



Grove Theater Center

Real. Live. Fun.

Kevin Cochran, Artistic Director

Charles Johanson, Executive Director

Four Finalists

Two Workshop Winners

GTC New Play Initiative

One World Premiere Production Winner

Program Outline: GTC's New Play Initiative (NPI) is an intensive play development program in contest form. We are looking for exciting new works that are practical for mid-size theaters to produce. Grove Theater Center, in our fourteen-year history, has developed and worked on new plays with many of the traditional tools – informal readings, staged readings, workshops, and full productions. This NPI is the codification of all of these play development tools into a single, cohesive, program.

The New Play Initiative is a tiered program. We will choose a minimum of 4 finalists, 2 workshop winners and one full-production winner. At each level, there are readings and cash royalty awards paid to each playwright. The readings, workshops, and the final production will all be directed by GTC Artistic Director Kevin Cochran. Selection of the scripts will be done by Cochran, Executive Director Charles Johanson, and NPI Literary Manager Sondi Kroeger Foley, GTC Board Member Ruth Seigle and other theater professionals.

Finalists: A minimum of four finalists will be chosen. Each receives a \$100 royalty award and a reading of the play with a professional cast. These readings are informal readings with no staging in front of a small audience with a moderated discussion afterward. Preparation will include several discussions with the director beforehand and about 8 hours rehearsal with the director, cast, and playwright. Playwright and director will also meet after the reading for further discussion. Acceptance of the award includes granting GTC an option for producing the play if it goes on to be the winner of the contest. All rights revert back to the playwright if the play is not selected as a workshop winner and then winner.

Workshop Winners: A minimum of two workshop winners will be chosen from the semi-finalists. They each receive an additional \$100 royalty award and a workshop production with an audience and a moderated discussion afterwards. The workshop productions are presented “on their feet” with actors carrying scripts. Basic suggestions of set, costumes, props, and other technical needs will be provided as needed to tell the story. These readings will rehearse for one week (about 32 hours) with cast, director and playwright.

Full Production Winner: One winner receives an additional \$300 royalty award (for a total of \$500) and a full production.



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What we're looking for...

Full-length, original plays or musicals (translations and adaptations are acceptable as long as the playwright clearly has the rights to the source material). By full-length, we mean any script with a running time over 80 minutes that is able to stand on its own as an evening of theater.

- The script must be unencumbered (no contractual or verbal commitments to producers, theaters, directors or actors at this time).
 - The script must have had no previous professional productions (including 99-seat theater productions in Los Angeles County that received reviews). Amateur productions, readings, and previous workshops are fine. It's important for GTC to be able to legitimately call this a world premiere.
 - The play must be practical for a small professional theater to produce. While we're not setting any specific limits, this does mean a manageable cast size is a plus (anything over 8 starts to become an issue); a production concept which either is fairly simple (one naturalistic set) or easily conceptualized (forty locations identified by sound); no next to impossible casting requirements (the lead character absolutely must be played by a concert level pianist who can also juggle flaming torches and speak fluent Lithuanian).
 - Playwrights must be able to be present for rehearsals and readings.
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Postmark Deadline for the NPI is from 9/1/07 to 1/15/08

Please include the following with your submission. If you are unclear or need more information please email npi@gtc.org with a question before submitting an incomplete application.

- NPI Entry Form (at the end of this document).
- A Synopsis of the play (no more than one page).
- If the show is a musical, a demo CD or cassette tape of the songs (or at least some of them).
- The Script (scripts will not be returned)
 - Please help us by formatting you script as below:
 - 8½ x 11 pages, single sided.
 - 3 hole punched (please DO NOT bind script).
 - Any standard play format you prefer.
 - Include a Title Page with all your contact info (Name, Address, Phones & Email Address).
- Cast Breakdown
 - Age range and short description.
 - Include notes on doubling (if appropriate).
- Development History of the Play (if any)
 - Although we do not accept plays that have previously been produced professionally, we are interested in any previous workshops, readings or other development work that has happened on this particular play. Please include dates, location and theater name (as appropriate).
- Your Bio and/or Resume (Feel free to include non-theater items – anything that may let us know a little bit about you.)
- If you have other plays that have been produced professionally (including under the 99-seat theater plan), please include a production history including; play title, theater name, location and dates of production.
- A submission fee (\$20.00) made payable to GTC.



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GTC New Play Initiative Entry Form

Postmark Deadline NPI#5 is from 9/1/07 to 1/15/08

To enter, please send the material listed below to:

GTC New Play Initiative

PO Box 2090

Long Beach, CA 90801

You can send this actual form or give the same information on a separate page.

Please type or print very clearly. Thank you.

Name _____

Email (This is very important. All future contact will be via email.)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Phone Numbers _____

Play Title _____

Number of Characters _____

Number of Actors (if play uses doubling) _____

Check List (all should be in packet)

- NPI Application
- The Script
- CD or Tape of musical numbers (or some of them) if a musical.
- A Synopsis of the play
- Cast Breakdown
- Development History of the Play (if any)
- Your Bio and/or Resume
- Other Play(s) Production History(ies)
- Fee (\$20.00) made payable to GTC (personal checks accepted).

Questions may be sent to npi@gtc.org
