



2026 Theater Pathways Mentorship Reference Form

Applicant's Name _____

First Name

Last Name

Applicant, please provide this form to the person(s) providing a letter of recommendation for you.

To the Reference:

The student named above is applying for the 2026 Theater Pathways Mentorship. Fueled by the generosity of the Melka/Laub family, and in the spirit of Tony Award winning performer, and mentor to many, Gavin Creel, this initiative connects young creatives striving for a career in theater with industry experts. The program provides individualized life-changing mentorships and field experience with theater professionals to accelerate aspiring students. Awarded annually to two high school rising or graduating seniors in the Charlotte region, mentorships will be available with professionals both on and off the stage. These relationships will include a full year of direct interaction with an assigned mentor, culminating in a fully funded trip to study alongside the mentor in their professional environment.

Fellows will be paired with an industry professional in their desired area of study. Mentors will be available by email throughout the year long fellowship and will schedule quarterly zoom calls with their mentee. The fellowship includes one fully funded field experience trip for the fellow to visit the mentor's work/industry with them first-hand for 4-7 days including travel and lodging for the fellow and guardian plus daily meal stipend as well as applicable mentee and mentor show tickets or conference fees.

Please email this form with your one-page recommendation letter directly to educationdepartment@blumenthalarts.org before June 29, 2026.

Reference Name _____

Title _____

School or Organization _____

Relationship to the applicant _____

How long you have known the applicant? _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____