

I am applying for a CAL Summer Support Fellowship, which will be used to fund my work in this year's Summer Circle Theatre at the MSU Department of Theatre. I specifically am working as the scenic designer, as well as a scene shop support. By working at Summer Circle Theatre, I will be able to stay local to East Lansing for summer work rather than searching for summer theatre work at more regional summer stock opportunities out of state. The schedule of summer circle also allows me to participate in the "Exploring British Theatre" study abroad program during the later summer session. By remaining local, I will also be able to continue the collaborative work I've begun with my fellow graduate students in my second year and with a selection of undergraduate students whom I've worked with already or will work with in future semesters. Fostering collaboration and mentorship with these students will further my teaching experience beyond the usual fall and spring semesters. It will give me a jumpstart on teaching practice and pedagogy in my coming years as a graduate teaching assistant.

By working as a designer and scenic support for Summer Circle Theatre Season, I will also have the opportunity to expand my design portfolio, creating designs for the full season, which includes *Show I*, *Show II*, and *Show III*. The unique combination of pedagogy and design experience will be very effective in furthering my learning goals as an MFA candidate, bolstering my professional theatre credentials. This season of shows offers design opportunities across a range of genres, including theatre for young audiences and musical theatre. This design experience will be applied practically in my future design work in the final year of my graduate degree, and in the future beyond graduation.