



PLOWSHARES
THEATRE
COMPANY

NEW VOICES PLAY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION

GUIDELINES

The New Voices Play Development Program is a two year program that culminates in a biennially-held summer festival of staged- readings and workshop productions.

As many as 6 may be chosen for development and presentation throughout the mainstage season. Each script will receive a staged reading. Afterwards, Plowshares will assist the writers in promoting the works nationally and may commission to produce one or more of them within the next two subsequent Plowshares seasons.

Winning playwrights will collaborate with some of the best in Detroit's professional theater community. Each playwright will be assigned a qualified professional director and a cast of experienced actors for the development period. Also, following the staged reading, the authors will receive feedback from audience members during a discussion session moderated by Detroit area theatre critics. Travel stipends will be provided for those playwrights who live outside of the state of Michigan.

Finally, as an addition to the program Plowshares will award a \$1000 cash prize to the play considered "the Best of Festival," that is a quality script artistically strong and ready for professional production.

All entrants must be African-American and hold permanent residents in the United States. All scripts must be unoptioned or unproduced by any other organization. Translations and adaptations are not accepted. Authors may send in as many scripts as they wish but only one per playwright will be chosen. Only plays directly addressing African-American life or the African-American experience will be considered.

Applicants should submit 3 copies of script with synopsis, resumé and personal biography to:

Plowshares Theatre Company
New Voices Play Development Program
2870 East Grand Blvd.
Suite 600
Detroit, MI 48202-3146

ATTN: Gary Anderson

Only scripts with a self-addressed stamped envelope will be returned. Notification will be mailed. For further information, PH: (313) 872 0279; FAX: (313) 872-0067, E-mail: newvoices@plowshares.org



Memorandum of Agreement made _____, between _____ herein after "the Author") and Plowshares Theatre Company, 2870 East Grand Boulevard, Suite 600, Detroit, MI 48202-3146 (hereinafter "the Producer").

Whereas the Author is the sole owner of the entire copyright for the dramatic work entitled _____ hereinafter called "the Play"); and whereas the Producer wishes to develop the play.

Now it is hereby mutually agreed as follows:

1. THE AUTHOR agrees that THE PRODUCER may help develop the Play through workshop performances and staged readings without compensating THE AUTHOR for said development. THE AUTHOR agrees that THE PRODUCER may use the Play or one or more of its features or components for the purpose of development under the New Voices Play Development Program. If, however, THE PRODUCER decides to produce this script in a fully realized presentation, and provided the play is original and meets the artistic standards of THE PRODUCER, said company agrees to pay THE AUTHOR as total compensation such sum as may be subsequently agreed upon in writing.
2. THE AUTHOR warrants that the Play THE AUTHOR has submitted is original with THE AUTHOR and that no one else has a right to it.
3. All disputes relating to this agreement shall be governed by Michigan law. Any controversy arising whether THE PRODUCER uses my script, or relating to this agreement, will be conclusively determined by arbitration as provided by Michigan law and the regulations of the American Arbitration Association, and our arbitrator will be a person experienced in the theatrical field mutually selected by us; if we cannot agree, we will accept as arbitrator any person designated by the President of the Wolverine Bar Association of the City of Detroit who will agree to arbitrate the controversy, in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association.
4. THE PRODUCER agrees to aid THE AUTHOR in promoting the Play for up to four (4) years after the development process is completed, provided the Play meets the artistic standards of THE PRODUCER.
5. THE AUTHOR agrees to provide future royalties of 0.2% of net profits for up to four (4) years to THE PRODUCER for said development and promoting assistance.
6. THE AUTHOR agrees that all future productions of the Play will print the following program information in a prominent place: "This play was originally developed by Plowshares Theatre Company's New Voices Play Development Program." Said information shall be no larger than 12 point or no smaller than 10 point.
7. THE AUTHOR agrees to give THE PRODUCER first right of refusal for producing a fully realized presentation of the Play before THE AUTHOR pursues other offers and producing entities, provided that such an agreement is concluded within 90 business days after the last staged reading presentation of the Play. After this time, THE AUTHOR may pursue other offers without fear of breaching this agreement.
8. THE AUTHOR has retained a copy of the Play and other submitted materials to THE PRODUCER and releases THE PRODUCER from liability, loss or damage to the Play.
9. THE AUTHOR agrees to participate in of the development process. This includes, but is not limited to, discussion with the dramaturg, auditions, scheduled rehearsals, technical rehearsals and all staged readings.
10. This agreement constitutes the entire understanding between both parties. Any modification or waiver must be in writing, signed by both parties. The invalidity of any provision is not to affect the remaining provisions. This agreement applies equally to the revised versions of the Play that THE AUTHOR may submit to THE PRODUCER, unless agreed in writing to the contrary at the time of submission.

Agreed

Signature _____ Date _____

Agreed

Plowshares Theatre Company

By _____ Date _____