

Description

In an effort to encourage new work, foster collaboration between like-minded artists, and ignite the imagination of our audience, Live Arts empowers an Initiating Artist with two to three weeks of rehearsal space to workshop a developmental piece, culminating in a public presentation.

goals of the program

- To bring a play/musical/performance piece substantially further toward its final form
- To give a fair number of volunteer artists a fun and artistically satisfying experience
- To provide an outlet for talented artists who may not be able to commit to full productions
- To bring our audiences into the process of creating new work

dates 2015.2016

NWOF#1	Oct 25-Nov 15	Presentation: Monday	Nov 16	3 weeks
NWOF#2	Dec 6- Jan 10		Jan 11	3 weeks
NWOF#3	Mar 13-April 2		April 3	3 weeks

what this experience is about

- The workshop IS about *process*, not “finished product”
 - The presentation is not intended as the be-all and end-all.
Think of it as a way to see where you are in the process – not as an end in itself
 - Your piece could be A FRICKIN’ MESS and that is where you ended up
 - Explain to the audience and they will be WITH YOU. Art is Messy...
- These workshops are NOT about getting a full production at Live Arts
- Boot-strapping! Foundry Projects are designed to be Artist-driven (not staff-driven)

application process

- Email one of the below, to Artistic Director, Julie Hamberg at julie@livearts.org (cc Tracie Skipper at tracie@livearts.org):
 - One full-length script – prefer greater than 2 performers, if possible, to involve more artists. Shorter scripts cannot be accepted. If a play, 2nd or 3rd drafts preferred, as these are most likely to benefit from a workshop, rather than “an idea” or less piece.
 - Or description of work in process (if a performance piece)
 - Musical script with CD if music (if one exists)
- Include a simple cover letter with “NWOF Submission” in the Subject Line, and the following:
 - Your full name, date, and contact information
 - One paragraph description of what you’d like to accomplish

- One paragraph on why a workshop would be helpful at this stage of development
- A brief description of your past involvement with Live Arts, if any
- Any collaborators with whom you'd like to work & if you've already asked them to collaborate
- Any major scheduling conflicts in the season (weddings, vacations, etc.)

essential elements of the process

Everything revolves around serving the Initiating Artist's work. How can we bring it closer to fruition? Exploration and positive collaboration are our watch-words...

- **PRODUCING** . Initiating Artist (i.e., playwright) *functions as your own producer* and recruits other collaborators as needed
 - Ask yourself: Am I up for this challenge? Do I have enough time to make it work?
 - You'll be guided by AD, Julie Hamberg & Dir. of Engagement, Tracie Skipper (tracie@livearts.org)
 - Yes, you can choose your own director, in collaboration with Julie & Tracie. We'll help you find one as well
 - There are no Stage Managers on NWOFF projects. The director usually handles those tasks
- **DURATION** . Slots vary in length – two to three weeks of work-time. We've sometimes scheduled a one-week "rewrite break" in the middle so the playwright/artist has time to work
 - Initiating Artist commits to being in-town and working on the project throughout the process, even during "re-write" weeks. "All-in" attitude
- **CASTING** . Initiating Artist & Director responsible for all casting
 - Auditions are not encouraged. Rather, recommendations & recruiting work best
 - Auditions rarely approved by the Artistic Director, as they take a *great deal* of effort
 - We can post a casting breakdown on the web, however, and get-the-word-out on Facebook
 - Our Actor headshot books are a gold-mine. Staff can make recommendations, too
 - Once cast, please create a contact sheet (names/roles, phone & email) & send it to Tracie
- **REHEARSALS** . May be in any of our spaces, depending on availability
 - All rehearsal space requests go to Director of Production Geoff (Geoff@livearts.org)
 - Rehearsal space may only be available on certain days, depending on availability

It's important to let the audience know that this is a *developmental process*, as well. Therefore, production elements are kept to the absolute minimum, maintaining a "reading" feel

- **SCRIPTS** . Scripts in-hand for presentation. (Non-negotiable) Talk to Julie, if questions
 - No memorization is required from actors
 - Shows audience that we're "in process," a vital element
 - You can use the Live Arts copiers to make your scripts & new page edit copies

- VENUE . Presentations in Rehearsal A, our current venue for new work.
- TECH . Presentation tech options & requests to be discussed with the TD/PM, at least one week prior to performance
 - Lights Whatever is in the air. Lights up/lights down. Nothing fancy-schmancy
 - Sound As is. Can use CDs & I-Pod plug in. (If use sound, you recruit operator)
 - Costumes If you must, then the artists are responsible. Live Arts cannot provide costumes
 - Props Discouraged, as getting toward production. Read stage directions... Creatively?
 - Chairs 60 available. Collaborators set up day of performance
 - Music stands 2-6 in the building at any given time + a podium is available. Ask Geoff.
 - Sight-lines Can be brutal in Reh A. Best configuration is wide-spread chairs, facing kitchen. Sorry, no risers. Block people standing or on high stools?
- PRESENTATION NIGHT
 - "Pay What You Will." Start time is 7pm
 - Volunteers handle donations & concessions from a portable cart. Live Arts assigns volunteers
 - Short intro by Moderator and the Director laying out the process & inviting all to stay talk-back
- POST-PRESENTATION DISCUSSION, if Initiating Artist would find it helpful
 - Usually 20-30 minutes. Moderated by the Artistic Director or experienced playwright
 - Often, the Initiating Artist gives Moderator a list of questions he/she would like us to explore

publicity

There's always a lot going on at Live Arts, but we do our best to get the word out. You can do a lot yourselves through FaceBook invitations. Meanwhile, here's what we usually can do:

- WEB PAGE . Putting the presentation on the web site
- E-BLAST . Inclusion in our e-newsletter before your presentation
- FLYER . We create a flyer in our NWOFF template format
- PROGRAM . If we have a show up, we include a mention in "upcoming events"
- FACEBOOK . We create a FaceBook event page
- PLAYBILL . We use the Flyer for the Playbill. No bios required
- CONTACT our marketing maven Kisha Jarrett to help get the word out at kisha@livearts.org
 - Need: Initiating Artist & Director (as soon as nailed down)
 - Need: Short "blurb" about the piece (asap)
 - Need: Contact sheet + any updates
 - Please send all these to Tracie Steger Skipper (tracie@livearts.org), as well