



Responses to candidate questionnaires

Responses are unedited, presented as received up to the allowable word count



Jeff Hall

Candidate for Board Director

1. Describe the leadership experiences you have had. Include significant accomplishments at the local, state, and or/national levels.

My ultimate aspiration when working with a group or organization is to be of service. While I do not necessarily aspire to leadership, I have been fortunate to serve several significant efforts in a leadership capacity, including my current tenure as Fine Arts Department Chair at Jesuit HS, where I oversaw the development of a major program and facility expansion in 1998; My work as Founding Director of The Young People's Theatre Project, which has provided educational resources and opportunities to students and teachers in schools and communities across the US; and 16 years on the Oregon Thespians State Board -- 8 as Chapter Director -- where I focused on a culture of teamwork and fiscal stability, resulting in the creation of the Oregon Thespians Endowment and Investment Fund accounts through the Educational Theatre Foundation.

2. Share other information about yourself (education, personal and/or professional experiences, publications, awards, personal strengths, etc.) that you think would make you a qualified candidate and benefit the EdTA Board of Directors.

Finding myself more and more in a "consultant" role lately, I have received tremendous satisfaction in my work connecting threads from a wide range of personal and professional experiences. From being a roller coaster operator at a theme park outside Chicago, to extensive travel as a Teaching Artist throughout the United States and Western Canada, my three decades in the classroom have been greatly influenced by an intense desire to creatively connect resources with opportunities. While this has resulted in a number of awards (including induction into the EdTA Hall of Fame in 2016, Oregon Thespians Hall of Fame in 2006, receiving our local Arts Commission's Performing Arts Educator of the Year award in 2007, and my own school's Educator of the Year award in 2004), my greatest reward has been watching young people develop and discover their own gifts, and their personal connection to Our Great Shared Story.



3. The EdTA Governing Board establishes policy guiding the Executive Director, staff and members to develop programs which advance our mission. Explain how you could help the Board forward EdTA's mission and strategic priorities.

Theatre Education often suffers from an identity crisis. With many theatre educators working as the sole practitioner in their building, the struggle to receive funding and recognition in the school eco-system can cause our work to either exist in the shadow of programs more familiar to administrators, or in a light that is largely defined by how it supports those larger, more visible programs or priorities. I believe theatre can (and should) be in service to its community and its various priorities. But I also feel that theatre must leverage its own unique identity to play a seminal role in the formation of that community. This is where the "A" in "EdTA" comes in, and where I'd like to focus. By centering ACCESS, and PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, I would like to increase the value and profile of our connections. Of our Association. We are stronger and more capable together.

4. How have you committed yourself to understanding and aiding in the pursuit of equity and inclusion in your professional and/or personal life?

This is indeed a commitment to a process. While efforts to increase diversity and inclusion in my programs (and personal life) have been longstanding, the interruption of Covid offered a unique opportunity to pause and reflect on the intentionality of those efforts. It is clear that more needs to be done. My focus has centered on the word "equity." The primary definition in this context, of course, is "fairness." But equity can also mean "value." I believe the only way we can achieve the diversity of engagement we'd like to see in our programs -- where all young people are able to bring their authentic selves -- is by making sure there is a genuine give and take of value. For me, this has meant a rededicated effort to listening to, and learning from, those whose identity experience is different from my own. There is real value in that learning.

Jeff Hall

SUMMARY

Since graduating with a degree in Theatre from Northwestern University, my work experience has remained centered around the development of theatrical projects and events, centered on collaborative creative storytelling. As a writer, director, technical director, educator, and project manager, I have developed the tools to play a leadership role in theatrical and educational projects and events in a wide range of settings, while cultivating and leveraging a network of creative resources in imaginative, efficient, and effective ways.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Educator
- Director / Technical Director
- Production Manager
- Playwright
- Effective Team Building
- Clear Communication
- Strong Organizational Skills
- Practical Creative Development
- Technological Proficiency
- Hands-on Experience
- Productive Networking
- Service-based Leadership

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Three decades of experience developing and directing the nationally recognized theatre program at Portland, Oregon's Jesuit High School; overseeing a subscriber-supported season of co-curricular theatre productions and outreach initiatives; managing a state-of-the-art performing arts facility; and teaching classes in Drama, Playwriting, Creative Writing, and Technical Theatre. As Fine Arts Department Chair, providing peer leadership to drama, music and visual art faculty in four separate programs.

