

THE **PURPLE ROSE** THEATRE COMPANY



WORK PLAY LIVE LEARN

I LEARNED I COULD
REALLY DO THIS.
THIS IS A UNIQUE,
SPECIAL PLACE.

—KEVIN BARRON '09
BOX OFFICE MANAGER
THE BERMAN CENTER FOR
THE PERFORMING ARTS



The Purple Rose apprentice program is a unique, hands-on opportunity to gain real-world experience in a professional theatre. As an apprentice, you will work with directors, designers, stage managers, actors and administrators who truly desire to create great theatre; you will gain exposure to every aspect of the process - performance, design, tech, administration and fundraising.

Earn the knowledge and experience you'll need to build the rest of your career. Learn, grow and challenge yourself. Make friends who will last a lifetime. Follow in the footsteps of apprentices who now work professionally as technical directors, stage managers, designers, writers, teachers, administrators and actors.

By excelling in one of the most intensive programs in the country, some program graduates have even been offered the opportunity to begin their professional career at the Purple Rose. There are countless doors here waiting to be opened; your drive, initiative and ambition are the keys!

THE APPRENTICE
PROGRAM WAS ONE
OF THE PIVOTAL
EXPERIENCES IN MY
CAREER AS AN ARTIST.
THROUGH INVALUABLE
PRACTICAL HANDS-ON
TRAINING, YOU LEARN
AND EXPERIENCE
THEATRE AT AN
UNEXPECTED LEVEL.
THE VALUE OF THE
PROGRAM IS EVIDENT
IN THE LESSONS YOU
DON'T EXPECT TO
LEARN, BUT STICK WITH
YOU FOR YEARS TO
COME.

—JAMES KUHL '02
PRODUCING ARTISTIC
DIRECTOR, TIPPING
POINT THEATRE



I LOVED MY TIME WITH THE PURPLE ROSE
THEATRE COMPANY APPRENTICESHIP
PROGRAM. IT PREPARED ME FOR A
PROFESSIONAL THEATER TECHNICIAN
CAREER IN NEW YORK CITY.

—JOE REECHER '06
STAFF ELECTRICIAN
THE JULLIARD SCHOOL



THE PURPLE ROSE IS
A FINE EXAMPLE OF
ARTISTIC EXPRESSION AT
ITS VERY BEST.”

—BILL IVEY
NEA



THE **PURPLE ROSE** THEATRE COMPANY

Founded by actor Jeff Daniels in 1991, The Purple Rose Theatre Company is a nonprofit regional theatre operating under an SPT contract with Actors' Equity Association. We produce four shows per year which run eight to fourteen weeks.

The company is dedicated to providing a voice for theatre artists in the American heartland. Our focus is to nurture a healthy cultural community, to provide professional jobs to regional artists and to supply training to the Midwest's next generation of theatre artists.

The apprentice program is patterned after the program Daniels experienced at the beginning of his career when he first moved to New York City to work for the Circle Repertory Company. The Purple Rose considers it an important part of our mission to offer entry level positions to young professionals seeking experience.

ENCOURAGING **YOUNG ARTISTS** THROUGH CONTINUING EDUCATION

Apprentices participate in many of the career development classes offered by the Purple Rose, including the acclaimed Actor/Director Lab. Purple Rose company members also teach weekly apprentice workshops on such topics as auditioning, improvisation, stage combat, directing, script analysis, playwriting, design, stage management and arts administration.

Apprentices can also apply for Actors' Equity Association membership candidacy. Points are earned by serving as production assistant to the stage manager or rehearsal assistant. *Opportunities for acting and understudying are also occasionally offered to exceptional apprentices, but are not guaranteed.*

Dark Night is an opportunity for apprentices to mount a for-one-night-only performance as a culmination of their experience. Past apprentice classes have written, directed, designed and performed their own material for an invited audience of fellow artists, staff, friends and family.

“THE PURPLE ROSE IS ONE
OF THE BEST THEATRES
IN THE COUNTRY. THEIR
MATERIAL'S GOOD, THEY
DO IT REALLY WELL, AND
THEY CARE ABOUT THE
WORK AND EACH OTHER
AND THE AUDIENCE. IT'S A
GREAT PLACE TO BE.”

—LANFORD WILSON
PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING
PLAYWRIGHT



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PURPLE ROSE APPRENTICE

Purple Rose apprentices are the backbone of the company. An apprenticeship is a full-time position, requiring an exclusive commitment for the duration of four productions (approximately 12 months). Apprentices work a minimum of 40 hours per week; the intensive production schedule sometimes demands as many as 80 hours per week. A modest living stipend is provided.

Day-to-day operating duties are shared among the apprentices throughout the year. In the business office, apprentices answer phones, assemble mailings and maintain the patron database. In the box office, apprentices take reservations, sell tickets and serve as the front line of customer service to our patrons.

Apprentices strike and load in scenery, hang lights, clean and maintain the facility, lead tours for school and senior groups and help development staff plan special events.

THE NIGHT LIFE: CREW ASSIGNMENTS

The program is designed to provide apprentices the opportunity to work different production-related positions for each show. Each apprentice is assigned to eight production positions over the course of the season.

Crew assignments include:

- production assistant to the stage manager
- rehearsal assistant
- assistant to the properties designer
- assistant to the master electrician
- sound engineer
- house manager
- backstage crew
- crew backup
- scene shop assistant
- light board operator
- sound board operator
- evening box office staff

Crew assignments are made based on the areas of interest indicated on your application. Every effort is made to make sure that each apprentice gains the experience they are seeking from our program.

IF YOU APPROACH THE APPRENTICESHIP WITH A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND AN OPEN MIND, IT WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING BUT MOST REWARDING THEATRICAL EXPERIENCES POSSIBLE”.

—LYLE M. HENNING '10
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR,
NEW THEATRE PROJECT



SOME OF THE DAYS WERE ABSOLUTELY CRAZY AND HECTIC AND LONG, BUT MOST OF THE TIME I JUST THOUGHT ABOUT THE FACT THAT I WAS WORKING AT ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING THEATERS IN THE COUNTRY.

—KELLY A. VIEAU '08
RESIDENT STAGE
MANAGER
THE BE COMPANY



THE PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY

APPRENTICE APPLICATION

Please submit your application form with a resume (both professional work history and theatrical experience), three letters of reference and a cover letter stating how a Purple Rose apprenticeship relates to your career goals to:

The Purple Rose Theatre Company
ATTN: Guy Sanville, Artistic Director
137 Park Street, Chelsea, MI 48118

Today's Date _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Alt. Phone _____

E-mail _____

(Please provide contact information that will be valid for the next 6 - 9 months)

Education _____

When are you available to begin your apprenticeship? _____

Please list any conflicts or prior commitments during the year following your available start date:

Do you: own a car? have a valid drivers' license?

Please select the top five areas in which you hope to gain experience:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> directing | <input type="checkbox"/> acting | <input type="checkbox"/> stage management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> sound | <input type="checkbox"/> carpentry & scenic painting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> properties | <input type="checkbox"/> costumes | <input type="checkbox"/> house management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> box office | <input type="checkbox"/> arts management | <input type="checkbox"/> fundraising / grant writing |

Do you have any special skills or experience you would like us to know about?
