

The Connecticut Critics Circle (CCC), a statewide organization of theater critics, is launching a Young Critics Mentor Program. **The application deadline has been extended to May 1, 2020.** The program will run from July 1, 2020 through June 1, 2021.

Our purpose is to bring young perspectives and voices from a broad range of ethnicities and backgrounds into the CCC and mentor these young people as they learn to write professional-quality theater reviews.

We are hoping that you will invite students who have an interest in learning to write theater reviews to apply to our program. The description of the Young Critics Mentor Program is attached, as well as the application. To learn more about the CCC and what we do, please visit us at <https://ctcritics.org>.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

[Brooks.Appelbaum@quinnipiac.edu](mailto:Brooks.Appelbaum@quinnipiac.edu).

Most sincerely,

Brooks Appelbaum  
Dr. Brooks C. Appelbaum  
Chair, Young Critics Committee  
Member, Connecticut Critics Circle 2015-present  
Theater Critic, Shoreline Times 2015-present

## The Connecticut Critics Circle (CCC) Mentor Program 2020-2021

The purpose of this program is to:

1. bring young perspectives and voices into the CCC.
2. bring in young critics from a broad range of ethnicities and backgrounds.

Criteria to apply:

1. Applicants must be currently matriculated undergraduates at a Connecticut college/university.
2. Applicants need to have some experience writing reviews or essays, which could include theater-related writing, a book review or critical essay, a piece on popular culture, or music (concert or album review).

1. The CCC Mentor program is structured to train currently matriculated college students to become theater critics.
2. Interested students complete the attached application, with May 1, 2020 being the deadline for students to submit a completed application.
3. Mentees are notified no later than May 15<sup>th</sup> if they have been accepted into the Mentor program for the following year.
4. The Mentor program would run from July 1 –June 1.
5. The Mentor program pairs up an undergraduate with a current CCC member to be mentored.
6. Mentees would receive invitations to Equity theater productions in the state.
7. Mentees would be required to create a blog to post their reviews. Students publishing reviews on a campus newspaper would be exempt from this requirement.
8. After successfully completing the first year of the Mentoring program, the student critic(s) can begin to work towards full CCC membership. In the second-year student critics:
  - a. Would not be required to pay CCC dues
  - b. Would not have voting rights for the CCC awards and other CCC matters
  - c. Would need to fulfill the criteria for the number of reviews in the following year to be considered for membership
9. After completing a one-year of mentorship and a second year of reviewing, Mentees will:
  - a. Be invited to become full CCC members in their third year
  - b. Be required to pay yearly dues
  - c. Have full voting rights as members

10. During the first two years of the Mentor program, the Mentor Program Committee will schedule a meeting for the student critics before the time of the CCC annual nominations meeting. The students will make their own nominations, and the Mentor Program Committee will bring these to the nominations meeting. These nominations will not be included in the formal CCC nominations for voting. Instead, the purpose of the meeting for the student critics is to get practice in doing what we do, as an award-granting group. The purpose for bringing their nominations to the larger group is to allow the membership to see what the younger critics are thinking.

Connecticut Critics Circle  
Mentor Program Application

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

Preferred Mailing Address (include address, city, state and zip):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Status (during 2020-2021 academic year): SOPH JR SR

Why are you applying for the CCC Mentor Program?

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What do you hope to accomplish by participating in the CCC Mentor Program?

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Have you written for publication, such as college newspaper, a blog, etc.? If so, how often do you write?

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Attach a writing sample with your application. This could be: theater-related writing, a book review or critical essay, a piece on popular culture, or music (concert or album review).

The writing sample should be 12pt with 1” left and right margins and double-spaced.

Send completed application to:

Dr. Brooks Appelbaum  
274 South Main St.  
Wallingford, CT 06492

Or scan and email application to: [Brooks.Appelbaum@quinnipiac.edu](mailto:Brooks.Appelbaum@quinnipiac.edu)