

Dog Story Theater

Our Space. Your Show. Come and Play!

About Dog Story Theater:

Since 2007, Dog Story has been providing a flexible, affordable venue for performing artists in downtown Grand Rapids. We are an all volunteer-run organization with a board composed of performers, designers and theater enthusiasts who donate our time because we are invested maintaining a thriving local theater community.

Booking Information

Rates:*

Full Weekend Reservation (Tuesday-Sunday)*: \$350 +20%

- If you rent for 2 or more weekends in a row, the additional weekends' base rental price will be \$280 + 20% of ticket sales.
- We will provide "tech support" for load-in and box office staff for performances

One-Night Reservation: \$150 + 20% of gross ticket sales

- If your event requires box office staff (i.e. you charge admission)

Hourly Reservation: \$30/hour

- Hourly rentals are available for events that do NOT charge admission or require box office staff.

*Note : If you book a full weekend and there is time when you are not using the space, DST **may** book something else in the theater as long as it doesn't conflict with any of your equipment/set/etc. This will **always** be cleared first with the original booker.

Making Your Reservation:

When you fill out your reservation form, we will need the following:

- A **non-refundable \$100 deposit**
- Proof** that you have the legal right to perform this show (i.e. that you've paid royalties where applicable)
- Dates and Times** for your event, including both when YOU need access to the space and when you are opening the doors to the public/when the box office staff needs to be there
- Ticket Prices** (see below for notes on setting ticket prices)
- The **stage configuration** you want (see below for descriptions of basic configurations)

General Notes:

About Our Space:

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Dog Story is a small, wonderfully intimate black box theater ideally suited to productions focused on storytelling and character over spectacle.

We have a small lighting grid with a programable light board, a sound system (including 2 mics), and a projector and retractable projection screen. Though relatively simple, our light and sound systems are extremely versatile. We are happy to provide "tech support" when needed to help you get the look and sound you want, but you must supply someone to run tech during performances.

We seat about 60 people depending on your stage configuration. Our total occupancy cannot exceed 75 (including performers and staff). Backstage, we have two one-stall unisex bathrooms (for both actors and audience), a small green room/dressing room, and (limited) room for props/costumes along the back wall. Our basement studio space may also be available as an extra dressing room. We encourage clients to do everything they can to simplify scene changes and set pieces. Focus on strong performances, maintaining a brisk pace, and connecting with the audience.

Ticket Prices:

You are free to charge whatever you want for your show. However, we do want Dog Story to be as affordable to our patrons as it is for our performers. Ticket prices at DST average from \$6-12, and we strongly encourage you to stay in that range. Our "rule of thumb" is that a night of live performance in our space shouldn't be significantly more expensive than going to a movie.

Stage Configuration:

We have 4, 4x8 fold-up stage pieces that are 2 feet tall and link together, and 7 4x8 seating platforms with railings. You may use all of them or some of them or none of them.

We have three basic set-ups that can be tweaked to suit your needs:

- Proscenium: One section of audience, about 6 rows deep, facing stage. Entrances through back curtains stage right, stage left and center (THIS OPTION OFFERS THE MOST SEATING).

- Thrust: Three sections of audience, each 2-3 rows deep, surrounding the stage on three sides. Entrances through back curtains stage right, stage left and center, and from the house through left and right aisles.

- Round: Four sections of audience, 1-2 rows deep, surrounding the stage on all four sides. Entrances from 4 aisles between sections of audience.

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Thank you for considering bringing your show or event to Dog Story Theater! We encourage you to come visit us and see our space in action. Check out dogstorytheater.com for showtimes or contact booking@dogstory.com to schedule an appointment.