

Southeastern Theatre Conference  
**LEIGHTON M. BALLEW DIRECTING AWARD COMMITTEE**  
Manual of Operations

**DESCRIPTION:** The Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee administers the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award, given to a qualified undergraduate student who intends to pursue graduate studies in theatre directing.

**PART I. OPERATING PROCEDURES**

*(In this section should appear as much detail as may be necessary about how the subject group or activity functions. The procedures are not binding upon future users of the manual, but rather constitute useful hints from previous activists. They may be changed at any time, as long as the changes do not conflict with SETC policies as stipulated in the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or Rules.)*

**1. Fundamental Procedures:**

- A. The Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award is an award presented annually (*provided a suitable candidate can be found*) to a graduate of an accredited undergraduate college or university, attending, or upon entering an accredited program of graduate studies in Theatre Directing.
- B. Either the undergraduate degree or the graduate studies (*or both*) must be with a college or university within the SETC region.
- C. Administration of this award is assigned to the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award committee.
- D. Each year, the SETC Central Office will publicize and invite applications for the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award.
- E. The members of the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee also are encouraged to publicize the award and invite applications from interested parties.

**2. Amount of the Award and Associated Expenses:**

- A. The amount of the award and the expenses associated with the award are included in SETC's annual budget. These budgeted amounts do not normally exceed the income derived from principle in any given year and are recommended by the Endowment Fund Committee and approved by the Executive Committee and cannot be changed without the approval of the Executive Committee.
- B. The expenses associated with this award include:
  1. SETC spring convention student membership and registration;
  2. Three nights hotel, arranged and provided by SETC; and
  3. One ticket to SETC Banquet, where the Ballew Scholar would be recognized.

**3. Qualifications:** To be eligible to receive the Ballew Directing Award, the applicant must submit Application Packet (*described below*) AND meet at least one of the criteria (A-D) listed below:

- A. Have received an undergraduate degree **or** expect to graduate during the current academic year from an institution within the SETC region, **and** be planning to enter an **accredited program** of graduate studies in Theatre Directing in a college or university in any region during the **academic year** following the convention at which the award is announced;  
**OR**
  - B. Have received an undergraduate degree **or** expect to graduate during the current academic year from an institution in any region, **and** be planning to enter an **accredited program** of graduate studies in Theatre Directing in a college or university within the SETC region during the **academic year** following the convention at which the award is announced;  
**OR**
  - C. Have received an undergraduate degree from an institution within the SETC region, **and** be currently attending, **and** planning to continue in an accredited program of graduate studies in Theatre Directing in a college or university in any region during the **academic year** following the convention at which the award is announced;  
**OR**
  - D. Have received an undergraduate degree from an institution in any region, **and** be currently attending, **and** planning to continue in an accredited program of graduate studies in Theatre Directing in a college or university within the SETC region during the **academic year** following the convention at which the award is announced.
4. **Application Packet:** It is recommended that candidates submit all materials as a single, multi-page PDF document. The following application materials must be provided by each applicant:
- A. Completed Application - [Ballew Application form](#) (If link doesn't work, the most recent application form is included at the end of this manual.)
  - B. Personal letter outlining plans and objectives for graduate work or internship.
  - C. A complete resume, including work in stage management or play direction.
  - D. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references who have agreed, at the request of the award committee, to write letters recommending the applicant.
  - E. Two or three letters of support from those who have seen applicant's directing work (*either scene work or full productions*).
  - F. Letter of acceptance by an accredited graduate program in Theatre Directing (*if available*).
  - G. Complete transcripts – undergraduate and graduate.
5. **The Annual Procedural Timeline** will be posted to the SETC website.
6. **Recusal of Committee Members:** Any Committee member with a personal or professional relationship with an award applicant shall recuse him or herself from the deliberations. If a Committee member must be recused, the Committee Chair will cooperate with the SETC President to appoint a replacement Committee member.
7. **Other Responsibilities:** The Committee Chair serves on the Finance Advisory Council and is expected to attend the fall and spring meetings of the Council and to file semi-advisory reports as requested and specified in the SETC Rules. All committee chairs receive budget request forms that they need to complete and submit to the SETC Executive Director

according to the deadline given (typically in the fall).

