



## SUMMERWORKS NATIONAL SERIES APPLICATION FORM AND GUIDELINES

Welcome to SummerWorks and thank you for looking to the Festival as a place to premiere or showcase your work. This form will give you some more information about us and help guide you with your application.

### FESTIVAL INFORMATION

SummerWorks 2009 is a juried theatre festival of approximately 40 one-act plays that runs for eleven days from August 6-16, 2009 in Toronto. We feature primarily new Canadian work, complemented by international premieres, new visions of contemporary Canadian plays and interpretations of classics. SummerWorks is a developmental festival, supporting work that has a clear artistic vision and/or explores a specific theatrical aesthetic. We encourage risk, questions, and creative exploration while insisting on accessibility, integrity and professionalism. SummerWorks is the place where dedicated, professional artists are free to explore new territory and take artistic risks. We look to introduce professional artists from diverse communities and be inspired by our similarities and differences.

Now in our 19<sup>th</sup> year, SummerWorks continues to support the artistic visions of the participants in the festival by providing them with the best possible production resources at the lowest cost, attracting the largest possible audience, and facilitating artistic and professional career assistance. The Festival provides a complete framework, which includes the renting of professional venues, hiring of technical staff, lighting designers, festival publicity and marketing, ticket sales, technical and performance scheduling, and front of house management. Participating companies pay a small Entrance Fee and receive approximately 85% of their box office revenue.

SummerWorks has helped launch and/or support the careers of many of Canada's most exciting emerging artists such as Hannah Moscovitch, Keira Loughran, Daniel Arnold and Medina Hahn, Christian Barry, Anita Majumdar, Daniel Karaski, Norman Yeung, Jacob Richmond and Amiel Gladstone. It has also provided established artists with a safe environment to debut new work. Our alumni include such esteemed artists as Linda Griffiths, Ross Manson, Soheil Parsa, Maja Ardal, Kate Hennig, Brooke Johnson, Layne Coleman, Judith Thompson, Chris Earle, and Gina Wilkinson, just to name a few.

## The National Series

In 2006, with the support of the Stratford Festival of Canada, we launched the National Series (formerly the Canadian Pavillion) at SummerWorks. The intention behind this initiative was to provide an opportunity for independent artists from outside Ontario who have been making waves in their local community to be seen in Toronto, and to meet and see the work of our local theatre artists, building bridges within the independent theatre community on a national level. While these companies are responsible for their costs of travel and production, they receive some financial assistance to offset their extra expenses, and still take the same box office cut as the rest of the companies. In the past two years we have had companies from coast to coast as well as the Yukon. This year we may invite up to four companies to participate in the National Series.

## FEES

You must include with your application a **\$20.00 Reading Fee that is non-refundable**. If you are invited to participate in the Pavilion, the \$700 Entrance Fee will be waived thanks to the support of the Stratford Festival of Canada so participation in the Festival upon invitation will be at no extra cost to you. Applications will not be accepted unless the Reading Fee is included. Cheques can be made out to "SummerWorks Theatre Festival". The Festival does not require a certified cheque.

## SELECTION

A jury of up to five theatre professionals, including the artistic producer, will read all submissions. Please follow the guidelines below when putting together your proposal. All applications must include:

1. **Letter of Intent:** Maximum 2 pages, giving an overview of your work in your community, this project, where it is at in its development, what you plan to do, and how you plan to do it. What excites you about it? Why is SummerWorks the right Festival for your production? This is your way of introducing yourselves and your work to our jury.
2. **The Play:** Please include one copy of the play. Unfinished works in progress are also acceptable. If the play has not yet been written, a synopsis and complete description should be submitted. For non text-based work, a proposal/project description outlining the production should be included. Jury members are not required to read beyond 50 pages of a script, as SummerWorks shows are a maximum of 60 minutes. Please make appropriate edits if necessary to keep your work within that scope.
3. **Support Materials: (Optional)** We will accept up to three pages of support material for you and your project. These can include, but are not limited to, resumes, short bios of key members in your team or

letters of support from professional artists if the jury may be unfamiliar with your work. Please do not exceed the maximum of three pages.

Applications will be assessed based on artistic merit, clarity of vision, and balance with the other plays selected. Please keep in mind that we are programming productions, so the more we can envision the piece off the page, the better. Share your passion with us! Be honest and concise, but heartfelt.

#### **DEADLINE**

The deadline for submissions to the National Series at SummerWorks is **Friday January 2, 2009**. All submissions must be received or postmarked by this date. Please note that National Series applications are on a different timeline than our regular submissions and will be assessed by a different jury. A list of successful Pavilion applicants will be notified on the SummerWorks website ([www.summerworks.ca](http://www.summerworks.ca)) by February 1st, 2009. Applications should be sent to:

SummerWorks Theatre Festival  
P.O. Box 12, Station C  
Toronto, ON  
M6J 3M7

#### **RULES & REGULATIONS**

- **Maximum show length is 70 minutes.**
- **Participating companies are responsible for obtaining the relevant production rights for their shows and performers.** If anyone in your company has a membership in a guild, union, or other professional association, you must acquire the necessary releases, or pay the required fees to the respective organization. If you are producing an existing play, you are responsible for obtaining the relevant rights from or paying the required fees to the playwright or his/her agent.
- **As this is a juried festival, and while we are aware of and sympathetic to the natural evolution of a project, if your production differs significantly from your application either in content or production personnel, SummerWorks reserves the right to rescind your invitation.**

If you have any further questions with regards to your application or about the Festival in general, please visit our website at [www.summerworks.ca](http://www.summerworks.ca) or contact us by email at [info@summerworks.ca](mailto:info@summerworks.ca).

Best of luck and we look forward to reading your submissions!

## SUMMERWORKS NATIONAL SERIES APPLICATION FORM

Please type or write legibly, complete in full, and submit at the front of your application with Reading Fee.

1. SHOW TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_
2. PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_
3. COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_
4. PLAYWRIGHT: \_\_\_\_\_

5. COMPANY PRODUCER/PRIMARY CONTACT - All festival correspondence will be sent to this person. This person is responsible for attending meetings and being the representative for the company. Please let us know if this person or information changes.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

6. SECONDARY CONTACT - This person will be contacted only if the primary contact is unreachable or for verification of information.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the information in this application is true, and that I have read and acknowledge the guidelines and parameters set out with regards to this application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Producer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date