

TNT POPS! FAQ SHEET

Contest Rules & Submission

1: What is the TNT POPS! New Play Project?

Please refer to the [TNT POPS! New Play Project Description](#)

2: Why must I make a blind submission of my play?

We require a blind submission of the script to ensure all plays are evaluated on merit alone, not on any association a judge may have with a playwright.

3: Why do you only accept full-length plays?

After consultation with potential TNT member theatre producing companies, they expressed interest in producing only full-length plays. This fits the mission statement of most of our TNT member theatres, and is in no way an invalidation of one-act or shorter works of drama.

4: Why do you require electronic submission?

We transitioned to electronic submissions to save the playwright the cost of printing and mailing scripts. Electronic submission is the most cost-effective, energy and resource-saving option.

5: Why does the project cap the submissions at one hundred (100) scripts?

This measure is to ensure all submitted scripts are read by three (3) separate judges before advancement. If we did not cap the submissions, the selection process would continue indefinitely at a great strain on the judges and TNT staff.

6: What will happen to my electronic copy of the play once the contest process ends?

All TNT employees and associated project judges sign a waiver guaranteeing destruction of all electronic submitted scripts. We strongly encourage copyrighting all materials to protect your script, and will require copyrighting the script if selected for the project. This is in the interest of protecting the playwright from any fraudulent claims of authorship from a third party.

7: Why do you only accept plays in English?

We cannot guarantee we can find a panel of judges that ALL speak multiple languages. If you have small phrases in a certain language, an English translation must accompany the text.

8: Why do you not accept translations and/or adaptations of previously published work? Why do you not accept previously published work (i.e. from a publishing house such as New Dramatists or Samuel French?)

The mission statement of the TNT POPS! New Play Project is to showcase original work previously unpublished. Translations, adaptations and previously published work do not fit the mission statement of the project.

9: Why must I guarantee I (the playwright) have sole rights to all copyrighted material in the script?

Any script that uses previously copyrighted material must, by law, secure rights for its use. This is standard practice and legally protects the playwright from copyright infringement.

10: How will I know you received my one (1) electronic copy of the script, submission fill-in form, and submission fee payment?

A confirmation email will be sent upon receipt of all materials. If the playwright does not have a confirmation from TNT within 48 hours, please contact us at plays@texas theatres.org

Production Information

11: What will happen to my script if selected for the TNT POPS! New Play Project?

If selected for the TNT POPS! New Play Project, the script will be guaranteed a fully-staged production by a TNT Member theatre.

12: Will I get to select the TNT Member Theatre to produce my script?

No. We cannot guarantee the playwright selection of any TNT Member Theatre to produce their work. Member theatres apply to participate in the project.

13: Will I get to select the actors, directors, scenic and costume designers, and dramaturg for my TNT POPS! New Play Project production?

No. The playwright does not have the right to select certain production members to participate, and accepts that the TNT Member theatre producing the work reserves the right to select the production team.

14: What does the producing company guarantee for my script?

The TNT Member Theatre producing company contractually agrees to the following:

-agrees to fully produce the work within 18 months of the announcement of selection at the March 2018 TNT Annual Conference - A full production includes auditioning, rehearsing, and staging (costumes, lights, set design, props) of the script.

--agrees to present at least three (3) performances of the work.

--agrees to preserve the work intact and will not make edits, cuts, or changes to the work without written consent of the playwright.

--agrees to pay a royalty of \$25 per performance to the playwright.

--agrees to advertise the performance as part of the 2018 Texas Nonprofit Theatres POPS! New Play Project to any media sources.

--agrees to pay travel and lodging expenses for the playwright to attend the premiere opening of the show.

--determines what audience admission, if any, is charged for presentation of the work and reserves the right to retain any admission profits.

15: What is the playwright's role during pre-production?

Though TNT is aware that most scripts will eventually undergo rewrites and changes, it should be understood that this is a production project, not a development project. The play should be in a draft ready for production and the relationship between the playwright and producing company will not enter into development unless the producing company wants to do so. The script that was submitted and judged is the script that audiences should see. Neither the playwright nor the producer may make any changes without the other's consent.

16: What contractual obligations will I have if my play is selected for the TNT POPS! New Play Project?

The winning playwright will contractually agree to the following:

--agrees to accept the \$25 per performance royalties;

--agrees to travel to the premiere opening of the show by the producing TNT member theatre;

--agrees he/she will not publish or perform the work until 30 days after the production by the TNT Organizational Member producing company is complete; or

Publication Exceptions

a) If publication of the Work is in process or pending, the Playwright must submit written proof the publication contract was obtained after the March 17, 2018 announcement of TNT POPS! New Play Project winners. The Playwright agrees the TNT Organizational Member producing company cannot be subject to any royalties and stipulations established by the publisher, as the agreement with TNT and the TNT Organizational Member producing theatre precedes publication; and/or

Production Exceptions

b) Other productions of the Work within the time frame established in the TNT license are acceptable if the productions are not within the state of Texas. The Playwright must communicate to the TNT Organizational Member producing company any concurrent productions of the Work within the time frame established in the TNT license.