8. **Collaboration with Central Office:** Article XI, Section 3 of SETC's Bylaws specifies that all committee chairs "collaborate with the Executive Director (ED) and Central Office staff. Because the Executive Director provides leadership for the organization and, with the organization's professional staff, is responsible for the success of SETC's mission, vision, and all operations, effective partnership and communication is important between the committee chair, the Central Office staff, and the ED. This collaboration enhances the development of ideas and supports the planning and execution programs and services; ensures marketing/promotion support; and strengthens processes, funding and budgetary challenges while assisting with schedules, deadlines and timelines. Each committee has a "go to" staff member to assist the collaboration.
9. **Succession:**
  - A. At the conclusion of the Chair's term of service, the chair will review the committee manual and submit any changes to Operating Procedures to the Vice President of Finance.
  - B. The Chair will contact the newly appointed chair to provide information and aid in the transition period as the new chair takes office.

## **PART II. POLICY FROM HIGHER AUTHORITY**

### **Bylaws**

#### **ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 4.** The Vice-President of Finance shall:

- (1) oversee activities related to the investment, finance, and expenditures of the Corporation;
- (2) serve as Treasurer of the Corporation;
- (3) serve ex officio as Chair of the Finance Committee;
- (4) serve ex officio as a member of the Endowment Fund Committee;
- (5) preside at meetings of the Finance Council;
- (6) report to the Corporation regarding its financial standing;
- (7) verify the maintenance of a suitable program of investment of Corporation funds and report thereupon to the Executive Committee;
- (8) collaborate with the Executive Director regarding financial matters;
- (9) review financial statements including, but not limited to, annual audits, general ledger, and budget drafts, and distribute information to the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, or membership as necessary to ensure informed decision

#### **ARTICLE IX MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** There shall be an annual convention of members at a time and place fixed by the Executive Committee. At this convention, an opportunity shall be provided for having a business meeting for consideration of business of the Corporation and for hearing and considering reports of committees. One per cent of the membership present by registration at a convention shall constitute a quorum at a business meeting.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors and the Executive Committee shall meet regularly each year at annual conventions and in September. Other meetings of either group may be called by the President whenever he or she deems necessary. A majority of the membership of either group shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE X           STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Section 4.** The Endowment Fund Committee shall consist of five members serving staggered renewable terms, a chair appointed annually by the President, one member to be appointed by the President each year for a three-year term, and the Vice-President of Finance serving ex officio, and the Executive Director serving as a non-voting member. Any vacancies will be filled by appointment by the President for the balance of an unexpired term. The duties of the Endowment Fund Committee shall be:

- (1) to report regularly to the Executive Committee investment return in each separate endowment category;
- (2) to recommend to the Executive Committee a policy of investment income distribution to the several awards, scholarships and other projects that receive funds;
- (3) to recommend to the Executive Committee development strategies for the SETC Endowment Fund;
- (4) to promote the growth of the Endowment Fund by identifying and cultivating potential donors, suggesting and developing other sources of revenue, and actively initiating and promoting activities that benefit the endowment.

## **ARTICLE XI           ADVISORY COUNCILS**

**Section 1.** The Advisory Councils shall be composed of:

- (1) the chairs of all committees, including those concerned with auditions, festivals, awards, and activities;
- (2) the Liaison Officers;
- (3) a Vice-President of the Corporation, acting as chair.

**Section 2.** Each Advisory Council shall meet at the call of its chair to consider the reports of all of its members and to recommend action to the Executive Committee. Advisory Councils may recommend to the incoming President candidates for all appointive positions.

**Section 3.** Committee chairs shall:

- (1) furnish leadership to their respective committees;
- (2) stimulate and develop interest in their assigned areas;
- (3) file written reports on the dates requested by the Vice-President chairing their respective Advisory Council;
- (4) keep their operational manuals up to date;
- (5) collaborate with the Executive Director and Central Office staff.

**Section 4.** Chairs of Advisory Councils shall:

- (1) be Vice-Presidents of the Corporation;
- (2) furnish leadership to their respective Advisory Councils;
- (3) serve as advocates to the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee;
- (4) solicit written reports from the members of their own Advisory Council;

- (5) coordinate with the Vice-President of Administration to establish dates for submission of reports;
- (6) file written reports on the dates requested by the Vice-President of Administration

**Section 5.** The Advisory Councils shall be classified as:

- (1) the Services Council, convened by the Vice-President of Services acting as chair, comprised of Liaison Chairs, chairs of the Publications Committee and committees or interest groups providing programming or services, along with other chairs recommended by the Executive Committee;
- (2) the Administration Council, convened by the Vice-President of Administration acting as chair, comprised of the chairs of the Bylaws Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and Nominations Committee, and chairs of other committees charged with administrative or organizational functions, along with other chairs recommended by the Executive Committee;
- (3) the Finance Council, convened by the Vice-President of Finance acting as chair, comprised of chairs of the Finance Committee, Endowment Fund Committee, and chairs of committees conferring scholarships and awards, along with other chairs recommended by the Executive Committee;
- (4) the Divisions Council, convened by the Vice-President of Divisions acting as chair, comprised of Division Chairs and chairs of audits, festivals, or activities associated with each division;
- (5) the States Council, convened by the Vice-President of States acting as chair, comprised of the State Representatives.

