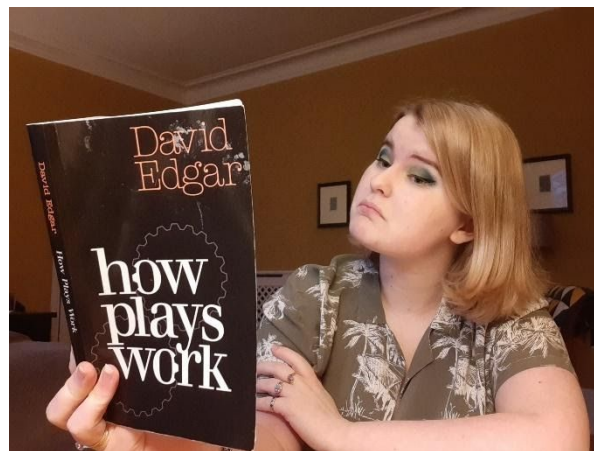


MOLLY TAYLOR - DIRECTORS' REP

Hi! I'm Molly, and I'm a second-year English student at Caius. I have loved getting involved with Cambridge theatre, even—and sometimes especially—amidst the chaos brought by she-who-shall-not-be-named. I have thoroughly enjoyed every show that I've directed or AD'd, and I would like to help others access the same opportunities.

As Directors' Rep, I would be really passionate about providing more ways 'in', particularly for those who are underconfident. (I cried my way through directing my first show; ask literally anyone involved.) It can be an intimidating space to enter, particularly as an aspiring director, and I would love to help welcome new, enthusiastic people to this hellscape we call home.



Studying hard

PROPOSALS

Refresher's shows = I'd like to make sure the experience gap caused by the pandemic and the repeated cancellation of the Fresher's shows doesn't stop people from participating in Cambridge theatre – especially directors, who have to pitch and apply with an alarming and often false sense of confidence. I'd like to propose a 're-freshers' show for next year, which invites second years who were limited by the pandemic to put on a show with the usual 'freshers-play-style' support (alongside the normal freshers programme, of course).

Shadowing = Directing in Cambridge theatre can be isolating, and from experience I know that it can be especially intimidating for those who have not had previous opportunities to direct. (My role as Homeless Person 2 in 'RENT' did not prepare me). I would like to implement a shadowing scheme which shows can opt in/out of during applications, and those who would like to shadow can sign up for. I hope this will provide an 'in' for those who have not had the opportunity to see behind the scenes of a show before, and make the slightly terrifying 'networking' that happens in the Cambridge theatre scene more transparent.

Casting panel = Recent Facebook discourse—my favourite kind—has exposed a lot of issues surrounding diversity and the transparency of the casting process within our community. I would like there to be a panel/discussion group on how to cast fairly and representatively moving forward. I would also like this to lead to the democratic drawing up of a guide to running auditions in a transparent and kind way. This can be a really difficult thing to get right for directors but can have potentially devastating results for the rest of the community when it goes wrong.

Directors' socials = As mentioned above, directing can be really isolating, and receiving welfare support becomes so much easier once you have a support network. I would like to host directors' socials, which will also make the role of Directors' Rep accessible for any questions or support which can't be found in a Facebook message. I would also like to make the prospect of attending these socials less daunting by theming them around a 'talk' or 'discussion', like warm-ups/pitching/etc.

Returning directors = I would like to invite directors who began in Cambridge back for a Q&A or round-table, to discuss Cambridge theatre and directing beyond university. I mostly want to meet Simon Evans.