

## **Section 1: Applicant Information**

Name: Joe College

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## **Section 2: Project Brief**

Title of Project: 365 Days / 365 Plays Project

Type of project *Theater*

### **One-paragraph description:**

Suzan-Lori Parks, a Pulitzer prize winning playwright, wrote a play a day for a year from November 2002 to November 2003. All of these plays are being produced from November 2006 to November 2007 through a project called the 365 Days / 365 Plays Project. Across the country, there are 14 “hubs.” Each hub finds 52 theatre companies to produce a week of plays. Each week produced will either consist of a single play/day for the week or all seven plays each day for the week. Brandeis is one of 40-something universities across the country that is producing a week of plays and one of only 2 confirmed (though that number should rise to 4) in the Boston area. We will most likely be doing all seven plays for the week in various locations throughout campus.

### **Project Goals**

1. We want to show that theatre can be anything. Parks’ scripts are very “out there” and will take an open audience to embrace the short, but complex pieces.
2. We want to show that theatre can be staged anywhere and anytime. Some performances will be distinctly set in specific locations and specific times. All of these locations will provide distinctly different takes and challenges for the actors and audience members. Other performances will be somewhat “guerilla” catching the audience unexpected, hoping to open up people’s eyes to potential art all around them.
3. We want to be part of something larger than us. This project is monumental; it is a landmark in theatre history. Over 700 companies across the country and involved and while we are performing our week of shows, 13 or more other groups will be performing the exact same thing. This enormous scope is something we are looking forward to being part of.

## **Section 3: Budget**

**Grant awards typically range from \$50 to \$500. Explain how you will use your grant, and be as specific as possible.**

### **Materials (paint, lumber, canvas, frames, etc.):**

\$150. This money will cover various props/set pieces that must be adapted to specific locations.

### **Costumes:**

\$100. Most costumes will be contemporary clothing, easy to pull from people’s wardrobes. However, two tuxedos must be rented for the week.

**Rights/permissions:**

\$150. The university rights to perform the plays are \$150. This is non-negotiable.

**Other:**

\$75. We want to buy 365 of various toys from a wholesaler (i.e. Oriental Trading Company) and place them across campus as art/advertisement.

**Total amount requested: \$475**

Other sources of support: Depending on the grant amount, we can go to F-Board for money.

The 365 Days / 365 Plays project is a work of theatre that will be written in history books. Its monumental scope will hopefully bring greater appreciation of theatre and greater cooperation between theatres

I first heard about the project while working for a theatre company in Los Angeles. The minute I heard about it, I knew I just had to try to bring this to Brandeis. There is something so refreshing and exciting about the ability to do something new, something different. I immediately started tracking down people who could get me involved and help me bring this to Brandeis.

While filling out the application, I could think of no better week than that of Festival of the Arts. What better time for a somewhat experimental project than a time when so much creativity is happening all around campus?

During the week, it seems like everywhere you turn, art is taking place and we'd embrace that ethos. After seeing The Bacchae last semester and Cornerstone Theatre's work in Los Angeles, I became very interested in site-specific theatre. I thought The Bacchae didn't go far enough because it created architecture rather than merely use existing structures. We want people to be able to see the campus in a different light as one where art is possible all over.

I've attached the scripts for our week which you will find are quite wild. This is not the type of theatre that is done at Brandeis: secret police grab a woman's husband while she knits, an entire world claps at a single step, a woman waits an eternity for applause. There aren't exactly beginning, middles and ends here, and yet it is still dramatic. This is a dynamic this campus is missing that we hope to provide.

**Section 6: Supporting Materials**

Performance applicants must submit a list of production staff.

Producer: Joe College '07

Joe has been one of UTC's co-coordinators for the past two years. He has directed 3 mainstage shows for the group – "The Underpants, The Water Children" and "The Laramie Project." As a producer he assistant produced "Fool for Love" and produced "Quickies: A night of one acts." Professionally, he assistant produced "Lobster Alice" which starred Noah Wyle and Nicholas Brendan for the Blank Theatre Company in Los Angeles.

Director: Josie College '09

Josie has directed ten plays since 2002, including "Sure Thing and Long Ago and Far Away" by David Ives, "The Bad Seed" by Maxwell Anderson, "It's Called The Sugar Plum" by Israel Horovitz, and The Manhattan Project's avant-garde adaptation of "Alice in

Wonderland.” She’s staged productions in large and small black box theaters, proscenium stages, and most recently in the Gluck Lobby with “A Summer Evening in Des Moines,” which was produced by The Free Play Theatre Cooperative.

Stage Manager: Billy Brandeis '07

Billy can usually be seen on the Shapiro stage having been in 7 shows since he arrived on campus, most recently being seen in both “Betrayal” and “The Laramie Project” this semester. In addition to being an accomplished actor, Sam is a very qualified stage manager having stage managed BET’s “The Underpants” and a number of shows at the most acclaimed community theatre in Santa Monica – the Morgan-Wixson.

Also attached via e-mail is a copy of the scripts to week 24 and the constants, as well as a Boston Globe article which touches on Brandeis’ involvement.

### **Section 7: Space Requests**

Once we finalize our space desires, we will work with you, Conference & Events, Shapiro Campus center, Aramark and professors to secure our performance spaces.