



Two River Theater is a professional, not-for-profit theater, and one of the most vital and dynamic places to see live theater in New Jersey. Under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst, we produce American and world masterpieces, and new plays and musicals. Two River cultivates a new generation of theatergoers through innovative arts education programs that introduce young people to the theater and create opportunities for them to engage with renowned theater artists.

TRT's Howard Aronson Metro Scholar Program is a unique opportunity for high school juniors from across New Jersey to learn about professional theater and be part of the work of Two River Theater. In addition to seeing a season of shows at Two River for free, Howard Aronson Metro Scholars take workshops and master classes with professional artists, and assist staff in a variety of departments throughout the company. Whether you are interested in pursuing a career in the performing arts, want to attend a university program focused on theater, or enjoy the creative opportunities of working behind-the-scenes, this year-long program is for you.

Since 2005, 201 outstanding students have completed the Howard Aronson Metro Scholar program.

Let's get specific:
“What is it that these ... ‘Metro Scholars’ do?”
you may ask.

Well. We're glad you asked.

The Howard Aronson Metro Scholars dive head-first into a professional theater and swim around for a year.

Got it?

Here's the deal:

This year, the program will offer a hybrid (in-person or virtual) opportunity for students to learn about how a regional theater works through various workshops, as well as opportunities to work on projects with our artistic, administrative, and production departments.

Howard Aronson Metro Scholars accepted into the program can expect to receive access to the following benefits and experiences:

- Insight into how a regional theater really works.
- Two subscriptions to our 2022-2023 Two River Theater season.
- The First Day—The kickoff in Fall '22 includes an orientation, theater exercises and an in-depth tour of the Two River Theater.
- Monthly workshops led by TRT staff and guest artists, exploring various aspects of professional theater.
- A “coffee talk” after each production, where students and TRT staff share their feedback on the show.
- The Last Day—an entire day of workshops, master classes and exercises, run by teaching artists and TRT staff.
- Theater career counseling – Education staff, including Director of Education Kate Cordaro, will become a resource for you, and will help answer the questions you may have about colleges, career options and concerns.

And here's what we ask from *you* in return:

- **Your commitment** and enthusiasm to attend all shows and workshops, with an open mind and heart. We have an incredible season planned, and we are excited to share it with you.
- **Your collaborative spirit** and flexibility as we embark on this hybrid program in uncertain times.
- In lieu of formal assistantships this season due to the ongoing pandemic, we are planning opportunities for Metros to engage with theater staff in a variety of ways. Students will periodically have an opportunity to work as a group on projects with staff to further the theater's work. That may mean that the group will help make props one day, create decor for a gala another day, and work at a community event on still another. Through this program, students will gain exposure to several departments within the theater in some capacity.
- We want to be able to call on you when the theater needs a helping hand – manning the sign-in table at auditions, running lines with actors, hanging posters, attending readings of new plays, lending a hand with opening night; anything that **we** are doing to make this theater tick, we want **you** to do too.

We are offering you a once in a lifetime opportunity
to make a significant contribution to the life of a professional theater
as a junior in high school.

Are you up for the challenge?

Cool cool cool, keep reading!

Requirements

- High school Juniors who live in New Jersey may apply to be a Howard Aronson Metro Scholar and the program will take place during the 2022-2023 school year.
- Students must **complete** an application, **write** a Statement of Purpose (info below), **submit** a written recommendation from a drama / art / tech teacher or guidance counselor, **plus** one of the following:

Acting:

- Audition with a 2-minute memorized monologue from a published, contemporary play, and then interview with Two River Theater staff.

Set / Costume / Lighting Design:

- Prepare a design presentation for an actual or proposed production or scene, and then interview with Two River Theater staff.

Technical / Stage Management:

- Bring a resume of your technical work and/or stage management book and interview with Two River Theater staff.

- **Statement of Purpose:** We want to know who you are, why you love theater, what sparked you to apply for this program and what you hope to get out of it if accepted. Please write one page telling us these things.
- Howard Aronson Metro Scholars agree to participate in all program events.
- Transportation to and from the theater is the responsibility of the student.

Dates & Deadlines

- **VIRTUAL INFO SESSION: Thursday, September 8, 2022 from 4:00-5:00pm**
Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82622783249?pwd=WW1DUElYMDByYXp0ZXZ1SGNGdzdUT09>
 - o Passcode: 886717
 - o Teachers, Students and their Parents/Guardians can learn more about the program from staff and get answers to their questions.

- **DEADLINE for Applications and Statements of Purpose: Monday, Sept. 26, 2022**
 - o Applications will not be accepted after this date. Teacher Recommendations may be sent separately, but also must be received by this date.

- **In-Person Auditions / Presentations / Interviews: Thurs. Sep. 29 and Fri. Sep. 30**
 - o Once applicants have submitted all required materials, they will be emailed a link to schedule their in-person audition/interview.

- **Howard Aronson Metro Scholars Announced: Monday, Oct. 3, 2022**
 - o All applicants will be informed if they are accepted into the program or not via email by this date.

Howard Aronson Metro Scholar Application

Please Print CLEARLY

Student's Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Have you received the COVID-19 vaccine? *Two River Theater requires that all Metro Scholars be fully vaccinated by the start of the TRT 2022/23 Season.*

No, not yet
booster

Yes, one dose only

Yes, both doses

Yes, both doses plus

What are your pronouns? _____

She/Her

He/Him

They/Them

Other _____

School _____

Contact Teacher _____

Teacher's Phone _____

Teacher's Email _____

Focus: (*Check one*)

Acting

Set / Costume / Lighting Design

Technical / Stage Management

How did you hear about this program? _____

Once applicants have submitted all required materials, they will be emailed a link to schedule their in-person audition/interview.

- Please email your Application and Statement of Purpose (Teacher Recommendations may be sent separately) by **Monday, September 26, 2022** to: kcordaro@trtc.org, Subject: Howard Aronson Metro Scholars
- Or mail this Application and your Statement of Purpose to: **Two River Theater**

For more information, please contact:

Kate Cordaro

732.345.1400 x1814

kcordaro@trtc.org