



# NEW VILLAGE ARTS

MEDIA ALERT

## ***New Village Arts Announces Exciting Opportunities for Emerging Artists and Arts Professionals: Fellowships, Internships, and Apprenticeships Now Open for 2025-2026 Season***

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*Contact Olivia Pence, Manager of Marketing & Communications: [olivia@newvillagearts.org](mailto:olivia@newvillagearts.org)*

Carlsbad, CA— **New Village Arts (NVA)**, North County San Diego's cultural hub for inclusive and transformative storytelling, is thrilled to announce the launch of our upcoming fellowships, internships, and apprenticeship opportunities. These programs are designed to provide meaningful, hands-on experiences for early-career artists and arts workers through mentorship, production involvement, and professional development. All programs aim to uphold NVA's commitment to equity, accessibility, and innovation in the arts, with a special emphasis on amplifying underserved voices and creating pathways for long-term careers in theatre.

These new fellowships and internships build upon the success and values of the Dea Hurston Professional Fellowship: NVA's flagship program dedicated to uplifting underserved voices in San Diego's theatre community. Inspired by Dea's legacy of mentorship, access, and artistic excellence, each opportunity reflects our commitment to creating routes for emerging artists and arts professionals. While applications for the 2025–2026 Dea Hurston Professional Fellowship are now closed, several new programs, including the **College Acting Apprenticeship**, two **Administrative Internships in Production and Marketing**, as well as the inaugural **Phifer-Collins Stage Management Fellowships** will open for applications this August, expanding the reach and impact of the Dea Hurston Fellowship initiative.

*"We are thrilled to be offering so many incredible opportunities to young artists—each one connected to profound people, powerful stories, and transformative experiences that shape not only careers, but futures." says Artistic Producer, Kali Boston*



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## **About the Phifer-Collins Stage Management Fellowship**

The Phifer-Collins Stage Management Fellowship is a paid or college-credit opportunity designed to provide early-career theatre professionals with essential, real-world experience in stage management. Created in partnership with performer, arts advocate, and former stage manager Anthony Phifer-Collins, who began his professional journey at New Village Arts in 2010, this fellowship is committed to creating accessible pathways into the theatre industry for anyone with the passion to pursue it, regardless of background.

*"The idea of creating a fellowship program has been in the back of my mind (and in my notes on my phone!) for a number of years now. Having started my career as a stage manager at 19 and having found it to be so fulfilling, I wanted to figure out a way to support the next generation of stage managers and also create opportunities for stage managers from any background that may not have access to "typical" theatre career pathways. And in light of the uncertainty around federal funding for the arts - especially this year - I decided this was the year to make it happen. I found an amazing partner in New Village Arts.*

*NVA holds a special place in my heart because it's where I began my professional career. It was and continues to be an amazing environment to grow as an artist and learn how to operate as a professional in this industry. So when wanting to create this fellowship, NVA was the first place I thought of.*

*I'm so excited to finally put this out into the world and give artists the opportunities and amazing support that I experienced early in my career."* says Anthony Phifer-Collins.

Open to college students and recent graduates across San Diego County, Fellows will be immersed in every stage of production, from pre-show planning and rehearsals to tech and performance. Through this hands-on experience, they will develop critical skills in communication, organization, and leadership while working alongside professional artists. Upcoming opportunities include high-energy productions such as *RENT* and *HAIRSPRAY*, offering a meaningful launchpad for those aspiring to build a career in stage management.

**Applications are now open for the Phifer-Collins Stage Management Fellowship on the NVA Website. Recipients will be announced in late September.**

## **About the Administrative Internships**

The Administrative Internship program is designed for early-career individuals seeking hands-on experience in arts administration, with a focus on marketing and production administration. For college



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credit, these internships will offer a dynamic and immersive learning environment where interns work side-by-side with NVA's professional staff to support live productions, promotional campaigns, and day-to-day organizational operations. Interns gain practical skills in areas such as social media strategy, content creation, project management, community engagement, and behind-the-scenes production logistics. This opportunity is ideal for college students pursuing credit or individuals looking to break into the nonprofit arts world. This program fosters real-world experience, mentorship, and professional development that can be applied to a wide range of careers in the performing arts.

**Applications are now open for the Administrative Internships on the NVA Website. Recipients will be announced in late September.**

## **About the College Acting Apprenticeship**

The NVA College Acting Apprenticeship offers undergraduate students a unique opportunity to gain professional performance experience while earning college credit. Inspired by a similar program created by Oceanside Theatre Company, this apprenticeship works in partnership with local institutions including CSUSM, MiraCosta College, Palomar College, UC San Diego, and San Diego State University, and is designed for students pursuing a career in acting who are eager to work in a professional theatre environment. Apprentices are cast in mainstage productions across a variety of roles (lead, supporting, and ensemble) and are fully integrated into the rehearsal and performance process alongside NVA's seasoned artists. This hands-on experience offers mentorship, professional development, and a deeper understanding of the collaborative nature of theatre-making. By bridging the gap between academic study and real-world application, the College Acting Apprenticeship empowers students to build their resumes, expand their creative networks, and take the next step in their artistic careers.

**Applications are closed for the College Acting Apprenticeship. Recipients will be announced in late September.**

The Dea Hurston Fellowship is sponsored by US Bank and the California Arts Council. Sponsorship opportunities are available for all Fellowship, Mentorships, and Apprenticeships. Please email Founder and Executive Artistic Director, [Kristianne Kurner](#) for more information.

## **About New Village Arts**

New Village Arts (NVA) creates adventurous artistic experiences to awaken the human spirit.

We provide:



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- A collaborative and inspiring home for performing and visual arts;
- A forum for laughter, discussion, and deeper thinking within our community;
- A training ground for future generations of art-makers and art-lovers.

Celebrating 24 years of award-winning professional theatre and thriving education and outreach programs, New Village Arts (NVA) has truly become the cultural hub of North County San Diego. NVA attracts more than 30,000 patrons each year to experience professional theatre, music and art events in the heart of Carlsbad Village. In addition to full seasons of plays and musicals featuring some of the best artistic talent in Southern California, NVA hosts talkback discussions and other supplementary events designed to create conversation and cultivate community. The White Family Next Stage in the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center presents a series of music, comedy, and improv events throughout the year. NVA offers robust theatre programs in partnership with local schools and strongly believes that theatre and arts experiences should be accessible to all people, becoming a recognized leader in equity, diversity, and inclusion in San Diego. NVA has been fortunate to receive support from the City of Carlsbad and other local businesses, who recognize the importance of a resident professional theatre company as a crucial component of an inclusive and creative community. In turn NVA prioritizes serving its community by presenting works that respect its diversity, engaging every citizen with relevant and inspiring stories.

For media inquiries or further information, please contact Olivia Pence, Manager of Marketing and Communications at [olivia@newvillagearts.org](mailto:olivia@newvillagearts.org).

For more information about the Fellowships and Apprenticeships, please contact Kali Boston, Artistic Producer by email at [kali@newvillagearts.org](mailto:kali@newvillagearts.org).

New Village Arts is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization listed under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS

New Village Arts, Inc.

2787 State Street, Carlsbad, CA 92008. Phone: 760-433-3245

[www.newvillagearts.org](http://www.newvillagearts.org)

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