Founding director of The Young People's Theatre Project, an award-winning non-profit organization, developing arts education resources for young people of all ages; directly leading creative teams of professional artists and educators; managing extensive summer and school-year programs; and partnering with schools and community organizations on a local, regional, and national level. Project performances, programs and residencies have been conducted in communities from coast to coast in the United States and Guam.

Director of the Oregon Chapter of the Educational Theatre Association, providing leadership to the state's high school and middle school theatre educators; mentoring new teachers; managing ongoing communication across several media platforms; and developing a range of annual state-wide events, including professional development conferences and seminars, and an annual multi-day, multi-venue middle and high school theatre festival.

Park Operations Supervisor at Marriott's Great America theme park in Gurnee, Illinois; Contractor for Oregon's Metro Washington Park Zoo, scripting the zoo's Reptile and Birds of Prey shows, and developing and directing WHERE IN THE ZOO IS CARMEN SANDIEGO, an interactive summer program integrating multiple performance points, costumed characters, and stage productions.

Member, Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), Oregon Theatre Educators Association (OTEA), and United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT). Advisory Board Member for EdTA's Educational Theatre Foundation (EdTF).

Effective management of multiple creative offices and projects, including hiring, training, budgeting, scheduling, tracking, and assigning resources. Involvement at every level, from concept development, design and production, through delivery.

A proven track record of recognizing and developing talent, mentoring facilitators, developing training processes, and leveraging a growing network of creative contacts and resources, adding depth and value to a wide range of projects.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Fine Arts Faculty / Dept Chair, 09/1991 to Current **Jesuit High School** - Portland, OR

Steered the growth of curricular and co-curricular programs from one part-time instructor and two annual productions to multiple full-time teachers and teaching artists supporting a subscription-based season of six productions and several school-year and summer outreach programs. Named Fine Arts Department Chair (incorporating drama, music, and visual art disciplines) in 1996. Became Performing Arts Facility Manager in 1998, after leading the planning committee for the school's \$3.2 million Performing Arts Center.

Founding Director, 06/1991 to Current **Young People's Theatre Project** - Portland, OR

Direct leadership of award-winning non-profit organization, serving schools and communities throughout the Portland area and well beyond, including the creation of original literacy-based assembly programs in schools from coast to coast. Highlights include The Project's flagship Summer Performing Arts Camp (since 1999), a Second Stage program (sending teams of teaching artists into schools that have no theatre program), and the creation and management of live interactive theatre projects for Portland Art Museum, Oregon History Center, and Oregon Zoo (including original creative development of 'Where In the Zoo is Carmen Sandiego?' in 1996).

Creative Consultant, 05/2012 to Current

Disney Live Entertainment – Anaheim and Glendale, CA

Contributed to the development of Technical Theatre Workshops for Disney Performing Arts (DPA), provided consultant services for the review and evaluation of educational programs at Disneyland Resort, and served as educational consultant for DPA's Summer Musical Theatre Conservatory in 2019. Engaged to research and create blue sky development for undisclosed expansion projects, still in progress.

Educational Consultant, 12/2021 to 07/2022

Broadway Teaching Group – New York, NY

Worked with Broadway Producers/Directors Gordon Greenberg and Pam Pariseau on session content for 2022 Summer Sessions of The Broadway Theatre Teachers Workshop, evaluating workshop topics, guest artist offerings, and networking activities for theatre educators across the county. The 2022 lineup included in-person sessions, online offerings, one-day intensives, and a Student Summit.