## **Rules of the Association**

Rule I.4. ***Semi-Annual Reports.*** The semi-annual reports described in the Bylaws and required for timely submission to the Executive Committee are submitted on or before the deadline established by the Vice-President of Administration. Those semi-annual reports containing action items and/or items of interest will be mailed to Board and Advisory Council members prior to the Executive Committee meetings. The Vice-President of Administration will read the reports submitted by the deadline and distribute to the Board an action agenda showing only those items that require Executive Committee or Board action. No action items or reports will be discussed in the Reports portion of the Executive Committee agenda unless submitted to the Vice-President of Administration by the deadline. Members of the Board and Advisory Councils will receive a list of reports submitted and not submitted. (3/8/14)

Rule I.5. ***Committee and Interest Group Appointments.*** The incoming President of SETC will announce all new appointments insofar as possible at the first Executive Committee meeting at which President presides. Unless otherwise provided for by the Articles, Bylaws, or other Rules of SETC, committee and interest group appointments are for a term corresponding to that of the officer who lawfully makes the appointment. Ordinarily, committee and interest group appointments end at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting following the appointment, unless the committee, interest group, or member is discharged sooner. (9/6/08)

Rule I.6. ***Meeting Dates.*** The annual convention will begin on the first Wednesday in March, except that, in extraordinary circumstances, the Executive Committee may approve

beginning the convention no more than one week before or after that Wednesday. The fall auditions and Board of Directors and Advisory Council meeting will be held on the first weekend following Labor Day. In addition to meetings during the annual convention and fall Board of Directors meeting, the Executive Committee will meet during the weekend immediately following the first Sunday in January and the weekend immediately following the third Sunday in May. (9/8/12)

Rule I.7. ***Distribution of Minutes.*** Within two weeks of the conclusion of any meeting of the corporation, the Board of Directors, or the Executive Committee, the Secretary shall electronically circulate, for possible correction, the minutes thereof to Executive Committee members and selected interested parties. No more than two weeks subsequent, corrected minutes shall be sent to the Executive Director, who in turn shall send copies to all members of the Board of Directors, the Advisory Councils, and other interested parties. "Interested parties" shall consist of those SETC members who request to be on the distribution list, provided that the Executive Director may purge the list occasionally by calling for new requests. (3/8/14)

Rule I.8. ***Distribution of Manuals.*** Outgoing officers and members of the Board and Advisory Council will deliver current copies of the appropriate Manuals of Operations to their successors or make arrangements with the Vice-President of Administration to do so. (3/8/14)

Rule I.11. ***Advisory Council Meetings.*** The Advisory Councils, chaired by the Vice-Presidents, will meet separately before the fall and spring Executive Committee meetings. (3/8/14)

Rule I.17. ***Preparation of Manuals.*** All manuals must be prepared in the following format:

Part I. *Operating Procedures.* (In this section should appear as much detail as may be necessary about how the subject group or activity functions. These procedures are not binding upon future users of the manual, but rather constitute useful hints from previous activists. They may be changed at any time.)

Part II. *Policy from Higher Authority.* (In this section should be quoted any Bylaws, Rules, Board or Executive Committee actions, or other policy statements bearing on the work of the manual's subject group. These policy statements may not be changed except by acceptance of the higher authority involved.)

Part III. *Regulations from This Constituency.* (In this section should be presented in full any decisions by the manual's subject group that are intended to be binding on future operation. These regulations may not be changed except when the subject group meets.)

All manuals must be set in 12 point Times New Roman and structured in MLA outline format. At the end of the manual, there should appear the name of the originator of the latest revision and the date of its acceptance by the Executive Committee. Manuals may not contain commitments to specific dollar amounts or to any expenditure. At the end of the division or committee chair's term of office all copies of the minutes, budget, and other information shall be passed on to the next chair and copies shall also be sent to archives. (9/6/08)

Rule 18. ***Procedures for Updating Manuals.*** The Vice President of Administration solicits current operations manuals and asks that all committee chairs, division chairs, officers and festival chairs to send changes to the designated Vice President. Any constituency wishing to amend its manual may do so by clearly highlighting proposed changes in an electronic copy of the document and submitting the manual to the designated Vice President. The designated Vice President collaborates with the Executive Director on proposed changes to Part I – Operational Procedures, as appropriate. All amended manuals are then sent to the Bylaws Committee, which shall advise whether each manual conforms to applicable Bylaws, Rules, and other directives of the Corporation. Nonconforming manuals will be returned to the designated VP for further revision and consultation with the appropriate chair or officer. That Vice-President will present manuals conforming to applicable statutes for acceptance at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee. Revisions in Part I Operating Procedures or Part II Policy from Higher Authority may be submitted to the designated Vice-President at any time. Revisions to Part III Regulations from This Constituency must follow a vote on such amendments by the constituency during the annual convention.

