

Jonathan Black

for CUADC President



Hi! I'm Jonathan (he/him), a second year undergraduate studying Geography at Magdalene! I have absolutely loved being involved in Cambridge Theatre these past two years and am running for CUADC President because I want to ensure the community is as safe and welcoming as possible. I am excited to support those new to theatre and to ensure CUADC, as a major theatre society in Cambridge, provides students with opportunities to learn and explore in all aspects of theatre.

Having been part of this year's committee as Membership Secretary I have seen first-hand the role CUADC can play in making a positive impact on Cambridge Theatre as a whole. As President, I would try to be the best advocate for students, engaging with a diversity of viewpoints and working hard to make improvements where necessary. I want to ensure Cambridge Theatre is as accessible as possible, that CUADC supports productions as much as it can, and that welfare is central in everything we do. As someone who has delved into the performance, production and technical sides of theatre in Cambridge, I believe I'm a well-suited representative for all aspects of theatre. Most importantly, as President I would seek to encourage a positive and supportive atmosphere throughout Cambridge Theatre which allows students to learn and enjoy theatre-making!

Key aims:

Accessibility: My primary goal as CUADC President would be to ensure that Cambridge Theatre is as inclusive and accessible as possible. CUADC plays a vital role in introducing students to university theatre, and I would seek to develop a **comprehensive freshers programme**, a series of engaging **workshops** and to ensure clear and consistent communication to outline how to get involved! I am committed to ensuring that anyone, regardless of their background or previous experience, can get involved with Cambridge Theatre. More specifically, I would like to establish **guides for best-practice** for the process of running applications and auditions for productions, to ensure they are as inclusive as possible.

I am also keen to develop **further opportunities outside of productions**, including workshops and Q&As, for those who cannot commit to being involved in a show and those who would like to explore a particular aspect of theatre before committing to a production.

Collaboration: Whilst CUADC has an important responsibility for its own Club Shows, the society also plays a wider role within Cambridge Theatre. I'd seek to **work closely with other theatre societies** on common issues, encouraging a positive and supportive atmosphere in everything we do. In particular, I would establish a termly forum of discussion with representatives from different societies to encourage such collaboration.

Communication: Given how busy and overwhelming Cambridge Theatre can sometimes feel, I believe it important for CUADC to have clear and consistent communication with its members and the community as a whole. As such, I would introduce a **fortnightly 'President's newsletter'** summarising upcoming shows and events, and also providing details on key decisions taken by the CUADC committee. Equally, I am keen to reach out to alumni members, inviting those who have gone into theatre after university to return to Cambridge to lead workshops and Q&A sessions.

Welfare: Building on the progress of this year's committee, I am keen to oversee the successful implementation of CUADC's welfare policy, **develop the role of CUADC welfare contacts** in Club productions, and to better publicise, and encourage the use of, the Club's **anonymous feedback form**. I would also seek to produce **more formal advice** for all shows as how to best support the welfare of their cast and production teams, to ensure that the primary experience of Cambridge Theatre is one of enjoyment.