

FALL 2019 PITCHES: A GUIDE

PART 1 – Letter of Intent

The first step in pitching a show is submitting a letter of intent. A letter of intent is simply a short statement addressed to the executive board expressing your intention of pitching a show for the upcoming semester. The letter should include (at minimum) the show name, the director's name, and the music director's name. If the show calls for it, you may also include a choreographer or assistant positions. If you encounter difficulties in obtaining a full team by the letter of intent due date, please contact the e-board ASAP.

Letters of intent for Fall 2019 are due on **MONDAY, APRIL 1 by 11:59 PM.** Please send your letter to onbrdway@bu.edu, and be sure to include the emails of all creative team members for the purpose of further correspondences.

PART 2 – Written Pitch

As part of the pitch process, the creative team must submit a written pitch. The purpose of the written pitch is for the e-board and pitch committee to gain a full, detailed insight into your proposed show and intended vision. Your written pitch should encompass the following:

1. What is the show's title, author, composer, etc.?
2. List all members of your creative team (name/role within team/school/year). Each member of the team should compose a personal statement highlighting their credentials.
3. Give a brief description of the show and a character breakdown.
4. What musicians are needed for the show? How will you acquire them?
5. Why is this show a good show for On Broadway?
6. Describe your thematic and technical vision for the show in detail.
7. What are the technical requirements for the show? Please consider all aspects of tech (set, set decoration/paint, lights, sound, costumes, hair/makeup, and props).
8. Please rank the anticipated cost/expenditures of each tech department on a scale of 1-7 (1 being most expensive, 7 being least).
9. Why do you want to direct this show, and what will make you a good director? The same question applies for the rest of the creative team.
10. No show is perfect; list any obstacles you anticipate in the show process. How you plan to deal with them?

Before written pitches are submitted, prospective directors must meet with the Technical Advisor to discuss the logistics of their technical vision. Directors should have a clear set of ideas to present to the TA, and depending on the professional opinion of the TA, directors should be open to compromise or adjustment.

Please send your written pitch as a pdf to onbrdway@bu.edu by **SUNDAY, APRIL 14 at 11:59 PM**. Late pitches will NOT be accepted. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us via email, and we will be happy to assist you. Examples of successful pitches are available on the OB website under the Fall 2019 Pitches tab.

PART 3 – Pitch Questions

After the deadline for written pitches, e-board and the pitch committee will comprise a set of questions about your pitch. These questions are an opportunity to elaborate on aspects of your written pitch, as well as a chance to address any additional details that may have been missing. Responses will be due 24 hours before Pitch Day to onbrdway@bu.edu.

PART 4 - Pitch Day

Pitch Day is the live component of your pitch, where each creative team is allotted one hour in front of e-board and the pitch committee to demonstrate their respective skills and knowledge.

The first part of the hour will be comprised of a short Q&A about the team and the show. The remainder of the time can be split amongst the team as desired. The director is expected to block a short scene (roughly 1-2 pages or less) from the show that showcases their ability to work with actors in constructing a scene. The music director and (if applicable) choreographer will showcase a similar

Pitch Day for Fall 2019 will take place on **SATURDAY, APRIL 20**. If you intend to pitch, please clear your schedule for the whole day so that you have flexible availability.

PART 5 - Pitch Decision

After a confidential deliberation, e-board and pitch committee will vote on a decision. Once the decision has been made, e-board must finalize the logistics of licensing for each show. Because of the extensive nature of the pitch decision, please anticipate at least a one-week waiting period before decisions are announced. E-board will update teams if any delays occur.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Who is eligible to pitch for OB?

A: Any potential member of On Broadway is eligible to pitch a show.

Q: Are we required to have previous experience?

A: OB prides itself on offering opportunities to people regardless of their experience level, so no, prospective creative team members do not need to have previous experience. Considering the nature of the role, skill and dedication is valued above experience.

Q: What kind of shows are eligible to be pitched?

A: OB accepts pitches for any musical that is currently available for amateur licensing. To find out if amateur licensing is available for a show, refer to the licensing agency's website. Please refrain from formally inquiring with the agency about availability, as it is against policy to release licensing details directly to students. If you are having difficulty discerning if amateur licensing is available, please contact e-board.

Q: How do I write a strong written pitch?

A: A strong written pitch should demonstrate a strong comprehension of all aspects of the show materials and a clear thematic and technical vision for the show. Strong pitches illustrate well-developed ideas with feasible methods of executing them. When writing the pitch, aim to be specific and realistic. Ultimately, the goal of the e-board and pitch committee is to choose the show that is the best fit for OB and its membership, and the best pitch will be the one aligns the goal of the show with that of OB's.

Thank you so much for your interest in pitching! Email onbrdway@bu.edu with any further questions or concerns.