

CALL FOR APPLICANTS: 4TH ANNUAL LA MAMA INTERNATIONAL PLAYWRIGHT RETREAT

The National Arts Council and La MaMa Umbria International are pleased to invite Singapore playwrights to apply for the 4th Annual La MaMa International Playwright Retreat which will be held from **5 – 15 July 2010* in Umbria, Spoleto, Italy**.

Playwrights will enjoy ten days of living and writing in the Umbrian countryside at La MaMa Umbria (Italy), founder Ellen Stewart's artist residence. Participants will be given ample time to work on new or existing material with the facilitation of international master playwrights. There will be discussions, workshops, exercises as well as group readings and feedback sessions designed to help motivate and inspire participants.

More details about the Retreat available at <http://www.lamama.org/italy/PlaywrightRetreat.html>

Grant Support

As the selection process is highly competitive, **up to a maximum of two** Singapore participants from the 2010 intake will be offered **full grant support** for the **10 days residency**. Grant Support includes registration fee, accommodation, meals for the duration of the Retreat and economy airfare plus taxes *but excludes additional costs incurred by the participants*.

Objectives

This initiative is part of the National Arts Council's ongoing efforts to

- develop the capability of Singapore playwrights through their participation in relevant established international residency platforms;
- open up opportunities to nurture Singapore talents, address skills gaps in the current arts industry and facilitate subsequent knowledge transfer to benefit the Singapore arts community;
- enable networking opportunities with international counterparts and provide first-hand insights to the international arts world.

Eligibility & Criteria

Applicants eligible for grant support should:

- be Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents who are playwrights actively engaged in the arts industry;
- be in the midst of a play creation process (proposed work to be preferably new)
- possess a record of past achievements of strong artistic merit and widely recognised by industry peers;
- demonstrate commitment towards advancing the form and contributing long term to Singapore's arts scene ;
- be inclined to learn, explore different perspectives and share their own knowledge and perspectives on playwriting;
- be willing to live in a shared living space with other artists during the Retreat.

Application Process

Participants will be selected based on their commitment to the process and the case they make on the application as to how this program will help them with their creative process. Theatrical style, number of characters, nationality, perceived ethnicity, race or gender of the plays developed will NOT be a criterion for acceptance.

Expected Outcomes

Successful applicants are expected to execute the following deliverables within 3 months after completion of the programme:

- 1) Submit an Evaluation Report, with detailed written and visual documentation of the Residency experience;
- 2) Submit a Work Plan articulating short and long-term initiatives for employing ideas and skills gained;
- 3) Conduct 2 Presentation Sessions:
 - a. *NAC Level*: Present paper on key learning points and follow-up action plan detailed above to Council Staff.
 - b. *Public Level*: Arrange a dramatised reading of an excerpt of the play (written during the Retreat) followed by a post show discussion.

Application Procedure

All interested applicants are to forward;

(1) a copy of the application form, (2) a detailed curriculum vitae and (3) a copy of **two** previously-written plays (full-length) no later than 19 April 2010 to the address as stated below:

4TH Annual La MaMa INTERNATIONAL PLAYWRIGHT RETREAT
c/o National Arts Council, Arts Development (Theatre Section)
140 Hill Street MICA Building #03-01 Singapore 179369

Contact for queries pertaining to the NAC grant support:

Arts Development Managers;

Elizabeth Wong at 68379577, elizabeth_wong@nac.gov.sg or

Carolyn Chiam at 68379535, carolyn_chiam@nac.gov.sg

Notification of Outcome

Applicants will be notified of the outcome by NAC via mail before 5 June 2010. **Up to a maximum of two successful applicants** will receive a Letter of Offer stating the terms and conditions of the grant and expected outcomes after the programme.

APPENDIX: Application Form

Please print form: Fill out and mail with curriculum vitae and a copy of two previously-written scripts to the address listed above.

**4TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PLAYWRIGHT RETREAT
5 – 15 July 2010
LaMaMa Umbria International, Spoleto, Italy**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____ Email: _____

Phone/Fax: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Please answer the following questions on a separate page. Kindly limit your responses to each question to a maximum of one double-spaced page.

1. A one full page synopsis or idea for a play you plan to work on during the Retreat.
2. Why is this Retreat appropriate for you at this time?
3. What do you anticipate getting out of the experience? How might this experience help you as a playwright?
4. What do you plan to achieve during the Retreat to consider it successful?

Some attendees will have an opportunity to share their own exercises or ideas in late night workshops. If you would like to be one of the presenters, please check below and briefly describe what you would like to do. The sessions are approximately 1-1/2 hours.

_____ Yes, I propose conducting a workshop. (Please include a brief description on a separate page.)

Projected Expenditure:

_____ Yes, I will be attending the International Playwright Retreat (**5 – 15 July 2010**)
[TOTAL FEE: USD 2,300 – includes registration fee, accommodation & meals]

Additional Costs (estimated amount):

Airfare costs: S\$ _____

Declaration

I hereby declare that all the particulars given and informed in this application are true. I understand that false information and willful suppression of any material fact will cause my application to be disqualified. I also understand that NAC's decision is final and will not entertain enquiries surrounding its decision.

Signature of Applicant

Date