

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Has your VSO received funding from the ASSU Undergraduate Senate Appropriations Committee in prior years? If so, how much and when?

We have been approved for Special Fees the past five years, and so, we have received funding from the ASSU Undergraduate Senate Appropriations Committee. Last year, we were appropriated a budget of \$15,870.

Have you registered your events/organizations with events.stanford.edu? (note: registration is mandatory) (yes/no)

Yes

How large is your officer core?

Our Board is composed of 9 members, led by the Executive Producer.

If you applied for Special Fees last year, is there an increase in the amount you're seeking this year? If so, why?

Yes, there is a small increase, though it is under 10%. We have increased the amount we're seeking largely due to increased marketing/publicity costs. As our productions have grown in scope and reach over the past few years, we have devoted more funds to the printing of posters, postcards, and press releases to publicize our work. This year, we have begun printing large banners to advertise on overpasses, working with the City of Palo Alto far in advance to make this possible. And so, to summarize, we are seeking more marketing funds to accommodate the growth of our group and the increasing popularity of our shows.

Please define the services provided by your group with the Special Fee, as per the ASSU Constitution:

We provide FREE Shakespeare performances for the Stanford student body with the Special Fee. We also provide educational training for our members.

Please list all: 1) assets, 2) reserves, 3) authorized and unauthorized non-ASSU bank accounts, 4) sources of funding other than Special

- 1) N/A
- 2) Because our group has managed its money well the past few years, we have built-up a modest reserves budget of over \$9000. We try not to spend this money unless we are confronted with an exceptional, unforeseen production cost.
- 3) N/A
- 4) Special Fees is our primary source of funding. Late last year, we received an outside donation, but this money is not used for our winter/spring productions. Instead it has been devoted to a summer project the group is developing, which involves its own budget completely separate from Special Fees.

Have you applied for Special Fees in the past 3 years? If so, please detail the outcome of each attempt.

Yes, StanShakes has successfully received Special Fees the past three years.

How do you plan to publicize your events/programs to the greater Stanford community? Have you registered with Events at Stanford?

We publicize our events/programs to the greater Stanford community by hanging up posters throughout campus and nearby Palo Alto communities. We also pass out promotional postcards and send out "e-flyers." We have registered with Events at Stanford, and always secure administrative support of our productions.

How many members are on your email list?

All 26 members of the Society are on our primary "active" mailing list. We also are currently working on constructing an Alumni list, to keep past members aware of our events and happenings.

If you are an umbrella group, please list the groups for which you are applying for Special Fees, their ASSU account numbers, and contact information for their financial officers.

N/A

Please describe a few past events organized by our VSO (please limit your response to 50-100 words).

In the past, we have staged Shakespearean plays all around campus, from the Old Union Fountain to the Elliott Program Center (EPC). Our largest endeavors have been our joint productions with the Cantor Arts Center. In spring 2005, our outdoor performance of "Hamlet" drew crowds of up to 600. Then, in spring 2006, "Love's Labour's Lost" launched the museum's "Conflict and Art" exhibit. These major productions - as well as our annual show at the EPC - provide quality theatre performances for the Stanford community without charge of admission, thanks to the continual support of the student body.

What are the three largest line item requests in your budget and why?

- Our three largest line item requests are all costs that go into producing our free full-length Shakespeare plays for the Stanford community.
- 1) Equipment Rental: we rent lights, chairs, risers, costumes and electrical equipment from theater suppliers in order to put up our shows.
 - 2) Equipment Purchase: we need to buy set materials, small equipment, props, makeup, and some costume items to round out all aspects of the theatrical experience.
 - 3) Facilities Rental Fee: in order to use innovative spaces across campus, we must pay rental fees and supervision fees required by the university and its institutions to manage and preserve performance locations.

What events/programs does your group hold throughout the year for the Stanford Community?

After our fall quarter training process, we present a workshop to highlight the progress and education of our ensemble. This year we crafted a "fall showcase" that included various Shakespeare scenes and sonnets, as well as some Moliere and Commedia dell'Arte.

In the winter, we present an indoor performance of a full-length play by William Shakespeare, staged with complex artistry and intimate closeness to the audience. The 2006-2007 Season winter production is "Measure for Measure."

