**Model Proposal**

Date Submitted:

12/1/2020

Applicant’s Name:

Claudia Barnett

Melissa Maxwell

Name of Speaker:

Brief Speaker Biography:

Melissa Maxwell is an independent New York director, actor, and playwright, an exemplary role model for writers and theater artists. I met Melissa in 2014 when she directed a reading of one of my plays, and I’ve been looking forward to introducing this incredible woman to my students ever since. In addition to visiting her [website](https://www.melissamaxwell.com/), I urge you to view her [TEDX talks](https://www.melissamaxwell.com/tedx-talks).

Brief listing of the events the speaker will hold and when (these should emphasize student interaction/impact)

Melissa Maxwell’s visit will have multiple components:

1. a Spring Saturdays workshop for MTSU Write on March 21.
2. a rehearsal of her play-in-progress, *Imbroglio*, on March 22.
3. a class visit (conversation and workshop) with a combined group of ENGL 3665: Playwriting and THEA 4700: Advanced Directing on March 23 from 2:40 to 4:10.
4. a staged reading of *Imbroglio* on March 23 from 2:30-6:30, followed by a talkback with the playwright.

*Imbroglio* is set in a rural American town in 1970 and examines the complexities of navigating the boundaries of marriage and friendship. It features a cast of five (3M, 2W, all African-American), and a sixth student will direct the reading. I’m working with Lauren Shouse, assistant professor of Theatre, to coordinate the reading. She will assign the director and cast the play. (This is an important contribution on behalf of the Theatre Department.)

Detailed Budget (include all costs for travel, housing, meals, honorarium, etc.):

$600 (including airfare and airport shuttles)

* Travel (air, taxi, etc.):

N/A (she will stay with me)

* Lodging:

2 travel days @ 41.25= $82.50; 3 full days @55= $165

* Meals:

$2347.50 + $200 catering + event fees $1500

* Honorarium:

Balance of  **$1147.50**

Total Amount Requested:

External Funding sought and/or received (agencies and amounts):

MTSU Write $600; NWHM $800