-'27 season as an AD to gain further experience, and submit their own show for consideration for the '27-'28 season if desired.

Actor Track

The workshops in the actor track are designed to be 2 hour classes to fit in the 6:30pm-8:30pm slot Shoestring usually reserves for rehearsals. Workshops can be held in the set shop, CPAC office, or theater if available. Each workshop will be taught by instructors knowledgeable in the subject matter and familiar with Shoestring processes. The workshop classes will focus on being fun and informative and will be firmly rooted in the Shoestring spirit of community theater.

Proposed classes and instructors:

1. Auditioning
2. How to use the script to build your character
3. Getting in "the space" (I'd love to ask Chris Will to come teach this)

Auditions

Actors will be asked to prepare either a monologue or an audition song in the auditions class, which will ideally be able to be reused in a future audition. These will be performed at the audition. The directors will also choose brief sides from their show during their auditions class, which auditioners will perform. Depending on time and number of participants, directors may have additional audition requests (such as movement or improv).

A member of the board will provide guidance and serve as an arbiter of casting decisions.

Casting decisions will be made as a group (with all directors present) with decisions based on

1. Alignment of offered parts with actor preferences
2. Not showing preference to any particular show or director
3. Actor availability with a director's rehearsal schedule
4. Distribution of parts to as many participants as is reasonable (guaranteeing selection to actor track participants)

Rehearsals

Rehearsal schedules will be assigned based on the number of directors and their personal availability. Schedules will not be able to be as accommodating to individual actor schedules due to the number of concurrent productions and requisite space demands. Actors will be

encouraged to do as much memorization and individual rehearsals as possible on their own time.

Tech Week and Performance Schedules

Tech week rehearsal schedules will be determined after consulting with each director. It is expected that each production will be able to have a time slot on each tech week rehearsal day.

Performances will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the assigned performance week. Call times will be determined by the director in coordination with the Showcase producer. An effort will be made to deconflict and share the dressing room space.