In the spring, we present a large outdoor, Shakespeare-in-the-park style performance of another full-length Shakespeare play, usually varying in nature from the first but following a thematic season arc. This is a play with integrated elements of movement and music, as is complex in design and production value. The 2006-2007 Season spring production is "Macbeth."

What is the fundamental goal/purpose of your VSO (please limit your response to 50-100 words)?

The Stanford Shakespeare Society (StanShakes) works year-round to provide FREE productions of Shakespeare's greatest and best-loved plays to the Stanford community. We implement an intensive year-long training program with top Shakespearean scholars in order to craft a student acting ensemble and tech team that works continuously to advance skills and deliver top-notch performances. We welcome society members with diverse backgrounds, skills, and experiences so that we may approach the Bard's classic plays from an innovative, fresh perspective. We have attracted attention to Stanford's Art Scene from Bay Area theatre professionals, theatre groups at other universities, and professional theatrical publications.

What percentage of your total membership is undergraduate? Graduate?

Approximately 96% of our group is undergraduate, though graduate students are welcome and encouraged to audition.

Why are you requesting Special Fees?

In order to provide FREE Shakespearean plays like "Twelfth Night" to Stanford students, we seek special fees as means to support the technical costs that are required to produce complex and innovative plays as well as to support year-round theatrical training. The money is critical to the group's ability to produce first-class plays and receive adequate training to successfully perform challenging Shakespearean drama such as "Macbeth" and "Measure for Measure."

What is the average attendance at your events?

On average we seat 150-200 people per performance for our indoor shows. Our outdoor audiences range from 300-600 per performance. We estimate that our shows reach a total audience of 2500 a season.

What is your total membership?

Currently, we have 26 members in the Society - 21 are ensemble members, and the remaining five comprise our tech crew/house management team.

When and why was your VSO established (please limit your response to 50-100 words)?

Our VSO was established six years ago, though originally under a different name - "The Players." The VSO began simply as a group of students with a common interest: to share the joy of Shakespeare with the Stanford Community. Since our inaugural performance of "The Tempest" in Frost Amphitheater, our group has grown in size and vision, continually striving to push the limits of classical theatre in untraditional spaces.

Your budget includes one or more lines funded from your own accounts. Please detail the circumstances necessitating the modification of your previously awarded funds.

jhhkkj

	Budgeted	Requested	Recommend	Approved	Petitioned	Elected
Year-Round Ensemble Training Operation Costs	\$(2,660.00)	\$2,660.00	\$2,588.00	\$2,588.00		
In order to prepare for our winter and spring productions, our group holds classes, workshops, and lessons with Guest Artists, Shakespearean scholars, and theatre professionals						
6310 Honoraria Fees (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	<i>For payment of guest lecturers, artists and technicians. Average honoraria include such lecturers as English Professor Larry Friedlander (Stanford), Rodney Cottier of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), and other Bay Area guest artists/dramaturgs. (5x\$300 = \$1500)</i>	\$(1,500.00)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
6500 Training Mat (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	<i>In the training process, we utilize videos, books and other supplies for exercises and enrichment.</i>	\$(360.00)	\$360.00	\$288.00	\$288.00	
		<i>We fund equipment like videos and books at 80% because they are capital.</i>				
	<i>(Videos: 4x\$20 = \$80) (Books: 6x\$30 = \$180) (Various Supplies = \$100)</i>					
7140 Copies (Not Marketing) (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	<i>Non-marketing printing costs include scripts for the cast and tech crew. We also print supplementary texts for workshops. Other copies include various rosters, schedules and print-outs.</i>	\$(600.00)	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	
	<i>(Scripts: 100 pages x \$.05 = \$5/script; 3x30x\$5= \$450) (Texts: 20 pages x \$.05 = \$1/text; 7x20x\$1 = \$140) (Rosters/print-outs/etc.: \$.05 x 200 pages = \$10)</i>					
7720 Gas (Undergraduate Special Fees/Annual)	<i>When we must travel to venues for training classes or transport materials with multiple cars, we need to reimburse gas costs. (\$.25x800 miles = \$200)</i>	\$(200.00)	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
APPLICATION TOTALS	\$(22,310.00)	\$16,910.00	\$15,638.00	\$15,638.00		