

Dear _____,

Have you ever wondered what would American Theatre be like without the contribution of Jews?

Do you know what's so unique about the Jewish–American experience that unleashed such energy and creativity?

And what does the Jewish sense of being an “outsider in society” have to do with Jewish creativity?

These critical questions are essential in understanding the long and colorful history between Jews and Theatre, but the hard part is finding the answers. Indeed, I have some exciting news to share with you on this topic!

All About Jewish Theatre is teaming up with *The Theatre Museum* to **create an exhibition** on the Jewish experience and its influence on American Theatre.

We plan to investigate fascinating areas including:

- The early impact of Jews and Jewish images in American Theatre
- German Jewish immigration, theatre owners, and producers
- Jews in Minstrel Shows and Vaudeville
- Major producers, including Belasco, Schuberts, & Hammerstein
- Countless performers, acting movements, playwrights, musicals, seminal shows, trends, and Jewish theaters

But first, we need your help.

To accomplish this project, a conceptualization and development period with a working group of established exhibit designers, scholars, theatre practitioners, and writers is needed. This conceptualization and development phase will need funding and will last between three to six months. It will also include the formation of an honorary board.

The exhibition will include (and not be exclusive to) mounted photographs with interpretation, theatre posters, a catalog that includes articles by the curators and experts in Jewish Culture Studies and Ethnic Theatre and Performing Arts, an online exhibit that links all of these together, and a timeline that provides historical context. All or part will be designed as a traveling exhibition and will spawn seminars, discussion groups, scholarly events and popular activities.

As a special feature, the exhibit will include extremely rare and valuable assets, including rescued photos of theater buildings, performances, actors, producers, etc. (Amazingly, these were found intact inside canisters at the World Trade Center disaster.)

If you are interested in assisting us in this unique and educational venture, please contact us by [DATE].

Sincerely,
[Contact Info.]