

Richard Hopkins Biography

Richard Hopkins is the Chief Executive Officer of Florida Studio Theatre and is directly responsible to the Board of Directors. He oversees the creation and implementation of all FST programming and fiscal planning, including Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, New Play Development, Education and Touring. Since his arrival at FST in 1980, Mr. Hopkins has guided the theatre from a small touring company to a nationally recognized regional theatre which impacts over 190,000 adults & children annually. He has directed more than 40 productions in FST's five theatres.

He has worked at numerous regional theatres including Capital Repertory, Blowing Rock Theatre, TheatreWorks Palo Alto, The Players of Columbus, Delaware Theatre Company, Long Island Stage, and many others. Mr. Hopkins began his professional theatre career as a resident actor with the Asolo State Theatre in Sarasota, Florida. He was a founding director of what is now American Stage Company in St. Petersburg and served as its Producing Director from 1974-1980. He has a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University.

He has served as a Theatre Specialist for the U.S. Department of State to Cairo and Amman, and taught at the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Clown College. He served as the President of the Florida Professional Theatres Association from 1983-1985 and also served on the Theatre Panel for the Florida Arts Council. Mr. Hopkins is the recipient of numerous awards including the Arts Leadership Award from the Sarasota Arts Council & the Richard G. Fallon Award for Artistic Excellence from the Florida Professional Theatre Association.



Rebecca Hopkins Biography

Rebecca Hopkins serves as Managing Director for Florida Studio Theatre as the Chief Operations Officer. She is responsible for oversight of FST's overall Administration, including the Business Office, Development, Marketing, Box Office, Front of House, Cabaret Restaurant, budgeting and maintaining the overall quality of FST's internal management functions. She works in concert with the Producing Artistic Director in the creation and implementation of FST's long-range plans. Mrs. Hopkins serves as FST's liaison to other arts and theatre industry organizations.

Nationally, Mrs. Hopkins serves on the Executive Committee for the National New Play Network and also on the Executive Committee for the League of Resident Theatres. Locally, she is on the Board of Directors for the

Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County. She has also served as a panelist for the Florida Arts Council. In addition, Mrs. Hopkins developed FST's Improvisation program and the Sarasota Improv Festival and is actively involved in new play development for the Cabaret. *She was the lead developer on Yesterday and American Pie and has co-created over 20 musical revues including That's Life, The Wanderers, and Poems, Prayers and Promises.* She is head-writer for the highly successful and critically-lauded *Laughing Matters* Series.

Previous to her employment with Florida Studio Theatre, Mrs. Hopkins served as the Audience Development Coordinator for the Largo Cultural Center and as a company member for the Austin Shakespeare Festival and the Zachary Scott Theatre in Austin. Mrs. Hopkins received her education from Georgia State University and Eckerd College. In 2005, she was the recipient of the Gulf Coast Business Review's Top Forty Under Forty and in 2012 she was the recipient of the Cultural Champion Award from the Arts and Cultural Alliance.