Education Team, 04/2020 to 11/2021

Projects with Jason – www.projectswithjason.com

Created online educational resources for theatre educators and students, in response to Covid-19. Contributor to the creation of streaming series VIRTUAL CABARET, ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION, and TECH TABLE. Development of accompanying study guides and resources, and the creation of Projects with Jason's membership/subscription program for educators.

Producer, 2020

TECH TABLE and ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION Web Series, Projects with Jason – www.projectswithjason.com

Producer and Co-Creator of 6-episode TECH TABLE web series, hosted by lighting designer KC Wilkerson, featuring in-depth interviews and student/educator interaction with Technical Theatre and Design Professionals including Natasha Katz, David Zinn, Aaron Rhyne, Lisa Dawn Cave, Julie Ferrin, Cricket Myers, and Eric Tucker. Producer of ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION episode featuring Aaron Sorokin.

Production Team, 2014-2017

Opening Event, International Thespian Festival – Lincoln, NE

Served as Production Manager (2014), Production Stage Manager (2015), and Production Supervisor (2016-2017) for the annual Opening Event of The Educational Theatre Association's International Thespian Festival, working with a national cast and crew of student performers and technicians, paired with professional mentors and Broadway guest talent. Event culminated in two performances for a combined audience of 4000 theatre students and educators each year.

Associate Director, 09/1987 to 06/1991

Missoula Children's Theatre - Missoula, MT

Managed all aspects of the theatre's international touring residency program; direct leadership in recruiting, training, and supervising professional teaching artists and scheduling/coordinating 300+ week-long educational residencies annually. Facilitated growth in the program's reach from the Western US and Canada to a Coast-to-Coast tour, extending to Alaska, Guam and Singapore. Developed marketing and educational support materials.

Touring Theatre Artist, 01/1985 to 08/1987

Various - Western US and Canada

Worked as a touring theatre residency artist, both independently and with professional organizations including Missoula Children's Theatre, Stage Eleven, and Young Audiences, producing theatre productions and educational programs throughout the western United States and Canada. Work included small town initiatives funded through Kennedy Center programs, and organizational training programs for educators, as well as municipal arts leadership. Formed an artist collective that would later become The Young People's Theatre Project.

Seasonal Supervisor, Park Operations, 03/1982 to 11/1984

Marrlott's Great America Theme Park - Gurnee, IL

Hired, trained, and directly supervised seasonal Ride Operations employees. Developed training materials and multi-media programs that were incorporated park-wide. Served as Public Relations liaison, giving presentations at events for groups such as American Coaster Enthusiasts. This job was preceded by three seasons as a Seasonal Ride Host at the park, running roller coasters.

Great America became a Six Flags park in 1984.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Educational Theatre Association National Hall of Fame Inductee – 2016

State Director, Oregon Chapter of the Educational Theatre Association (Oregon Thespians) – 2011 to 2019

President, Oregon Theatre Educators Association (Oregon's Professional Organization for Theatre Education) – 2007 to 2009

Performing Arts Educator of the Year – *Beaverton Arts Commission* - 2007

Melba Day Sparks Henning Award

Presented by Oregon Thespians – Oregon's Theatre Educators "Hall of Fame" Award for Career Achievement - 2006

Rae Mona Reynolds Humanitarian Award

Presented by Oregon Theatre Educators Association for The Young People's Theatre Project - 2006

Educator of the Year – *Jesuit High School* – 2004

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Speech Sciences (BSS): Theatre, 1984
Northwestern University - Evanston, IL

Graduate with Highest Distinction. Awarded one of ten Summer Fellowships for educators in 1997.

Teaching License: Oregon
George Fox University - Newberg, OR

Completed coursework necessary to obtain an Oregon Initial Teaching I License with an endorsement in Theatre at the secondary level.

Continuing Education: Professional Development
Portland State University - Portland, OR / **University of Northern Colorado** - Greeley, CO

Coursework in the use of technology in education. Proficiency in online Learning Management Systems. Development and application of National Standards in Arts Education, and Teaching Theatre Strategies.

