

Gemma Stapleton (she/her)

Stage Manager's Rep



About me: I am a first year engineer at Queens' and I'd love to be your SM rep this year! I really want to get more involved with the committee to learn more about how the ADC operates and how CUADC works to **provide opportunities for great student theatre** :)

My Cambridge SM experience so far:

Despite being a fresher, I have thrown myself into theatre last term, as **SM** for Blue Stockings, but also helping out as an **ASM**/Follow-spot or generally at get-ins/get-outs for Tick Tick Boom, Chess and Panto. I am currently preparing for Sunday in the Park with George as **SM** (which includes getting pyro trained!) and A Man Walks Into A Cheese Shop as **DSM**.

What I would do in the role:

Props cupboard: I would set up a regular slot for SMs to access the props cupboard, and reserve items ahead of their show to reduce conflicts between shows in the same week. Anyone who's been past the props cupboard recently knows its current state (a complete overflowing mess!) so I would **tidy and reorganise the cupboard** to make it easier to find what people need, and keep a record of what is there for shows to use!

Recruitment: As well as helping recruit and train SMs for the freshers plays, I would work to **encourage more students (from all years!) to get involved in theatre** in roles such as ASM. Big shows always need 2 or 3 (or more!) a night and as the job requires no prep or training it's a great introduction to the backstage theatre world.

Community and accessibility: As someone recently new to the world of Cambridge Theatre I know that getting involved for the first time can definitely feel quite daunting! So I want to **relaunch the Cambridge Theatre SM Facebook group** (and the other similar groups) as a place to **share knowledge, advice and stories** from the student SMs in Cambridge. This will also signpost clearly where people can go to find out more information or get support on shows.

Workshops: I would work with the other tech-related reps to **organise workshops** at the start of the year (and again mid-way through the year) so people with no experience can feel more confident in getting involved. I attended many freshers events this year so have seen what's involved and what type of event makes people feel **included and welcomed into the community** (so they are more likely to come back again!!)