

World Sinophone Drama Competition for Young Playwrights Official Terms and Conditions

I. About the Competition

The World Sinophone Drama Competition for Young Playwrights is open to young writers (ages 18-35) worldwide. It accepts scripts written in either Chinese or English, and seeks to encourage production of new dramatic works that reflect upon global Chinese culture from a variety of perspectives and enrich our understanding of Sinophone cultures, circulations, histories, and communities. For Chinese-language submissions, there are no specific requirements for content; for English-language submissions, we welcome new works of self-reflection from members of Sinophone communities, as well as those that explore encounters among the Sinophone and other cultural contexts.

In today's world of highly globalized culture and art, we call upon the young playwrights of the world to turn their gaze towards and expand their understanding of global Sinophone cultures. We take the inherently hybrid and diverse locale of Taiwan as our main stage for engaging artists and audiences both in and beyond the Sinophone, and especially seek new works of hybridized cultural and dramatic aesthetics that will add new voices to Sinophone theatre and further invigorate the already diverse field of global Sinophone cultures.

II. Awards Summary

Winners of the competition each will receive a monetary prize, translation of their winning work (either from English to Chinese, or vice versa), bi-lingual e-publication of the winning work, and a premiere staged reading/workshop that will take place in Taiwan shortly after winners are announced. In addition, a series of readings by our partners around the world over the following two (2) years will offer winning playwrights an unprecedented opportunity for international circulation of their work. (Possible international reading locations include: United States, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, mainland China, Macao, etc.) For further details, please see below.

Host | National Central University (Taiwan)

Organizers | Performance Center at National Central University (Taiwan), Research Center for Theatre and Performance Studies at National Central University (Taiwan)

Partner | School of Liberal Arts, Nanjing University (China)

Co-Organizers | Nanjing University Art Master Performance Group (China)

Co-producers | Dept. of East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of Washington in St. Louise (USA), Dept. of Theatre and Film, University of British Columbia (Canada), Dept. of Theatre Arts, Taipei National University of the Arts (Taiwan), Dept. of Visual arts and new media, College of Media and International Culture, Zhejiang University (China), Macao Conservatory School of Theatre (Macao), Dirks Theatre (Macao)

III. Participant Qualifications

- A. Participants must be between 18 and 35 years of age at the time of submission to qualify (Date of Birth between 01/01/1980 and 12/31/1997). There are no limitations on the citizenship or educational level of participants.
- B. Competition entry is limited to single authors; works written collectively will not be accepted. If it is determined that a submission is not the original work of a single author, the submission and its author will be disqualified.
- C. Submissions cannot have been previously produced, published or made available online in any public forum. Submissions that have had unticketed work-in-progress presentations or workshops for educational or development purposes are permitted, as long as the work in question does not undergo any further public presentations before the results of this competition are announced.
- D. If the submission has been entered into multiple contests simultaneously, the participant must provide a list of the other contests on the application form. If the submission in question receives awards from other contests before the results of this competition are announced, the act will be seen as a form of public presentation, and the submission will be disqualified from this competition.

IV. Submission Categories

- A. The Competition will accept scripts in two groups: dramatic texts written in Chinese and dramatic texts written in English. Three winners will be selected from a combined pool of submissions.
- B. Chinese-language submissions: the competition welcomes dramatic texts of all forms and genres (such as play, traditional opera, musical, etc.) with a minimum performance time of 60 minutes. There are no specific requirements for content.
- C. English-language submissions: the competition welcomes dramatic texts of all forms and genres (such as play, traditional opera, musical, etc.) with a minimum performance time of 60 minutes. The content of the text must be new works of self-reflection from members of Sinophone communities, and/or those that explore encounters among the Sinophone and other cultural contexts.

V. Submission Method and Deadline

Once contest has officially opened, participants may register and submit manuscripts online at <http://www.2015wsdc.com>. Submissions will be accepted until February 25, 2015 at 24:00 (GMT+8). No submissions will be accepted after the deadline. Please review the submission guidelines before the deadline (see Article 9 below) and submit both Microsoft Word and PDF copies.

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VI. Award Details and Award Recipient Rights/Obligations

