

Fantasy Theatre Factory



**FANTASY THEATRE FACTORY
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Fantasy Theatre Factory Volunteer Program

Hello!

Welcome to Fantasy Theatre Factory! We are excited to have you here and want to tell you a little bit about us!

About FTF:

Fantasy Theatre Factory (FTF) is a 501(c)3 Not-for-Profit State of Florida touring Arts-in-Education theatre and special events company. Established in 1978 and incorporated in 1982, FTF is a Miami based company that tours its programs locally, state-wide and internationally.

With over 35 years of excellence in the arts, Fantasy Theatre Factory is the gold standard for professional theatre for young audiences. FTF programs utilize professional adult performers who provide quality cultural programming for children and family audiences.

FTF's theatre programs place a primary focus on childhood literacy and ecology. Other focus areas of programming include: fitness, history, diversity, self esteem, peer pressure and bullying prevention. FTF also produces cultural arts workshop residency programs that serve at-risk youth, children with disabilities and general population students.



In addition to FTF's educational stage shows and workshop residencies for children, FTF also produces special event entertainment. FTF speciality acts include: jugglers, stilt-walkers, magicians, balloon artists, unicyclists, puppeteers, giant puppets, strolling interactive characters and more!

Each year FTF produces over 350 programs which reach over 125,000 people all across South Florida and the entire state through the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs' Arts on Tour program.

The company is located in the Bird Road Arts District in Miami-Dade County with offices and rehearsal studio.

Background:

Fantasy Theatre Factory was created in New York in 1977, by Ed Allen and Mimi Schultz, performing artists and teachers. The company expanded, incorporated as a Florida Not-for-Profit in 1982, and has toured nationally, internationally and the State of Florida since that time.

As a touring theatre, we are uniquely different from housed theatres in that our audiences do not come to our theatre space; we take theatre to our audience. This gives particularly underserved communities the best access to our programs. We perform in rural and inner city schools, theatres, parks, hospitals, community centers, practically everywhere. Sets, props, costumes - even

actors must be able to travel for extended periods of time. In this manner, Fantasy Theatre presents more than 400 Florida programs reaching over 150,000 people each year. Our mission is to make more quality theatre programs available to more people.



FTF Founders:



Mimi Schultz



Ed Allen

Mission Statement:

Fantasy Theatre is dedicated to creating original quality theatre programs for children and families and to making these programs accessible to more people of all cultures and backgrounds. To reach the greatest number of people with our theatre programs, Fantasy Theatre is a touring company, traveling throughout Florida, the Southeast and Internationally to theatres, schools, fairs, libraries and outdoor festivals. We have developed, as part of our mission, a free admission policy for critically ill children and other special constituencies.

FTF Staff:



Larry Fields
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Company programs:

FTF's main business comes from its 13 touring shows that appeal to pre-school, elementary, family, adult and senior audiences. Our versatile style of performance often blends old vaudeville forms-- mime, magic, clown, masks, juggling, comedy and improvisation into classic theatre programs. Our shows cover themes of: Children's Literature, Reading, Ecology, Social Service, Black History, Dance, English, and Music.

In a given season, FTF will run about 3-5 plays, scheduled to run at different times of the year, while simultaneously running performances of our "year round shows". They are broken down as following:

- Adventures of Curious Who?
- Adventures of Secret Agent RE Cycle
- A Fab Karaoke (*year round*)
- Bananas, Books and Pancakes
- Whales, Magic & Cheese... Oh My!
- Cinderella: A Fractured Fairy Tale
- Comedy with a Twist of Lemon
- Dance Factory (*year round*)
- Fantasy Stew (*year round*)
- Little Monster Tales
- Never Everglades
- Gordon Gumshoe: Fairy Tale Detective
- Quetzal's World
- Stories From America's Backyard
- The Three *Mess*-keteers
- Tryday



You can find information about all the shows on our website <http://www.ftfshows.com> and in the company folders and the more time you spend with the company, the more you will familiarize yourself with the different shows.



For the plays, there will usually be an audition, casting and rehearsal process before the tour stars.

The "year round" shows generally have little to no rehearsal process and "regular" performers can be contacted on relatively short-notice for performance.

Special Events

FTF also participates in special events throughout the year, like Art Deco Weekend, The Youth Fair, Coconut Grove Arts Festival, Art on Palm, and Zoo Miami.

For these events we will usually contract in-house, outside, and regular actors for different street performances, stilt-walking, short acts, magic shows, etc.

Miscellaneous

FTF will also be hired to perform at birthday parties and other kinds of private events...there is no real formula when contracting these kinds of events, its always something different!



Potential volunteer duties:

Marketing: Marketing assistants work closely with the scheduling director. Depending on the upcoming shows and events, different marketing and promotional materials will



have to be created, including e-mail copy and fliers, fax fliers, Facebook posts, tweets, and others. FTF has an active presence on Facebook, Twitter, Constant Contact and the company website that needs to be maintained and updated.

Production: Production assistants work with O'Neil, our production manager, and duties could include maintaining and organizing the rehearsal studio, cleaning and creating costumes and props, creating educational materials for post-play workshops, set maintenance and other

production duties.

Grant Support: As a non-profit company, FTF is always applying for grants as well as renewing previous grant applications. Volunteer duties could include assisting in creating support materials, like gathering and organizing photos of events, fliers, and letters written by teachers and students who have attended our performances.

Events: Volunteers could also have the opportunity to assist shows and events and act as ushers before and after performances, take photographs or even participate in events if you've got a flair for performance!



Fantasy Theatre Factory is a family. There is a lot to do and volunteers have the opportunity to try many different things, especially due to the collaborative nature of the theatrical process!