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Please contact me for comprehensive portfolio information on production history (direction and technical direction), playwriting, and design work (both artistic and programmatic). *Writing samples and references available upon request. A summary listing follows.*

Jeff Hall Production/Project History – Directing/Writing/Development

SHOW DIRECTION

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL, Portland OR (Direction and Tech Direction)

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG
THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL
ALL TOGETHER NOW!
WORKING Localized Version*
PUFFS
GODSPELL (Hybrid Live/Virtual Production)
SOMETHING ROTTEN*
Roald Dahl's MATILDA THE MUSICAL*
A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER*
Disney's NEWSIES*
THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME*
PETER AND THE STARCATCHER
LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL
HANDS ON A HARDBODY
HAMLET
IN THE HEIGHTS
SHREK THE MUSICAL
25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE
THE 39 STEPS
CURTAINS
SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
ARSENIC AND OLD LACE
THE DROWSY CHAPERONE
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)
ALTAR BOYZ
NUNSENSE
LES MISERABLES SCHOOL EDITION
THE LARAMIE PROJECT
THE LARAMIE PROJECT 10 YEARS LATER
CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
LEND ME A TENOR
A DREAM PLAY

EURYDICE
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
BAT BOY THE MUSICAL
THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT TIME
TOO MUCH LIGHT MAKES THE BABY GO BLIND
METAMORPHOSES
42ND STREET
DEAD MAN WALKING
FOOTLOOSE
PROOF
THE MUSIC MAN
THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD
GOD'S FAVORITE
PETER PAN
ST JOAN
THE NERD
WEST SIDE STORY
ANTIGONE
INTO THE WOODS
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
THE MOUSETRAP
THE WIZ
ONCE ON THIS ISLAND
SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE
BLOOD BROTHERS
PIRATES OF PENZANCE
WAIT UNTIL DARK
GODSPELL
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
CITY OF ANGELS
ROMEO AND JULIET
BIG RIVER

* denotes high school pilot for Music Theatre International

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL, Portland OR - Technical Direction Only

MEN ON BOATS
GIRLS IN THE BOAT
ROMEO AND JULIET
WIT
ALMOST, MAINE
PROPOSALS
WHODUNNIT
MOTHER HICKS
THE TASTE OF SUNRISE
ENCHANTED APRIL
12 ANGRY JURORS
LITTLE WOMEN

THE SPITFIRE GRILL
INSPECTING CAROL
THE DIVINERS
ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD
TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD
I HATE HAMLET
ALL IN THE TIMING
THE BOYS NEXT DOOR
BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS
GRAPES OF WRATH
AMADEUS
THE FOREIGNER

YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE PROJECT, Portland OR

BIG FISH*
FINDING THE TRAIL (See Below)
THE DINOSAUR PLAY
TV ON TRIAL
FROM THE MAGIC PEN: TALES OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN
FROM THE MAGIC PEN: TALES OF THE BROTHERS GRIMM
FROM THE MAGIC PEN: AESOP'S FABLES
YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN
CHILDREN OF EDEN*
PEACE CHILD 2000*

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT*
ONCE ON THIS ISLAND*
PIRATES OF PENZANCE*
THE WIZ*
THE SECRET GARDEN*
ANNIE GET YOUR GUN*
PETER PAN*
CATS*
SEUSSICAL*
BIG RIVER*

**Performing Arts Camp Production – Principal Director of Creative Team*

METRO WASHINGTON PARK ZOO, Portland OR

WHERE IN THE ZOO IS CARMEN SANDIEGO (See Below)
PHINEAS PHANG'S REPTILE REVUE – Reptile Show

THINGS THAT FLY – Birds of Prey Show
MISSION: CONGO RANGER STATION – Conservation Show

MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE, Missoula MT

CINDERELLA

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

STAGE ELEVEN, Denver CO

THE ORNAMENTS' CHRISTMAS
GHOULS GOBLINS AND GHOSTLY GLEE
KING OF THE WORLD

TV ON TRIAL
SIDEWALK SURFIN'
THE GREAT CROSS COUNTRY RACE

PLAYWRITING

'J' (Agnes Nixon Playwriting Award, Northwestern University)

SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS (Missoula Children's Theatre)

FINDING THE TRAIL (Young Audiences / Portland Art Museum / Oregon History Center)

TV ON TRIAL (The Young People's Theatre Project)

FROM THE MAGIC PEN: TALES OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN (The Young People's Theatre Project)

FROM THE MAGIC PEN: TALES OF THE BROTHERS GRIMM (The Young People's Theatre Project)

FROM THE MAGIC PEN: AESOP'S FABLES (The Young People's Theatre Project)

FROM THE MAGIC PEN: TALES OF MARK TWAIN (The Young People's Theatre Project)

WHERE IN THE ZOO IS CARMEN SANDIEGO (Metro Washington Park Zoo – *Story Development and Scripting*)

PHINEAS PHANG'S REPTILE REVUE (Metro Washington Park Zoo)

THINGS THAT FLY (Metro Washington Park Zoo)

MISSION: CONGO RANGER STATION (Metro Washington Park Zoo – *Concept Development and Scripting of Live Interactive Exhibit*)

SPECIAL PROJECTS

WHERE IN THE ZOO IS CARMEN SANDIEGO

In 1996, developed and directed interactive theatre elements for the Metro Washington Park Zoo's (now Oregon Zoo) summer season, creating story elements woven through existing live shows and several automated "zoo key" information recording kiosks. Directed performance elements on two stages and in a mobile street theatre environment. Developed and directed costumed characters working throughout the zoo, and supervised daily operation of all performance aspects. Worked closely with Zoo Marketing, Shows, and Education departments to develop scripts, train performers, and incorporate non-performing zoo staff and volunteers as well. In subsequent years, developed original scripts for the zoo's Reptile Show, Birds of Prey Show (on-site and touring) and Congo Ranger Station.

FINDING THE TRAIL

For Young Audiences, The Portland Art Museum, and Oregon History Center, wrote and directed an original musical celebrating the 150th anniversary of The Oregon Trail. The production was performed at the History Center, and toured to nearly every elementary school in Oregon and Southwest Washington. In subsequent years, hired to develop interactive performance elements for Oregon History Center and Portland Art Museum exhibits, and continued work through Young Audiences.

FESTIVALS, DEVELOPMENT EVENTS, and CONFERENCES

Directed the Family Stage at *Taste of Beaverton* Festival for four years, coordinating performances, and developing interactive programs including a version of The Kennedy Center's KIDS INVENT THEATRE project. Currently develop and direct live performance elements for Jesuit High School's annual Auction and Financial Aid Luncheon. As President of Oregon Theatre Arts Association, and Chapter Director for the Educational Theatre Association, coordinate multi-day, multi-venue conferences and festivals, featuring workshops, performances, and keynotes by guest artists. Director of The Young People's Theatre Project Performing Arts Camp, a four-week, multi-venue production project involving a wide range of students, teachers, and performance/rehearsal/workshop sites and activities.

MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION and CHILDREN'S CANCER ASSOCIATION

For The Young People's Theatre Project, developed HALLOWEEN ADVENTURE AT LOLICH FARM, an immersive month-long family event featuring a pumpkin patch, attractions (hayrides, pony rides, hay maze) and live staged performances, as a joint fundraiser for The Project and Make-A-Wish Foundation. For Make-A-Wish, scripted and facilitated wish-fulfillments, featuring musical performers in themed parties for Wish Kids and their families. Developed and facilitated live interactive elements for Children's Cancer Association.

TRUNK THEATRE and FROM THE PAGE TO THE STAGE

In 1991, developed and facilitated an interactive program for Tacoma Parks and Recreation (Washington), placing teams of artists in city parks to create free performance opportunities for young people throughout the summer. In Denver, developed an interactive performance program involving staged works based on writing by young people. This "Page to Stage" format was further developed by The Young People's Theatre Project as the basis for a touring residency program, working throughout the Pacific Northwest and in Guam.

References, Writing Samples and Production Photos are available upon request.