



**Ontario Arts Council
Theatre Creators' Reserve Program**

Following is all of the information you will need as a theatre creator, to apply for the Theatre Creators' Reserve Program through Odyssey Theatre. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 613-232-8407, or info@odysseytheatre.ca.

Application Deadline: January 18, 2016

Program Objective:

- To assist theatre creators to create new work.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Eligible applicants for Theatre Creators' Reserve funding are Ontario-based individual professional artists and collectives; formal organizations are not eligible for funding.
- Artist must have been a resident in Ontario for at least a year before the application is made and have lived in Ontario for at least eight months a year. Artists who live in Ontario may leave the province for up to one year and continue to be eligible for Ontario Arts Council's (OAC) support if the absences are temporary (i.e. for an educational or artistic opportunity) and they do not also apply for support from the jurisdiction of their temporary residence.
- The OAC defines a professional artist as someone who has developed skills through training and/or practice, *and* is recognized as such by artists working in the same artistic tradition, *and* has a history of public presentation or publication, *and* seeks payment for his or her work *and* actively practices his or her art. Short breaks in artistic history are allowed.

Program Guidelines:

- All applicants must meet the eligibility criteria for the Theatre Creators' Reserve Program.
- Proposals should be made directly to Odyssey Theatre, and not to the OAC.
- Funds may not be used to underwrite production expenses.
- Applicants may not be employees or board members of Odyssey Theatre.
- Applicants can receive more than one Theatre Creators' Reserve grant in any one-year (either from Odyssey Theatre, or another approved organization).
- The recommendation does not oblige Odyssey Theatre to produce the applicant's work.
- All recommendations are subject to OAC approval.
- The confidentiality of the applicants, their applications and support materials will be kept.
- Copyright of the applicants will be protected.

Selection Criteria:

Priority will be given to projects that meet as many of the following criteria as possible. We invite applications for projects that:

- a) incorporate a discipline related to masked theatre: including physical theatre, Commedia, buffoon, clown, puppetry, dance-drama;
- b) incorporate theatre forms from diverse cultural traditions;
- c) involve artists who have established skills in the above areas;
- d) are innovative.

Applicants Support Material Requested:

1. Cover letter explaining how the project meets Odyssey's criteria;
2. A description of the envisioned play or performance piece (**max. 3 pages**) including:
 - a. Artistic aims or theme explored;
 - b. Brief synopsis of the content or storyline as currently envisioned;
 - c. Description of the theatrical style (i.e. is it mask, physical theatre, clown, etc.) of the final project;
 - d. Plans for future production – when and where it will or you hope it might be performed, what phases of work it will likely go through along the way (workshops / readings / rewrites)
3. Description of the phase of work you are applying for funding for (**max. 2 pages**) to include:
 - a. Work to be undertaken (i.e. – writing an outline, a first draft, or a rewrite; or for holding a creation workshop);
 - b. Goal for this phase of work;
 - c. Budget for this phase of work – If your budget is more than you are requesting from us, please indicate where you hope to find the rest of the money. Please note that only the fees for creators are eligible for support from the Creators' Reserve program;
 - d. Timetable for this phase of work;
 - e. For collaborative creators only: please describe your process of working.
4. Résumés for principal creators;
5. Support material of your choice which may include letters of reference, reviews etc.

Amounts Awarded:

First time applicants are advised to apply for \$1,000 for a specific phase of work. Larger amounts may be awarded for repeat applicants, depending on the scope of the proposed work.

Dramaturgical Support from Odyssey: Odyssey will endeavor to provide dramaturgical support to successful applicants free of charge if they request it, although it is not in any way required. If you wish this support, please include a note to that effect in your covering letter.

Final Report: We ask that successful applicants submit a 1 page final report upon completion of the phase of work for which they had applied for funding, stating what they used the money for, the dates work was undertaken and what they achieved.

Writers / Collaborative Creation Teams: we accept applications from both.

Assessment:

Assessment will be undertaken by Laurie Steven, Odyssey's Artistic Director. Factors involved in making the decision will include:

1. caliber of the project description;
2. qualifications of applicants;
3. whether the project meets our funding priorities.

Please send your applications to:

Laurie Steven, Artistic Director, Odyssey Theatre, 2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, ON, K1N 6E2

GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR APPLICATION THROUGH ODYSSEY THEATRE FOR THE THEATRE CREATORS' RESERVE PROGRAM.

ABOUT ODYSSEY THEATRE:

Odyssey Theatre is Ottawa's premiere summer theatre company, currently celebrating its 30th season of unique and critically acclaimed performances. Communicating to a largely adult audience through mask, clown, Commedia dell'Arte, bouffon, puppetry and dance-theatre, Odyssey creates Canadian plays and dynamic adaptations from the international repertoire. Its productions are noted for their imaginative use of masks, evocative physicality, innovative staging, and for the way they fuse varied art forms and cultures. The Ontario Arts Council designated Odyssey a *Key Organization* that has a "significant impact on: the art form, the artists, their audiences and their community."

ODYSSEY'S NEW PLAY CREATION PROGRAM:

New play creation is a key component of Odyssey's mandate. Our focus is to provide support for writers and collaborative creators developing new work for mask, clown, Commedia dell'Arte, puppetry, other fairground arts, or dance-theatre including international forms of masked dance-drama. Our program provides playwrights with skills in writing for these forms, and physical theatre creators with structured approaches to new play creation.

Our program includes: training in writing for masks and physical theatre, dramaturgy, new play workshops, staged readings, *In the Works* (a periodic festival of new plays), a writer-in-residence position, consultations for writers with directors, mask-makers and designers.

Odyssey has taken over twenty new Canadian plays and original translations/adaptations into full production, including works by the following writers: Kim Selody, Janet Irwin, Lib Spry, Ken Ross, Laurie Steven, and Joanne Miller. Ten additional plays have been given new play workshops. We have created pieces collectively, and by working with writers in our field. We have collaborated with artists from theatrical traditions including Kathakali, Wayang Wong and Peking Opera to create original work. We have substantial experience providing dramaturgy to individuals and collectives working independently of Odyssey. Playwrights-in-residence have included David Craig, Robin Patterson, Maristella Roca, Kathy MacLellan, and Chetan Rajani.