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RISD Hall Available To Theater Project

Bulletin 4/13/66

The proposed federally-sponsored repertory theater will be able to use the Rhode Island School of Design auditorium without disrupting student group production, according to Dr. Albert Bush-Brown, RISD president.

Dr. Bush-Brown said over the weekend that the expected federal approval of the repertory theater project will force relocation of some events, but that the groups which use the auditorium regularly have already reserved it for the necessary periods in the coming school year and the repertory schedule still fits in.

The potential scheduling conflict is slight, Dr. Bush-Brown explained, because most student groups prefer to use the school's Memorial Hall, which has 400 to 450 seats compared to the 1,000-seat auditorium. Moreover, many of the RISD productions have been scheduled during high school vacations, he said.

The repertory project would furnish at least a year of free serious drama to all Rhode Is-

land high school students. An application for a \$329,000 federal grant to finance the project was submitted last month.

Dr. Bush-Brown, one of the leading backers of the repertory project, has offered to rent the auditorium for \$450 a week for the 32-week season, a total of \$18,000. He said the school would not make a profit—that it hoped to break even on the rental.

The rental fees have been pledged by the Foundation for Repertory Theater of Rhode Island, the parent group of the Trinity Square Playhouse, which will provide the repertory company.