Process:

1. Officers, Festival, Division and Committee Chairs send updated manuals to designated Vice President.
2. Designated Vice President collaborates with Executive Director on proposed changes to Part I – Operational Procedures, as appropriate.
3. Vice President sends to Bylaws, who sends response back to the designated Vice President.
4. Vice President presents manuals to Executive Committee.
5. After Executive Committee approval, Vice President of Administration sends approved manual to Executive Director.
6. Executive Director facilitates archiving of manual, uploading to website, and copy of approved manual to Chair/Officer. (9/12/15)

Rule I.20. ***Distribution of Publications.*** Southern Theatre and SETC News shall be distributed to all individual, life, student, and organizational members of SETC. Theatre Symposium shall be mailed to all individual and life members and to all those organizational members affiliated with the college and university division. When the Directory is printed, copies shall be mailed to all individual, life, and organizational members; but when it is published online, ten printed copies shall be maintained for archives, printed copies shall be mailed to any nonstudent member requesting one, and a printable electronic version shall be distributed to the Board of Directors and the Advisory Councils. (3/8/14)

Rule II.15. ***Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee.*** The Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee is a standing committee which shall consist of three members actively teaching at the college level, one member to be appointed by the President each year for a three-year term. The chair shall be appointed from the committee by the President. The duty of the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee shall be the selection of the recipient of the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award. (9/6/97)

Rule II.27. ***Scholarships Procedures Committee.*** The Scholarships Procedures committee is a standing committee which shall oversee the alignment of SETC's scholarship programs across

divisions. The committee shall consist of a Chair appointed by the President; chairs of the Marian A. Smith Costume Award Committee, Denise Halbach Award Committee, Porterfield Award Committee, Polly Holliday Award Committee, Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee, John Spiegel Theatrical Artist Award Committee, Wilson Scholarship Committee, Tom Behm Award Committee, and Secondary School Scholarship Committee; and the Vice-President of Finance, ex officio. (03/01/2017)

Rule III.1. ***Finances. Budget Preparation.*** Each officer, division or committee chair shall submit a budget request when it is requested by the central office. The Executive Director shall incorporate these requests into a draft budget for the forthcoming fiscal year. This draft budget, together with all budget requests, shall then be studied by the Finance Committee, which will recommend to the Executive Committee for approval a balanced budget. Each officer, division or committee shall operate within the approved budget. (3/15/98)

Rule III.4. ***Convention Program Expenses.*** Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, convention program budget funds may not be used to reimburse convention or travel expenses incurred by persons who reside or organizations located within the SETC region. Anyone who resides within the SETC region and who serves on a convention panel will not receive an honorarium. (3/5/08)

Rule III.10. ***Expenditures Not in the Budget.*** Any business before the Board of Directors or Executive Committee which involves financial commitments not provided for in the current budget shall be reviewed by the Finance Committee and its recommendations considered before any final vote. (3/7/93)

Rule III.13. ***Changes in the Budget.*** The Finance Committee must approve any changes in the budget between meetings of the Executive Committee, but may do so only within a latitude of five percent of the total budget. (3/15/98)

Rule IV.1. ***Establishing Awards.*** Recommendations for awards, memorials, and honors are submitted to the Executive Committee for approval with sufficient definition and detail to clarify (a) how the award is to be designated, and (b) evidence of financial and other commitment for maintaining the award. (3/15/98)

Rule IV.14. ***Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award.*** The Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award is an award presented annually (provided a suitable candidate is found) to a graduate of a regionally accredited undergraduate college or university within the SETC region upon certified enrollment in a regionally accredited graduate certificate, M.F.A. or Ph.D. program in directing. Administration of this award is assigned to the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award Committee. (3/5/17)

Rule IV.17. ***Duplication of Awards.*** No one individual may receive two or more scholarship awards from SETC in the same year. (9/8/01)

