

## The Inner Circle Investment Contest

When my friend and collaborator Roseann Hammill died, I felt her loss deeply. I still do. She was more than the composer of our musical, THE PIPER. She was my oldest and dearest friend, a confidant and counselor, whose generosity of spirit never failed to forgive the human frailty in us all. She had been my creative soul mate and I had no idea how I was going to continue THE PIPER's evolution without her. Then I discovered Ken Davenport and The Producer's Perspective.

I won't lie. I was skeptical. Why would a Tony Award-winning Broadway producer go out of his way to provide both the guidance and tools necessary for aspiring composers, playwrights, and producers to achieve their dreams? *What was in it for him?* Could this be one of those, "I made millions in Real Estate and you can too" deals that takes your money and strings you along until you've spent all your savings? I did a script consult with Ken to find out – and it changed everything!

Six weeks later I was a member of the Inner Circle, in New York City, sitting in a room with Ken and 29 amazingly talented international writers, composers and producers who were all there to learn from Ken, his guest speakers, and each other. As we took our turn in the "hot seat" explaining what progress our shows had made and the current challenge(s) we needed to overcome, Ken's genuine interest in each and every one of us reminded me of my childhood family doctor. When Doc burst into the examining room, flopped down into a chair by the door, lit his pipe, and sighed as if to say, "finally," he made you feel as though you were the one person he had been waiting to see all day long, and you just knew you were in good hands.

I came away from that first meeting having made a connection with a warm and supportive group of people with a common purpose; a web designer to get THE PIPER's website up and running; and the name of an Emmy winning orchestrator who would make THE PIPER's homemade Demo sound like a Broadway cast album.

Six months after joining the Inner Circle, THE PIPER became one of three shows to have a reading in New York at the Rave Theater Festival 2019. Living in Michigan, I had no idea how to put a 29 Hour Reading together, but as an Inner Circle member I had come to know and trust Ken and his team, so having them guide me through the process was a no-brainer. Less than a month later, I was introduced to a producer who had seen the reading and wanted "to talk."

In eight months, I have gone from feeling lost and uncertain to scheduling a meeting with an interested producer! That would not have happened without taking that first leap of faith, reaching out to Ken and joining the Inner Circle. Receiving the \$10,000 investment would mean THE PIPER could move forward while enjoying the same access to Ken's advice and guidance that has made such a difference, already.

Roseann gave her best and expected your best in return. She would have been delighted to know I had found the best way to bring her music to a wider audience was to join the Inner Circle, where the joy and excitement Ken brings to each meeting, each email, and each phone call, makes *what's in it for him* perfectly obvious. He loves what he does as much as Roseann loved composing.

Roger Griffin