

PERFORMING ARTS/THEATRE SUBCOMMITTEE SESSIONS:

P: theatre patrons | F: CC faculty | S: CC students | ST: FAC staff/artists | YP: young professionals | PA: Performing arts groups and artists | SU: Survey

1. Retain Core Programming - Local arts patrons and theatre professionals clearly value the core programming of the regional theatre, especially musical theatre, which fills a niche for Colorado Springs audiences and artists.

- a) P, F, ST, PA: continue programming musical theatre: a staple of the programming.
- b) P, ST, PA: The only theatre in CS suited for musical theatre; theatre employs CS-based artists – actors, designers, directors, choreographers - for theatre productions, musical theatre emphasized in most sessions.
- c) P, F, PA: Continue family and educational programming: FAC Theatre School, Youth Rep, family theatre series.
- d) PA: Maintain the current artistic quality and focus
- e) PA: Maintain the historical legacy of the FAC

2. Develop New and Existing Programming - Explore new programs that appeal to (and represent) new communities (see below), make curricular connections with CC faculty (in performing arts and beyond), and fill gaps in current local program offerings (e.g. new and experimental work, dance, film, presenting/residencies with national performing arts groups/artists, playwriting incubator, etc.)

- a) F: Alignment with performing arts courses to incorporate FAC shows into the class; “teaching relevant to the show being presented”
- b) F: film festival, repertory film program
- c) F, P, PA: new plays; local premieres and original works. New works by early career playwrights.
- d) F, P, PA: More diversity of programming: edgier programming alongside current programming; nationally-recognized outside groups, shared publicity; two subscription series; include dance; Subscription tracks or choices.
- e) F, P, PA: Additional resources – communications, staffing – to coordinate programming at both institutions.
- f) F, S: Artist in residence programs.
- g) F, PA: Arts incubator – new play festival with staged readings.
- h) F: Artists residencies with recognized artists for students and community
- i) F, PA: Elevate program to a national/international level; arts tourist destination.
- j) PA: Expand the performing arts adult education program.

3. Engage Non-Attending Communities - Deeper engagement with CS communities who are not currently attending performing arts events at CC or the FAC

- a) F, YP, P, PA: Engage communities of color, women, families, military, native peoples and people with disabilities. Examples: marketing to families at Fort Carson, reach out to grass root organizations within minority communities such as the Latino and Black chambers of commerce.
- b) F, YP: Geographic diversity: bring arts experiences to outlying CS areas (Southeast, east particularly)
- c) F, YP: In addition to the resident theatre company, enlarge mission to deepen our communities’ understanding of what theatre and the performing arts in general can do. One example: tell stories of those in CS affected by the criminal justice system. Present issue-based thematic programming off-site. Fund from source other than tuition, ticket sales, membership.
- d) F: Don’t assume that pocket communities are underserved or that it’s a financial issue, it’s a question of value; not an exhibition or programmatic issue.
- e) F, PA: Make the FAC an interdisciplinary as well as multidisciplinary arts destination. More collaboration and partnerships with FAC and CC across disciplines and departments. Example: Ormao’s performance in the museum.

4. Create a Bridge to the Professional World - Build strong, meaningful connections for CC students to learn about and transition to careers in the performing arts, behind and on the stage.

- a) S: CC students, in all sessions, are currently not aware of performing arts events at the FAC. They want to become informed about Theatre events
- b) S: Students want on-campus advertising of theatre events
- c) S: They want to participate in professional musical productions and receive credit. Adjust rehearsal schedule to allow students to audition on the block plan.
- d) S: Students want opportunities for their performing arts groups – musical ensembles, theatre workshop, musical theatre group, TWIT - to perform off campus, outside the CC bubble.
- e) S: Students want internship opportunities with professionals in the performing arts - on stage, backstage, arts administration. They'd like to see more attention from the career center to support career counseling specific to the performing arts. FAC theatre staff as well as CC visiting artists could offer a bridge between academic theatre and "real world" theatre
- f) S: Students want more interaction with the CS residents and CS professionals in the performing arts; they see this as an opportunity to engage their artistic aspirations outside the CC bubble. An opportunity to integrate students into the CS community. Offer students in the performing arts professional opportunities after they matriculate.

5. Create a Plan for Shared Resources - Increased support and leverage available resources, venues, staff, communications and funding, for maximum impact on Colorado Springs communities and CC students.

- a) F, YP, P, ST, PA: shared theatre venues; FAC theatre company performances also seen on CC stages. Affordable rentals of facilities by CS-based arts organizations.
- b) F, S: Student productions on FAC stages.
- c) F, S, P, ST: Coordinate presentation of outside groups – national/international profile; dance, music, interdisciplinary performance.
- d) F, ST, PA: Fully and newly staffed. A visionary leader to bring the CC-FAC alliance successfully into the future. Academic performing arts "curator", devoted to linkages between FAC staff/programming and CC students and faculty. This includes curriculum/programming linkages; integrating visiting artists/performing arts events between the two institutions.
- e) F, S, PA: *Additional* staff to coordinate the use of facilities and promotion of CC and FAC programming to their respective audiences and students.
- f) P, YP, PA: The alliance an opportunity for CC to overcome CS residents' perception that CC is elitist – "a gated community" - and unresponsive to its home community. Improve community relations.
- g) P, ST, F, PA: Upgrade FAC's theatres - the SaGaJi and music room (sound system, acoustics, seats) – as well as Cornerstone theatres. Keep current with new technologies in the theater.
- h) P: Better parking options for both the Cornerstone and the FAC
- i) P, F, PA: Make the corridor between FAC and Cornerstone a HUB, a downtown destination. This includes the idea of one-stop shopping: (park once, have a pre-show drink or dinner in-house, see a show, have a post-show coffee or drink in-house). Good full service restaurant(s) in the CC/FAC neighborhood.