

OUR MISSION

TAP_T WILL CREATE AND PRODUCE NEW THEME BASED WORKS ENCOURAGING A DIALOGUE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE ARTS. BY PROVIDING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT, PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND AFFORDABLE TRAINING WE PROMOTE SUCCESS, QUALITY AND INDEPENDENCE WHILE GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY WE SERVE.

OUR VISION

Our purpose is art and the process of theatre; telling stories that matter, creating new & exciting productions, helping our artists grow, building relationships, and connecting not just with the average theatre goer, but to the people who these stories are about. This is why it is important that our work includes themes that evoke the truth of the human struggle.

TAP_T prides itself on the quality of the work we do and the quality of the environment we create. We cultivate professionalism developed through support, mutual respect, inspiration, collaboration and creativity; these are the standards we work by. We feed our artists in every way. Our mutual support helps us, other artists and groups to remember that it takes the whole to create an incredible show from the producer to the audience, so many functions are involved and we set an example of what it can be.

Our talkbacks engage our audience in a dialogue discussing the topics and feelings broached by the work. Too often in our society we do not talk. We are too afraid to approach subjects we are uncomfortable with. We want to bring forth different perspectives and talk about them including the why's and how's; to work toward an understanding and compassion toward others. No matter what we do and accomplish, it is our duty to give back.

Respect, Support, Inspire, Create

PRODUCE, TRAIN, PAY BACK, GIVE BACK

Productions:

Produce three shows per year. One full length and two Short Cutz Series: TAPt's signature original one acts production.

The Short Cutz series is an original one act series based on themes currently relevant in society (ie. War, Bigotry, Violence, Poverty, etc). We encourage different points of view and out of the box thinking, to evoke humanity and understanding.

There are 2 models:

a. We begin by soliciting plays from the public. The production team reads all submissions and grades them independently. The top 2-5 plays (length permitting) are chosen based on quality and relevance to be produced as a showcase.

b. TAPt hosts a developmental retreat. The production team chooses up to 4 playwrights, 2 directors and 11 actors to participate in a retreat to Plymouth VT at Good Commons. We write and develop 4 one act plays while exploring our craft. We use that time to build a strong ensemble. This Short Cutz would then return to New York City ready for rehearsals and heading for showcase production.

Our full length productions will be chosen based on a key element the quality of the work. It must invoke and inspire truth regarding the human condition; be it social, familial or personal.

Each production will be followed by a talk back. This dialogue on the issues that have been brought up throughout the evening is critical. This gives us the ability to share one another's experiences through the eyes of many. Our ultimate goal is providing moderators from local community organizations that relate to the given theme.

Affordable Training:

We will offer monologue study, scene study and improvisation courses at greatly reduced prices. To achieve this, the expenses must be offset to keep prices manageable including expense of renting the space and reasonable fees for the instructor's. Our goal is to make this service accessible to those who want and need it through donated funds, space, supplies and reduced priced rentals.



Payback:

We will treat ALL actors and crew as professionals by paying at least the minimum equity stipend, providing professional production photos through our partner *donje' photography*, supplying healthy snacks and drinks whenever possible and hosting cast events. Most importantly we create a professional and open environment that generates a foundation of respect. Our goal is to support working artists, not enable starving ones. No one should have to work for free. TAPt. has managed to pay our people with each production in some way.



Philanthropy:

We believe it is our duty as artists to give back; not only to the artistic community, but to the community we serve. A portion of every full price ticket will go to a non-profit charity.

NICHOLE DONJE'

Artistic Director

I have worked with Nichole for the last 13 years as an actress, director, teaching artist, designer and photographer on various projects. My opinion of her is such that I hire her to come from New York to Rhode Island to collaborate in these programs and projects. Nichole is very innovative, inventive, dependable, dedicated, knowledgeable, articulate and industrious. She puts people at ease and works well with all types of people in all types of situations. I recommend her very highly!

Steven Pennell
Director of Arts and Culture
University of Rhode Island

Nichole is a truly gifted artist, as well as a superbly skilled project manager. I have had the privilege of working with her as an actress, director, writer and producer, and she excels at everything she tackles. I recommend her enthusiastically.

Bill McMahon
Playwright & Founder
The Playwrights' Continuum

...Nichole is a dedicated, creative, and enthusiastic leader who is committed to building a community in which emerging artists are able develop their crafts and at the same time explore important social issues. And happily TAPt continues to have success on many levels: they attract very talented playwrights, as well as actors and their recent Short Cutz series played to sold out houses. As a director Nichole, is insightful and encouraging, and on top of all of that she is a talented actress herself! She is someone I would be happy to work with any day!

Victoria Bundonis
Actor/Performer
New York City

As a producer, Nichole was all you could ask for. The billions of details she was managing, the surprises, the screw-ups, the inevitable disappointments, were completely invisible to us. She took all of the crap on her broad shoulders and freed us to do the best work of which we were capable. In the end, no one, not the designers nor the authors nor the technical folks had anything but praise to offer about her work. That was quite an accomplishment.

Laurence Canter
Actor/Performer
New York City

Artistic Director & Founder of TAPt. Nichole is an entrepreneur and creative chameleon; she has been acting (*theatre & film*) and directing theatre for over 15 years.

During the past 2 years she has produced 3 successful productions. As the Artistic Director of TAPt., her company's first NYC showcase, *Short Cutz (in partnership with Free2BU Productions)*, played to a SOLD OUT house every night! This followed the successful, Big Read RI finale funded by the NEA, entitled *Voices: In Search of Truth*. Nichole hand picked eight talented actors to build this production in NYC to perform at the University of Rhode Island Feinstein Campus. She served as the Director & Producer of "Voices" and key consultant on the Big Read RI project consisting of over 25 public events. In October 2009 Nichole produced Week 1 of the 10th Annual Estrogenius Festival at Manhattan Theatre Source.

As a founding member of *The Playwrights' Continuum* she is able to stretch her wings as an actress, director, and writer. Her experience and skills have proven very valuable to the development of this initiative. Recently, renewing her focus on performing she returned to the stage in Pia Wilson's, *A Goddess Once*. In 2010 she will be traveling to Washington DC and Edmonton, Canada with Paula Caplan's, *War and Therapy*.

www.nicholedonje.com

718-736-3828

Nichole@nicholedonje.com

The Creative Arts Professional...

Founder and Artistic Director of TAPt.

Experienced producer of new works.

Numerous directorial credits.

Over 19 years on the stage.

Proven and respected leader.

Over 15 years of operations expertise.

Passion and experience for creative, new and innovative projects.