

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

THE CAROLINA PLAYMAKERS
FREDERICK H. KOCH, DIRECTOR

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DEC 20 1933 *Univ North Carolina*
NOV 15 '33 *JM* *11/16/33*
November 14, 1933
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Dear Mr. Marshall:

On a separate sheet you will find a picture (in actual figures) which will give you some idea of the extent of our activities during last season. You can imagine how busy this kind of schedule keeps us. The efficiency of our limited staff in meeting the demands of the increasing number of students actually interested in the work of The Carolina Playmakers would be greatly improved by the help of the following student assistants:

1. An Assistant to the Director to take over laboratory work in Experimental Productions of plays written in the playwriting courses, and to attend to other details of instruction routine.
2. An Assistant to the Technical Director to take care of theatre and shop equipment, and the routine chores connected with the traffic of production.
3. An Assistant in Business Management to do stenographic and clerical work in the general business of the organization, including the work involved in promoting tours.

Urgent as is our need for relief from the accumulating burden of routine through the help of student assistants, still more urgent is our need for financial help in the present crisis.

Our local income is no longer supplemented by the substantial profits from our tours, as in the good old days. Now we are dependent entirely upon our greatly reduced box office receipts for all our production expenses, office supplies, and the salary of one member of our staff.

The University has not and cannot provide the salary of the member of our staff who designs and makes all our costumes (there were 137 last year), and at the same time fills the position of general secretary of The Playmakers. These services are indispensable. The only provision we have been able to make is a part-time salary (\$700) in our already overloaded budget. We are hoping to find some way to relieve our box office of this burden.

Our situation is fast becoming desperate. Our equipment is running down, we are unable to mount our productions except in make-shift fashion, and we do not see where we can secure the money to purchase even the basic supplies. With the rapidly increasing rise in prices in every direction, we fear that we will not be able to pay up our debts of last year, much less to meet those of the coming months, unless someone comes to our rescue.

We appreciate deeply your interest in the things we are trying to do here, and we shall be grateful indeed for whatever assistance you can give us.

Yours faithfully,

Frederick H. Koch

Mr. John Marshall
The Rockefeller Foundation
New York City, New York

Kenan Professor of Dramatic Literature.

Miss Davis, the wife of the business manager.

only about \$200.

THE CAROLINA PLAYMAKERS

An Outline of the Activities of a Representative Year.

(Actual Figures as of Last Season, 1932-1933)

1. Two hundred and seventy (270) different players and technicians, many of them repeating, had an active part in the productions.
2. One hundred and forty-One (141) students were individually trained in the courses in Playwriting, Acting, Directing, and Technical Practice. (This does not include the students in the courses in dramatic literature.)
3. Fifty-two (52) new plays written in the University Playwriting courses were given public, studio, or experimental presentations.
4. Twenty-seven (27) new stage settings were designed and built for these productions.
5. One hundred and thirty-seven (137) costumes were designed and made during the year.
6. Two (2) short tours were made last year.
7. Seven (7) new productions of full-length plays by professional playwrights were given during the year, including a Children's Play and two outdoor plays in The Forest Theatre.
8. One hundred and forty (140) visiting actors from all parts of the State presented thirty-eight (38) plays (10 of these original) in The Playmakers Theatre last season during the Tenth Dramatic Festival and Tournament of the Carolina Dramatic Association.
9. Sixty-six (66) performances were given in The Playmakers Theatre during the season. Three (3) outdoor performances were given in The Forest Theatre.
10. Nineteen thousand four hundred (19,400) persons attended our Playmakers' performances last year.

Note: The University supplies a staff of only three (3) members to do all this work.