

PlayGround
New Play Production Fund

Round 3 Guidelines

Background

Since 1994, PlayGround has been a leading incubator for some of the Bay Area's most promising new playwrights, developing nearly 600 original short plays by 170 Bay Area emerging playwrights. In the last nine years, PlayGround itself has emerged, as one of the leading commissioners of new full-length works by Bay Area playwrights. 34 full-length plays have been developed to date and 7 new works are currently in development.

Program Outline

In support of these playwrights and to further encourage the production of new works by Bay Area playwrights in Bay Area theatres, PlayGround has established the New Play Production Fund. The New Play Production Fund annually distributes a minimum of \$25,000 in the form of recoupable co-production investments to Bay Area theatres in support of professional production of full-length works commissioned and developed by PlayGround that have not yet received their world premiere. 2010-11 recipients included: Daniel Heath's *Seven Days* at SF Playhouse; Trevor Allen's *Lolita Roadtrip* at San Jose Stage Company; and Erin Bregman's *Down a Little Dirt Road* at Just Theater. 2011-12 recipients include: Kenn Rabin's *Reunion* at SF Playhouse (Feb 2012); Lauren Yee's *Crevice* at Impact Theatre (May 2012); and Ken Slattery's *Truffaldino Says No* at Shotgun Players (June 2012). 2012-13 recipients will be selected from this year's applicants.

Categories

PlayGround will provide at least one investment of \$15,000 to a Bay Area theatre of 100 seats or more for a production with a budget of \$60,000 or greater and a minimum run of 21 public performances. PlayGround will provide at least two investments of \$5,000 to Bay Area theatres of 50 seats or more for productions with budgets of \$20,000 or greater and a minimum run of 16 public performances. A Bay Area theatre may submit multiple applications for different artists but may receive support for only one project in any given round. Multiple theatres may submit for the same play.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Eligible Theatre Companies must:
 - a. Be based within the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area;
 - b. Have a minimum annual operating budget of \$50,000;
 - c. Operate under an agreement with Actors' Equity;
2. Organizations that are primarily presenters, performance venues or arts education programs are not eligible to apply.
3. Eligible plays must have been commissioned and developed by PlayGround but not yet have been presented in a full professional production. Complete scripts and synopses of all plays can be accessed through the search engine at http://playground-sf.org/commissioning_productionfund. Plays currently under development are eligible and offer special opportunities for collaborative development.

Award Timeline

1. The deadline for receipt of all applications is Midnight, Monday, December 5, 2011. Applications may be submitted by fax (415-704-3177) or as an attachment via email to jim@playground-sf.org.
2. The awardees will be announced by December 15, 2011.
3. Completed award co-production agreements and a copy of executed playwright production agreements must be completed and returned by March 1, 2012.
4. Theatres must complete production of selected plays between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013.
5. Production funds will be distributed per the following schedule: 50% one month before opening; 30% on opening night; 20% after receipt of final reports.

Additional In-Kind Support

PlayGround will provide additional in-kind support for awarded theatres/plays, including web and email promotion, public relations, purchase of a block of tickets or a full-house, and up to five hours consultation with PlayGround artistic and administrative staff, including casting, dramaturgical, marketing, etc.

Questions? Contact PlayGround Artistic Director Jim Kleinmann at jim@playground-sf.org or 415-992-6677.