Rule V.1. ***Alcoholic Beverages.*** SETC will not sell or provide alcoholic beverages in the hospitality suites or at SETC activities to anyone under the legal age limit established by the laws of the state in which the convention is being held. (9/7/91)

Rule V.2. ***Nondiscrimination.*** The right to membership, to hold office, and to participate in SETC activities, including (but not limited to) conventions, meetings, auditions, and performances shall not be abridged because of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, military veteran's status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or any other characteristic protected by law. (3/7/12)

Rule V.4. ***Board and Committee Membership.*** All officers, Board of Directors and Advisory Council members, and committee members (except the Local Arrangements Committee) must individually be current members of SETC. Employees of the SETC Central Office may collaborate with and serve committees, without vote, as an aspect of their job descriptions or as instructed by the Executive Director upon the request of the Executive Committee. (3/8/14)

Rule V.5. ***Smoking Policy.*** Smoking at all SETC convention meal functions, committee meetings, and programs shall be prohibited. (3/10/91)

Rule V.7. ***SETC News Responsibilities.*** All Division Chairs, State Representatives, interest area chairs, and other chairs shall submit appropriate items to SETC News on a schedule provided to them. This responsibility shall be included in all appropriate operations manuals. (3/8/14)

### **PART III. REGULATIONS FROM THIS CONSTITUENCY**

No regulations from this constituency have been adopted.

# Leighton M. Ballew Directing Scholarship 2017 Application Form

Send all materials via email to Robert Homer-Drummond, Leighton M. Ballew Scholarship Committee Chair, at [rhomer-drummond@andersonuniversity.edu](mailto:rhomer-drummond@andersonuniversity.edu) by September 15, 2016.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

I have attended the following colleges or universities:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates</u>	<u>Degree(s)</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I am presently enrolled at:

\_\_\_\_\_

I have applied (am applying) to the following graduate school(s) for the upcoming fall term:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Degree(s)</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

In support of my application I have included (or have requested the transmission of):

- Completed Application Form
- Personal letter outlining my plans and objectives for graduate work
- A complete résumé, including work in stage management or play direction
- Three (3) reference letters speaking specifically to my potential as a graduate student
- Complete, official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended

Any student who applies and does not meet the standards/rules of the award will be disqualified. By signing below, I understand that I am applying for the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Award sponsored by SETC and that I meet the requirements of the award.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Date

## Leighton M. Ballew Directing Scholarship 2017 Application Form

### Application Checklist

This checklist is supplied to each applicant to insure their eligibility for the award and to insure that all necessary materials are forwarded as requested. Each member of the review committee also receives a copy of this checklist to help insure that all applicants are compliant and all materials are received as required by the award rules and regulations.

### Applicant Name:

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The applicant has graduated from, is currently attending, or has plans to attend an academic institution in the SETC region: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia or West Virginia.

The applicant is attending or will soon attend an accredited graduate program, and the field of study relates to theatre directing.

- Is the application complete?
- Did the applicant include a personal letter outlining his/her plans and objectives?
- Is a complete résumé attached?
- Did the student supply three letters of references?
- Did the student supply **official** transcripts from all attended colleges/universities?
- Was the application posted prior to the application deadline?

### Applicant: Do not write in this box.

The student has fulfilled the above criteria and is eligible to be considered a viable candidate for the Leighton M. Ballew Directing Scholarship.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of Reviewer

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Date

**Submitted by: Robert Chapel March 2, 1999**

**Updated by: Philip G. Hill - July, 1999**

**Accepted by the Executive Committee: 3/2000**

**Revised by Leni Dyer and David Thompson, March 2005**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: March 2, 2005 - President: Anthony R. Haigh**

**Revised by David S. Thompson, Administrative Vice President, February 23, 2006**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: March 1, 2006 - President: Denise Halbach**

**Revised by Jack Benjamin, Administrative Vice President, June 2010**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: September 11, 2010 – President Alan Litsey**

**Revised by Dawn Larsen, August 16 2010.**

**Revised by Dawn Larsen and Tiza Garland, August 23, 2011.**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: January 7, 2012 – President Alan Litsey**

**Revised by Dawn Larsen Administrative Vice President, July 2012**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: September 8, 2012 – President Jack Benjamin**

**Revised by Paul Crook, Chair, Ballew Directing Award Committee and Pat Gagliano, Chair, Scholarships Procedures Committee: May & October 2014, and January 10, 2015**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: January 10, 2015 – President Jack Benjamin.**

**Revised by Robert Homer-Drummond and David Wohl, Vice President, Finance: September 16, 2017.**

**Date of Acceptance by the Executive Committee: January 7, 2017.**