

Letter sent to all applicants to FST to inform you of our present status.

Dear

This is to acknowledge receipt of your application and to inform you of our decision to reschedule the official opening of our production season.

Circumstances have led us to revise the program in order to fully develop and realize the actual ideas and aims of the Free Southern Theater. Therefore, we have decided that the summer can best be used to search out talent in Mississippi and the South, and to select on a national level the actors, technicians and other theater personnel, Negro and white for the company.

The thirty member resident company will begin an intensive training program in all aspects of the theater for a period of twenty weeks -- from September 6, 1964 through January 23, 1965. Our producing season will be from January 24, 1965 through May 29, 1965.

The Free Southern Theater will stage three plays during this season in Jackson, and tour throughout Mississippi. Since the company will be self-contained, those asked to join will be selected according to talent and willingness to participate in all phases of theater work. The training program will include classes in speech and voice, movement and dance, acting and improvisations, playwriting, organization and management with guest instruction and consultants.

Support for this program is necessary, indeed urgent. Here in Jackson, Mississippi, where the malignant social situation and vacuous cultural level must be faced as well as the artistic demands of drama, theater is an awesome task.

With your support a sensitive, well-oriented theater can develop, and begin to build an intellect in the South of which we can be proud.

Your application is on file. Let us know whether we should consider you for our fall program.

Thank you for your enthusiasm
and interest in the Free Southern Theater,