



## OVERVIEW

Ōtepoti Theatre Lab (ŌTL) Playwrights Programme is a FREE ten-week programme for three emerging playwrights to develop a short (15-20 minutes) playscript. Each playwright is mentored by the most appropriate experienced dramaturg (script advisor) we can match with them.

Following the conclusion of the ten-week programme, the scripts will be workshopped with a professional director and actors before it is presented as a public rehearsed reading over two nights.

When and where these rehearsed readings will take place in 2020 is being kept open at this stage, in order to allow for any Covid-19 related scenarios that need to be taken into consideration.

## WHO CAN APPLY

The ŌTL Playwrights Programme is open to applications from emerging playwrights. Although there are no hard and fast rules as to what is “emerging”, we are looking for people who can demonstrate some theatre experience, prior attempts/experience at writing for theatre, and an openness to developing their craft.

- Applicants must be over 18 years of age and reside in Ōtepoti/Dunedin or surrounding regions so long as they are able to attend workshop and rehearsal sessions.
- The project must be a new work that has not had a production or undergone previous development with a third party.
- The script must have a cast of no more than four characters and be of no more than 20 minutes duration.

We welcome diverse ideas/genres and stories, so if you have an idea, we want to hear about it!

## **ABOUT US**

Ōtepoti Theatre Lab was established by Prospect Park Productions in 2019. To date the ŌTL initiatives include the Playwrights Programme, Schools Programme, and a series of Public Programmes.

### **Kaupapa**

- Development opportunities and individualised support for local theatre writers
- Platform for Southern Aotearoa theatre stories
- Partnerships with local and national arts organisations and practitioners
- Fostering culture of development and dramaturgy

ŌTL is supported by Creative New Zealand, Dunedin City Council, Dunedin Fringe Arts Trust, New Zealand Young Writers Festival, UNESCO City of Literature, Arts Festival Dunedin, Otago Museum and the New Athenaeum Theatre.

# APPLICATION FOR THE 2020 PLAYWRIGHTS PROGRAMME

To apply for the 2020 Playwrights Programme, you need to send us two documents: The Project and a Writing Sample.

These documents should be in either Word or PDF. Please make sure your name is in the title of each document (e.g: "Bob Brown\_ OTL20 Project Idea" or "Bob Brown\_ OTL20 Writing Sample") and that your pages are numbered.

## Document 1: The Project

Please include the following in your Project document:

### Contact Details

1. Full name
2. Email address
3. Phone Number

### The Project

1. **Title**  
A working title for your script. Try and grab our attention!
2. **Genre/Style**  
You don't need to limit your script to one style/genre, but we do want to get a sense of the style you envision. This could be an autobiographical monologue or a farce. It could be an absurd comedy or a historical drama. Feel free to name other plays that you have seen/read that have inspired you and are of a similar style.
3. **Characters**  
Names and a brief description (including approx. age) of each character. **Four characters maximum.**
4. **Synopsis**  
Brief synopsis of your playscript. Tell us what you see happening. Remember that your play will be between 15-20 minutes in length. **200 words maximum.**
5. **Mentor**  
We will do our best to match you with the right mentor for you. To help us do this, please tell us what you value in a mentor, what specific playwriting elements or skills you want to focus on, and if you have any particular NZ/Aotearoa playwriting mentors in mind.

### Supporting Information

1. Statement about why you believe you would be a good candidate for ŌTL Playwrights Programme and what you hope to achieve during the programme. **200 words maximum.**
2. Relevant information about previous theatre and/or writing experience and a short bio. We DO NOT require a CV or references. **300 words maximum.**

## Document 2: Writing Sample

This does not have to be from the idea you are submitting but ideally should be a script sample (i.e., not prose). It can also be a selection of shorter pieces of writing. **5-8 pages maximum.**

Please send your completed application documents to: [hjkilkelly@gmail.com](mailto:hjkilkelly@gmail.com) by **midnight Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020**