

Hello family and friends,

As you may have seen on Facebook, I am involved in a new project this fall with a start-up theatre company, TheatreMidwest. Our primary mission is to lift up the voices, thoughts, artistry, and dreams of women and other under-represented groups that speak to the midwestern experience. We'll be mounting our second season with two concert readings ([Holy Days by Sally Nemeth and Hitler's Tasters by Michelle Kholos Brooks](#)) and one fully staged production, [Brilliant Traces by Cindy Lou Johnson](#).

We have some "out of the box" and non-traditional components to this company, which include:

- **REDUCING FINANCIAL BARRIERS:** A quarter of our tickets will be free, so those with financial barriers are able to see a live professional theatrical production at no cost. We also have a "pay it forward" option for patrons to buy tickets that are added to the "bucket" of free tickets, expanding the number of people who will not have to pay.
- **FINANCIAL SHARING:** All team members (cast, crew, design, administrative) are assigned a certain number of shares based on their role. Any profits that we make from the show will be divided and distributed according to the number of shares each person was assigned. We feel that artistic work is valuable, and want to ensure that our company members are compensated accordingly! So, the more money the show makes, the more each artist gets paid (including me :D)
- **GRASSROOTS CROWDFUNDING:** Before we start performances, we have to pay for all of the "stuff" - royalties, rent, costumes, scenery, insurance, etc. Rather than taking out a loan, we are asking our community to invest in this project.

So before I inundate you with too many details, I'm reaching out to ask you to do two things:

1. Make a contribution if your budget allows (link below). Any amount, whether \$1 or \$100+ is genuinely appreciated and allows us to fulfill our dreams! And at certain levels, there are fun incentives like recipes, posters, tickets to the show, etc.
2. Share this with anyone you think may be interested.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

Also, if you want to receive more information about when tickets go on sale, where we're at with our funding goal, etc., let me know and I can add you to our email list.

Thanks in advance!