
Sam - Manifesto for President

Theatre is both frequently the last thing on our mind at the moment, whilst also providing a refreshing reminder of the good times we've had in the past, and those still to come when things do start progressing back to how they were over the coming year. I would be really excited to lead CUADC through this, always trying to ensure there are as many opportunities as possible to get involved with something theatrical, for absolutely anyone who wants to. The last year has also highlighted some deep chasms that still exist in the accessibility and inclusivity of Cambridge theatre, and it's incredibly important that these 2 things are at the forefront of our minds as we make our return to the stage. CUADC should be leading the way and setting an example, such that no-one should ever feel disadvantaged, for whatever reason, in not just club shows but also the theatre scene here in general. I would look forward to working with next years committee, as well as listening to the wider community, to implement whatever we can to make progress with this.



Core aims

Code of conducts - I would seek to build code of conducts for directors and producers of club shows to sign up to. These should clearly set out the key requirements of what should be expected from people holding those positions, whilst also helping actors to feel reassured in what they should be able to expect from the process whilst getting involved in shows. This would include ensuring that there are appropriate outlets for people to aide any concerns in confidence, with the role of show contact, a committee member independent of the show, acting as a liaison where necessary. If successful, this is also something that I would then like to work with other societies to implement as widely as possible.

Outreach and Freshers - It's no lie that this year has been particularly tough for freshers to get involved despite the huge effort of the community to create opportunities online and get people hooked into the world of theatre. This means that not only will the freshers drive be incredibly important, but also we need to ensure that our net is cast more widely to capture as many people as possible who may have slipped through this year. Having already been a part of one freshers drive, entirely online, I feel I would be well placed to succeed with this. Another initiative I would like to pursue would be to engage and reach out to admissions teams to make the theatre scene here known to those beyond the usual crowd coming to Cambridge. We are lucky to have such incredible opportunities here and we should make prospective students aware of this and get them hyped before they are even here.

Other important themes I would continue to push over the next year include working closely with management to keep up the progress on making the process of show selection feel as open and welcoming as possible, with a particular emphasis on drawing in a greater range of diverse narratives. Also keeping up with our changes this year, I want to ensure the election process remains open and accessible, with the voting remaining online even in normal times.

Why me

I've now spent 2 years on committee as Tech Rep and Club TD, but I'm definitely not fed up with it yet, and given the unique circumstances of the previous year, I would love the chance to spend a 3rd (and final) year, this time as President. There were lots of things both I, and many others on committee this year, were unable to follow through on due to the remoteness of everything, and I feel I would be at an advantage, creating a sense of continuity, aiming to not let things slip through the gaps during handover and really hit the ground running with next year's agenda. It's no secret I'm a techie at heart and will never be destined for the stage, but I would like to think I am still able to represent the wider theatre community, understanding the importance of connecting the dots to bring everyone together. Also after a year of online meetings, I understand the challenges this brings, and will hopefully be able to learn from this to make the committee as successful as possible. Oh, and I think we should adopt a duck and give Diana a pen pal to make up for her lack of human cuddles given the current and foreseeable climate. Also, membership cards will now be rubber ducks.
