
Ella for CUADC President

Hi, I'm Ella (she/her) a second year Philosophy student at Selwyn College. Cambridge Theatre has been such a huge part of my university life. From never having done theatre before to acting as the Technicians' Representative for this year's committee, Cambridge Theatre and CUADC in particular have afforded me incredible opportunities that I am hugely grateful for. I find the sheer talent within our community truly inspiring, making the environment utterly innovative and exciting to be a part of. However, I believe it is important to recognise that our community is far from perfect and there are things about Cambridge Theatre which we could improve. Being a well-established society at the forefront of Cambridge Theatre, CUADC has the power to set an example and connect with other theatre societies to make a positive impact on Cambridge Theatre as a whole.



I am running for President because I am committed to ensuring our community continues to make strides in the right direction. I want to ensure Cambridge Theatre is a safe, welcoming environment where anyone can thrive and feel like they belong, a place full of opportunity where people can express their true selves.

KEY IDEAS:

Opportunities and Accessibility – the impact of Covid-19 has meant hugely talented people have had limited opportunities to get involved with theatre this year. To remedy this, I believe it is important that CUADC continues with its intention of running a **refreshers' campaign in Lent Term** as well as producing a **robust programme of workshops** to allow people to access the theatre in a less intimidating and non-committal way. I would especially like to work with the actors' reps on expanding the skillshare workshops to include more of a focus on acting as a hobby and something "non-actors" get to enjoy as well, the club TD on creating a programme to allow people to register interest in attending get-ins on a more casual basis and the writers' rep on fostering long term creative projects via initiatives like writing competitions. What these events will look like obviously depends on the stage the country is at with the virus, however as president I would be committed to ensuring these take place whether in person or online as I believe things like workshops are important to allow introductory insight into the theatre world, giving people the initial confidence to apply for shows in the future.

Collaboration – CUADC is one of the many exciting societies that make up Cambridge Theatre. I think more **communication and collaboration between the various societies** would be a great way to instigate real change. I would like to work with other societies to create an **actionable code of conduct** to target problems within how shows are run, standard guidelines which would target various issues in theatre including what race-blind and gender-blind casting actually looks like. I would also like to **collaborate more with other societies on running events and workshops** as these have proven to be successful.

Welfare – I feel proud to be part of a community where welfare is a central concern and I believe there are certain strides CUADC could take to maintain this commitment. These include providing **welfare training to designated welfare contacts** of club shows, expanding the role of CUADC "show contacts" to act as external welfare contacts and **refining and publicising the current anonymous feedback form**, making it a standard practise for feedback from the cast and crew of club shows.