- A. Submissions will be evaluated within their respective language groups during the Preliminary Review and First Round of competition. Five (5) works in each language group will enter the Final Round. The ten (10) finalist works will then be assessed regardless of language, and three (3) winners will be selected.
- B. Awards:
 - First Prize will receive 100,000 NTD (approximately \$3,300 USD) and a certificate of commendation
 - Second Prize will receive 50,000 NTD (approximately \$1,650 USD) and a certificate of commendation
 - Third Prize will receive 30,000 NTD (approximately \$1,000 USD) and a certificate of commendation
- C. The three (3) winning plays will each be translated into either Chinese or English, depending on the original language. The translator will be selected by the Center.
- D. By entering into the competition, the three (3) winners agree to authorize (without additional compensation) the Performance Center to publish and sell the three winning plays online, along with their translations, for five (5) years following the competition. After five (5) years, all rights revert to the playwright and any ongoing royalty payments will be determined independent of the competition.
- E. The three (3) winners will be invited to a weeklong reading workshop, cumulating in staged readings of the three winning plays and an award ceremony hosted by National Central University in Taiwan, in October 2015.
- F. The three (3) winners agree to grant (without additional compensation) all collaborating organizations the right to produce staged readings of their winning plays within two (2) years following the award ceremony. (All forms of staged readings are allowed, but scripts may not be altered and readings must be unticketed. For each script, the total number of readings will not exceed five (5).)
- G. The three (3) winners agree to grant (without additional compensation) the Performance Center non-exclusive, unlimited, worldwide performance rights for their winning works, including the translated versions, and authorize the Performance Center to coordinate production, related fundraising, and performances with collaborating organizations. The period of this authorization will last for three (3) years following the award ceremony.
- H. The First Prize winner will be offered an opportunity to present his/her play in person at a reading produced by one of the collaborating organizations (as determined by the Center.) The host collaborating organization will provide compensation for travel expenses and will arrange any local lodging needed for the

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duration of the reading. Living expenses are the responsibility of the winner. Should the First Prize winner pass up the opportunity for reasons not within his/her control, the Second Prize recipient may take his/her place. Likewise for the Third Prize recipient.

VII. Evaluation

- A. Evaluation process: the three levels of evaluation will be Preliminary Review, First Round, and Final Round; in the Preliminary Review, the Performance Center staff will review submissions to ensure they meet all requirements and qualifications. In both the First Round and Final Round, a committee of established playwrights and scholars will be invited to evaluate submissions.
- B. If the number or quality of submissions received is insufficient, the judging committee reserves the right to adjust the number of winners and/or withhold the awards.

VIII. Submission Guidelines

- A. Submission format: A4 paper, margins set to Microsoft Word “normal,” single-spaced, 12pt font, black (automatic) font color
- B. Manuscripts must not include any identifying information (such as personal name, affiliation, pseudonym, etc.)
- C. Submission files should be entitled: “Author Name_Play Title”
- D. The Performance Center reserves the right to refuse entry to any submissions that do not meet the above guidelines.

IX. Please Note:

- A. Competition winners reserve copyright and intellectual property rights to their works, but also grant (without additional compensation) the Performance Center and its collaborating institutions unlimited use and reprinting of selections of winning works for publicity, as well as for non-profit research, exhibitions, educational purposes, and general promotion of playwriting competitions.
- B. All submissions must be the original work of the entrant, and cannot have been previously produced, published, presented online in any public forum (including organization or personal websites, newspapers, magazines, etc.), or won previous competitions. Manuscripts that have been circulated privately or evaluated by educational instructors for the purposes of receiving comments and corrections are allowed. Any related doubts about a given submission will be settled by the judging committee.

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- C. Participants may submit manuscripts to both the Chinese and English groups, but may only submit one manuscript in each language. In addition, participants must register separately for each submission (with a unique email address as user name).
- D. Participants should submit personal information and manuscript information on the online submission form. Please do not include author names or identifying information on the submission itself. Submissions that do not adhere to this guideline will be disqualified.
- E. Plagiarism and submitting work by another author under one's own name are prohibited. If a submission is found to be plagiarism or to violate copyright, the submission will be disqualified, the participant at fault will be required to return any and all royalty payments and awards, and the case will be publically reported. In addition, the party at fault will bear all legal responsibility and repercussions.

X. Announcement of Winners and Award Ceremony

Winners will be announced on the competition website in September 2015 (winners will receive award letters and electronic communication informing them of their award, but other participants will receive no further communication from the competition). The award ceremony and staged readings of winning works will take place in October 2015 at the Black Box Performance Center at National Central University, Taiwan. Further details will be provided to winners at the time of the award.

XI. Amendments to the Competition

The Center reserves the right to review and revise the rules and regulations of the overall project as necessary.

XII. Organizing Institutes

The Competition is organized by the Performance Center and Research Center for Theatre and Performance Studies at National Central University, Taiwan. Since its founding in 2012, the Performance Center has launched a variety of initiatives to promote the performing arts and artistic exchange in Taiwan. The Center has developed various onstage and offstage programs, such as: the “@Theatre” App, an information exchange platform for the performing arts in Taiwan; the “Performing Taiwan: Script, Design, and Stagecraft, 1943-” e-book publication series; and NCU’s annual POPFest, among others. The Performance Center’s most recent efforts aim to create a platform for the publication of high-quality scripts and opportunities for their performance. Responding to the difficulty of finding new scripts fit for production, the Performance Center has founded this playwriting competition to encourage collaboration among universities and performing arts groups in Taiwan and around

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the world. Through the performing arts industry, this project hopes to establish new ground for creativity and artistic energy.

The Research Center for Theatre and Performance Studies at National Central University is devoted to the preservation and digitization of performing arts recordings. In 2003, it established the Electronic Theater Intermix (eti-tw.com) digital archive of modern Taiwanese theater and has been managing the archive for 11 years. The collection now contains over 400 works. ETI also co-sponsors the “Performing Taiwan” e-book publication series with the Performance Center at National Central University.

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