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Innovation and Inspiration
Empowering the next generation of
stage managers

## **Grant Announcement from the new Stage Managers' Association Foundation**

May 15, 2023 The new Stage Managers' Association Foundation (SMAF) is very pleased to announce it has awarded its first four grants to the stage management community.

The mission of the SMAF is to support and promote the craft and the art of stage management by providing funds for continuing career education and development, for public events that enhance stage management skills, for advocacy, as well as for assisting in the creation of scholarships for early stage management training.

Grants have been awarded to the following diverse group of organizations and individuals:

- Ebony Road Players (Grand Rapids, Michigan), for their Visionary Academy Program to provide training and promote a theatrical experience for stage managers of color in the West Michigan theater community.
- Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (New York, NY), to support hiring a stage management intern to manage casting information for Broadway Bares.
- Bridin Clements Cotton (NYU Tisch/NYU Abu Dhabi), to investigate stage management practices in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, with an initial focus on Beirut and Cairo, and to share the results with other stage managers and educators.
- Olivia Rose (East Lansing, Michigan), for participating in a certified stage management fight/intimacy workshop, to enhance her stage managerial skills.

We invite organizations and members of the stage management community to submit grant proposals for our next grant cycle, which opens on September 1, 2023. The deadline for grant submissions will be October 1, with an announcement of grants approved on November 1. Further details can be found at stagemanagersfoundation.com regarding application specifics.

## SMAF Press Release May 15, 2023 (PG 2)

Tax-deductible contributions can be made for special training and research grant requests for working professionals and aspiring early-career stage managers, to keep up with rapidly changing technology as well as to establish scholarships for specific stage management training. Also, groups or individuals may present proposals for projects and public events, to be funded by the Foundation, that are designed to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the skills of stage managers and their crucial role in the arts and entertainment industries.

Click here for more information about grants guidelines, and here to donate to the Foundation.

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