

NATIONAL SCRIPT WORKSHOP 2010

Studio Programme

Sydney, 27 June – 9 July, 2010

PlayWriting Australia is calling for submissions for the Studio Programme of the National Script Workshop 2010 to be held in Sydney.

The residential Studio Programme offers playwrights the opportunity to develop their writing over a two-week period of intensive work with the country's finest directors, dramaturgs and actors. This event is for emerging, developing and established playwrights with unproduced work at an early stage of development.

OVERVIEW

Up to six new works will be selected for participation in the Studio Programme of the Workshop. Playwrights will collaborate with directors, dramaturgs and an ensemble of actors to develop scripts through intensive practical investigation across two weeks. Playwrights may apply individually, as co-writers or as part of a creative team.

It is not intended that writers will produce a performance-ready script by the end of the two weeks and the Workshop does not conclude with public readings. Instead, the focus of the Workshop is specifically on exploration and creative dialogue between artists, with the intention of supporting scripts towards the next stage of their development. The Workshop period will comprise time spent in conference with directors and dramaturgs, rehearsal time with actors, and writing time. Writers are asked to outline in their application what they hope to achieve using the time and resources available at the Workshop to develop their script.

The selection process will concentrate on finding new work that demonstrates theatrical promise, an engagement with the challenges of today's world and clear commitment to an idea with the potential for further exploration of that idea in an intensive studio environment.

With the exception that the Workshop is unable to support musical theatre works or work that requires musical dramaturgy, plays may be of any style and written for any cast size. It is anticipated that plays submitted for consideration will be at early stages of development. Plays that are considered finished may be better suited to other programmes, including the National Play Festival. See Other Opportunities below and refer to information on the PlayWriting Australia website at www.pwa.org.au for further details.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents and over the age of 18.

Eligible plays:

- must be the writer's original work;
- must be unproduced, and not scheduled for production before 9 July, 2010;
- may have been previously submitted to PlayWriting Australia, but must not have been submitted on more than one occasion for consideration for any programme, and must not have been selected for participation in a previous National Script Workshop or National Play Festival;
- should be early or incomplete first drafts (see Other Opportunities below for details of how to submit later and final drafts to PlayWriting Australia);
- may have been commissioned and/or optioned for performance by an Australian theatre company, provided that PlayWriting Australia is advised of the encumbrance at the time of application;

- may be nominated by, or in conjunction with, theatre companies with whom the work is currently under commission or development;
- must be received at PlayWriting Australia, with a signed copy of the application form and all additional information, by **5pm, Friday 5 March, 2010**.

Notes:

- Only one play may be submitted by each playwright or creative team.
- Details of any creative team members already attached to the project should be included with the submission.
- It is expected that plays that have previously been submitted for any PlayWriting Australia programme will have undergone significant further development in order to warrant re-submission.
- Plays previously submitted for consideration for the National Play Festival are considered completed drafts and should only be re-submitted for Workshop development in exceptional circumstances.

ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL

Playwrights who normally reside outside the Sydney metropolitan area and who are selected for participation in the Workshop will be provided with:

- return travel from their normal place of residence,
- 2 weeks' accommodation or suitable allowance, and
- meals and incidentals allowance.

All participants will also receive a weekly wage.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit:

- a signed copy of the application form;
- 2 printed copies of the most recent draft of your play, including one 'clean' copy (see script format notes below);
- an outline of your proposed development of the script and intended use of the time and resources available at the Workshop (to a maximum of one A4 page);
- in the case of incomplete drafts, a complete synopsis of the intended work (to a maximum of one A4 page);
- a separate page listing:
 - i) short biographical details, including a summary of professional credits as available;
 - ii) details of any support the play has so far received, including funding, mentoring or dramaturgy, and any future support currently planned, if applicable;
 - iii) details of any current commissioning and/or option arrangements, if applicable;
 - iv) details of any creative team members currently attached to the project, including their contact details.

Send your submission to:

National Script Workshop 2010
 PlayWriting Australia
 PO Box 914
 Newtown NSW 2042

SCRIPT FORMAT

Please ensure that:

- you submit two copies of your script and that one is a 'clean' copy on which the writer's name, contact details or agent's details do not appear anywhere for the purpose of anonymous assessment;
- script pages are unbound, not stapled and are held together only with bulldog/foldback clips;
- all script pages are consecutively numbered.

Preferred format for scripts

Paper: A4, single- or double-sided

Layout: left-justified

Type: 11 or 12pt, stage directions in italics

Include: title page, character list on page 1

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- All submissions will be read 'blind' by a panel of readers.
- Shortlisted submissions may be re-read by a second panel.
- Shortlisted playwrights may be interviewed by phone to discuss their application in further detail.
- Playwrights will be advised of the outcome of their submission by 31 May, 2010.
- The assessment process remains confidential and no further details of readers' assessments will be provided to playwrights.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Applications will not be accepted by email.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applications must be received by **5pm, Friday 5 March, 2010**. Late applications, including those postmarked Friday 5 March will **not** be considered under any circumstance.
- Submissions will be acknowledged in writing on receipt.
- PlayWriting Australia may contact you to request additional information in connection with your submission.
- We are unable to return either copy of your script to you under any circumstance.
- We are unable to provide critical feedback on your play – this process is not an opportunity to receive a creative response to your play.
- Writers will be informed of PlayWriting Australia's decision by 31 May, 2010. We are unable to respond to enquiries regarding your application prior to this date.
- Successful applicants are requested to acknowledge PlayWriting Australia's support in future presentations of the work.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

POSTSCRIPT

PostScript is a comprehensive database of unproduced scripts available for production by theatre companies. By default, submissions to the National Script Workshop are automatically registered for inclusion in the *PostScript* database and details are made available to participating theatre companies.

Should you wish not to register your Workshop submission for *PostScript* tick 'No' on the application form. By ticking 'Yes' (or by providing no response) and signing the application form, you acknowledge and agree to the *PostScript* terms and conditions listed below.

Direct submissions of final drafts of unproduced plays are accepted for registration with *PostScript* throughout the year. To submit your script by email or post, download and complete the *PostScript* submission cover sheet available via the PlayWriting Australia or by contacting us by email or phone.

POSTSCRIPT TERMS & CONDITIONS

By registering a work for *PostScript*, writers acknowledge and allow that:

- 1) the work will be made available to an assessor or assessors appointed by PlayWriting Australia (PWA),
- 2) further details pertaining to the assessment of that work may be circulated among participating companies,
- 3) the work may be further circulated to participating companies on request,
- 4) the work may be photocopied or reproduced electronically as necessary by PWA and participating companies, and
- 5) all rights in any original work submitted to PWA remain the sole property of the writer at all times.

If at any time you wish to withdraw your play from *PostScript*, please advise us in writing by email to postscript@pwa.org.au or by post to PlayWriting Australia, PO Box 914, Newtown NSW 2042.

NATIONAL PLAY FESTIVAL

The National Play Festival presents finished, performance-ready plays to the country's leading theatre producers in a professional showcase. Plays are presented in staged reading format after two weeks rehearsal.

The National Play Festival 2011 will take place in early 2011 and applications will be invited from mid-2010. The application process will be announced via our e-mailing list and on our website.

Further information

Internet www.pwa.org.au
Email info@pwa.org.au
Phone (02) 8571 9177