From left to right: Rico Reid, Shayna Schmidt, Chelsea D. Harrison, Jon Kovach and Justin Weaks in Joan the Girl of Arc.

Photo by Tony Arrasmith/Arrasmith & Associates.

From left to right: Rico Reid and Meggy Hai Trang in The Short Tree and the Bird That Could Not Sing. Photo by Tony Arrasmith/Arrasmith & Associates.

From left to right: Kate Cook, Britian Seibert (intern), Shayna Schmidt (intern) and Loren Dunn in Pride and Prejudice. Photo by Sandy Underwood.

The Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, a two-time Tony Award®-winning regional theatre (LORT B and D), offers eight acting internships each year. The Playhouse produces an 11-play season in two theatres, plus three touring plays. Refer to our website (www.cincyplay.com) for updated information about our season.

This full-time internship lasts from late August 2015 through the end of May 2016. Interns must be available for the entire contract; however, exact dates are determined by casting.

Our internship is designed to give young actors the opportunity to work alongside professionals as colleagues in order to learn from those already in the business. This is not a training opportunity; it is not a chance to play major roles on a regional theatre stage. This is the opportunity to be immersed in the world of professional theatre; to observe and to share time with people whose careers have begun to take shape.

We seek eight diverse individuals, both men and women. Talent, skills, maturity and work ethic are equally important.

There is no “typical day.” We do our best to spread the work evenly. All interns have roles and understudy assignments in our annual production of A Christmas Carol and roles in touring plays that perform at area schools and community centers. Other opportunities exist but are not guaranteed. In the past, interns have assumed major understudy responsibilities and have played small roles on our main stages. Interns also work running crews on one or two main stage shows; however, more than 90 percent of an intern’s time is spent on acting-related activities.

Interns currently receive a stipend of $1,350 per month. We do not offer housing; however, we will help interns find something affordable. Interns also receive Actors’ Equity Association Equity Membership Candidate (EMC) Program points when they work on an Equity production, either in a role or as an understudy. This will probably result in between 20 and 30 points.

We offer workshops with Playhouse Artistic Director Blake Robison, our artistic associates and other working professionals. These may be related to auditioning, contracts, vocal health and other practical matters. In past years, the Playhouse also has organized a New York City showcase at the completion of the internship.

Admission is through audition and interview. Visit the employment section of our website for specific audition dates and locations. Auditions are with Mark Lutwak, education director, who oversees the intern program. We also record auditions to share with Blake Robison and our artistic associates.
The internship provides you with an all-access pass to the inner workings of a professional theatre. You see how decisions are made and how theatre professionals work. It opened my eyes to what kind of actor I could become and gave me concrete guidance on how to become the kind of actor I want to be. — Chelsea Harrison, 2013-14

The opportunities are golden. I’m walking away from Cincinnati feeling as though I just made a giant leap in my career — as though I could not have made a better choice for myself, as an actor and as a person. — Britian Seibert, 2013-14

On one side, the touring shows rapidly sharpened my abilities and confidence as a performer. And on the other, I learned from and formed relationships with top professionals in the business — actors, directors, playwrights, designers. I thank these relationships, as well as the generosity of spirit of everyone working at the Playhouse, for the course my career has taken. — Lily Blau, 2009-10

Don’t let the title “intern” fool you. You are working. The directors, actors and educators that you meet and establish connections with while in Cincinnati are enormously generous and truly interested in making your time a valuable and positive experience. You’re involved in so much that you have no choice but to grow. — Justin Weaks, 2013-14

My work at the Playhouse (including EMC points) gave me a real leg up. The showcase helped me find an agent and my first job in NYC with a director whose show I understudied at the Playhouse. — Datus Puryear, 2012-13

You exercise muscles you never knew you had (literally and figuratively). You grow. When the internship concludes you walk away with a tool kit to survive in this industry as an actor and, more than that, to thrive. — Meggy Hai Trang, 2013-14

My year as an intern was supposed to help me career wise (it did), but the real take-away for me was learning how my own mind works. That’s the most powerful tool I have. — Jonathan Self, 2009-10