

Paid Artistic Observership at Center Theatre Group

¡SÍ SE PUEDE! by Eliana Pipes, directed by Sara Guerrero

September 22 – November 20, 2026

Please review all application instructions via www.ctgla.org/Observerships.

The Center Theatre Group Observership Program is a paid opportunity for early-career theatre artists to sit in on a professional rehearsal process at one or more of our three theatres. The program may be especially beneficial for aspiring directors but is also open to designers, technicians, stage managers, playwrights, producers, and actors.

In each cycle, a small group of Observers will spend time in rehearsals for at least one Center Theatre Group production, observing the process at several different phases. They will discuss what they observe, receive training on what goes on in a professional rehearsal room, and reflect on their own artistic voice, guided by a teaching artist. The Observership will end with all participants creating artist statements based on their experiences.

This cycle's Observership participants will follow the rehearsal process for *¡SÍ SE PUEDE!* by Eliana Pipes, directed by Sara Guerrero.

This opportunity is ideal for emerging theatremakers interested in working in the community and learning more about what it takes to create and execute a touring show.

Each Observer will receive a \$725 stipend for roughly 38 program hours over the duration of the Observership period.

Tentative Schedule

Applicants should have **strong availability** from September 22 – November 20, 2026 and be willing to make adjustments to commit to this program. The dates outlined below are **tentative** and subject to change based on shifting rehearsal schedules. Unless otherwise communicated with selected Observers, **all dates will be in person in downtown Los Angeles.**

- Tuesday, September 22 from 3:30-5:30pm Group Interview – ***Please note that invitation to the Group Interview is not acceptance into the program.***

Selected Observers' Tentative Schedule:

- Wednesday, September 30 1-3pm Orientation
- Tuesday, October 6 10am-4pm Rehearsal and Discussion (First Rehearsal)
- Wednesday, October 7 10am-4pm Rehearsal and Discussion
- Tuesday, October 13 10am-4pm Rehearsal and Discussion
- Wednesday, October 14 10am-4pm Rehearsal and Discussion
- Tuesday, October 20 10am-4pm Rehearsal and Discussion (Tech)

- Wednesday, October 21 10am-4pm Rehearsal and Discussion (Tech)
- Tour Performance in Community TBD
- Final Luncheon TBD

Eligibility

This is a post-high school program open to:

- Current undergraduates OR graduate students at two-year or four-year colleges and universities;
- People who have graduated from a two-year or four-year college or university with an undergraduate degree within the last 12 months (cannot be masters or PhD graduates);
- OR people who have pursued an alternate path to formal education (examples: military veterans, students at technical or trade schools, people who went directly into the workforce after high school, people who pursued a career outside of theatre after graduating from an undergraduate theatre program).

All applicants must be curious about pursuing a career in live theatre, must have some demonstrated interest in the area in which they are applying (inside or outside of a school setting), and **must have strong availability for the duration of the Observership period***.

People who hold a master's and/or doctoral degree, people with extensive professional and/or paid experience in live theatre, people who no longer identify as early-career, and people who do not demonstrate adequate availability to meet the requirements of the program will not be considered. We encourage students with nontraditional career and educational paths to apply, and all applicants can contact the Program Manager at Observerships@CTGLA.org with eligibility questions.

*Observership Program Dates are subject to change and reliant on the production schedule. All applicants should have **strong general availability between the hours of 9am-6pm Tues-Fri during the Observership period**.

Questions for Observer Applicants

You will be asked to submit your answers to the following questions while completing the Electronic Observership Application. We encourage you to review the following Observership Questions **before** you begin your application to ensure thoughtful and complete responses. Please keep responses to no more than 750 words in total (not per question).

Applicants must submit the Electronic Observership Application AND email their PDF or Word resume to Observerships@CTGLA.org to be considered for this opportunity. Complete application instructions can be found on the Observerships web page.

Applicants are encouraged to submit materials early, but all applications are due by **12:00pm (PST) on Friday, September 11, 2026**.

1. What do you hope to learn or gain from the Observership, and how might it impact your career goals? Please be sure to tell us what those career goals are. It's okay if you are still undecided, but we do need to understand how the program will benefit you.
2. This program is completely observational. You will have time to discuss what you observe in the room and reflect on your own artistry, but this is **not** a hands-on learning opportunity. It instead focuses on the benefit of observation and self and group reflection. Please describe how you think this Observership opportunity will differ from your past experience in theatre and how you think observing the process will differ from actively participating in the rehearsal room.
3. Please research the playwright and director. Address why you are interested in observing this specific production, your interest in community work, curiosity about a community tour, and/or this production's relevance to your career and artistic interests.
4. Please outline your availability during the period from September 30 – November 20, 2026. Address the specific time commitments outlined above. Standing commitments such as a Monday evening class, work on Tuesdays and Thursdays, etc. can **potentially** be accommodated but must be disclosed in this application.
5. Please tell us about your "Origin Story"

This program values emerging artists' voices from all backgrounds. An individual's unique perspective is invaluable to the theatrical creative process to bring great stories to life and create theatre magic. Please include any information that you feel is relevant to how you became the artist you are today. This can include family influence, identity, education, location, environment, etc.