



INDEPENDENCE FOUNDATION NEW THEATRE WORKS INITIATIVE

2010 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Independence Foundation announces the launch of its New Theatre Works Initiative, a three-year pilot program to encourage the development and production of new theatrical performance work in the Philadelphia region.

The New Theatre Works Initiative will provide two (2) three-year grants in each year of the pilot to regional nonprofit theatre companies in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware or Montgomery counties to support the creation of new artistic theatre performances. Selected organizations with a strong and consistent track record of producing new work will be invited, based on annual budget size, to submit proposals. One grant per year will be awarded at each of these funding levels:

- organizations with annual operating budgets between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 may apply for a grant of up to \$75,000 over three years (at \$25,000 per year); and
- organizations with annual operating budgets greater than \$1,000,000 may apply for a grant of up to \$150,000 over three years (at \$50,000 per year).

The New Theatre Works Initiative is designed to assist in the development of theatre works by established companies. Rather than limit its scope to a single form, genre or developmental structure, these grants accommodate the numerous creative styles and unique perspectives of theatre groups by allowing them to design their own approach to developing new work, whether it is engaging in interdisciplinary work, solo performance or various approaches to play-making.

A New Theatre Works Initiative grant will fund play, musical or multidisciplinary performance development, which may include full productions of new work, commissioning fees, playwright/creator residency expenses, dramaturgical sessions, research, staged readings, fully-produced developmental workshops or workshop productions, or other works-in-progress presentations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must:

- Be a nonprofit organization with 501c3 federal tax-exempt status;
- Have completed at least three seasons of public performances

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION AND REVIEW PROCESS

Each application is reviewed according to following criteria:

- Clarity of artistic vision;
- Qualifications of the playwright/creative team selected by the organization's artistic leadership;
- Feasibility of the company to manage the proposed program.

All applications will be reviewed by a panel of distinguished professionals with vast knowledge of the Philadelphia theatre community. Final decisions will be made by the Board of Directors of the Independence Foundation.

Application documents are to be printed on ONE SIDE ONLY. Minimum font size is 10 point.

Submit one (1) original and ten (10) copies of the completed application package. Applications submitted without copies will not be accepted.

Each application package must include:

- Application Cover Sheet (enclosed)
- Organization Mission and History (1 page)
Describe the current mission and brief history of the theatre company including productions from the past three years and expertise in developing new work.
- Plan for the New Theatre Works Initiative grant (2 pages)
Describe in detail your plan for the New Theatre Works Initiative grant. What will you do? Who else will be involved? Why is this program right for you at this time? How does it speak to your organization's artistic vision?
- Timeline (2 pages)
Provide an estimated timeline for the proposed program.
- Resumes
Provide resumes of all personnel involved.
- Letters of Commitment
Provide letters of commitment from any/all collaborating artists with whom you will be working.
- Budget
For the proposed program, provide a detailed operating budget for each year of the grant period, with explanation notes as needed.
- Attachments To The Proposal
 - Tax-exempt determination letter (If your organization has changed its name subsequent to the issuance of the tax-exempt determination letter, submit a copy of the IRS approval of the name change)
 - Original signed copy of the Certificate Regarding Tax Status (copy enclosed form onto your organization's letterhead)
 - Most recent financial audit. In the absence of an audited statement submit the organization's most recent 990.

CERTIFICATE REGARDING TAX STATUS OF _____
(organization name)

The undersigned _____, _____
(signatory) (signatory title)
of the _____ and as such authorized to execute this certificate in the name
(organization name)
of _____ hereby certifies that to the best of his/her knowledge,
(organization name)
information and belief, the following facts are true, correct and complete:

- (1) _____ has received a ruling or determination letter from the
(organization name)
Internal Revenue Service stating that _____ qualifies as an
(organization name)
organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code and in the particular section or sections of
the Internal Revenue Service Code identified below (please check appropriate box and attach a photocopy of the IRS
determination letter):
___ Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(a)(vi)
___ Section 509(a)(2)
___ Section 509(a)(3)
___ Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(a)(i), (ii), (iv), or (v)
- (2) Notice of change in the status of _____ under the section or
(organization name)
sections of the Internal Revenue Service Code identified above has not been made to the public (such as by publication of
the Internal Revenue Bulletin), and the Internal Revenue Service has not given notice
to _____ that it will be deleted from such status.
(organization name)
- (3) _____ understands and agrees that as an applicant and/or
(organization name)
grant recipient of the Independence Foundation, _____
(organization name)
has a continuing obligation to notify the Independence Foundation of any notice of change in its status under the foregoing
sections of the Internal Revenue Code while _____
(organization name)
is an applicant and/or grant recipient

Date: _____
(organization name)

(Signatory)

(Signatory title)