



# The RBC Foundation and Tarragon Theatre's **UNDER 30 NATIONAL PLAYWRITING COMPETITION**

## **CONTEST GUIDELINES**

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Since 1970, **Tarragon Theatre** has been a leader in the development of new Canadian plays, introducing theatre audiences to talented home-grown playwrights, and contributing countless plays to the Canadian canon. As part of our mandate to seek out and nurture new and vital voices, **Tarragon Theatre**, with the generous support of **RBC Foundation**, is pleased to announce the second annual **Under 30 National Playwriting Competition**.

The purpose of this competition is to offer Canadian playwrights under the age of 30 the opportunity to receive financial support to further develop their play, benefit from working with artists skilled in new play development, and gain national recognition for their writing.

The winner of this competition will receive a cash award of **\$3000**, and the opportunity to participate in Tarragon's annual **Play Reading Week** in 2010.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **The playwright**

- The playwright must be a Canadian citizen or have permanent resident status, as defined by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.
- The playwright must be under 30 years of age. Your birth date must fall after April 30, 1980 to be eligible for this contest.
- The playwright may only submit one play to the contest.

#### **The play**

- The play must be a minimum of 80 minutes in length.
- The play can be an original work or a musical.
- The play must be in English.
- There are no limitations on the number of characters in the play.
- New plays that have received a workshop or reading **without** a full public production are eligible for this competition. Likewise, plays that have been commissioned by other theatres are eligible.
- Origin and authorship must be fully detailed on the **Entry Form**. Legal clearance of use of material not in the public domain is the sole responsibility of the playwright(s), and permission of the original creator must accompany the entry.

#### **A play is ineligible if:**

- It has already been submitted to Tarragon Theatre as an unsolicited script submission.
- It has received, or is scheduled to receive, a full public production, whether in professional or community theatre. This includes plays produced in theatre festivals, such as Fringe Festivals.
- It has been published.
- It is a translation.
- It is an adaptation of a short story, novel or another play.
- It was written for film or television. No screenplays please.
- It has won another Canadian playwriting competition.

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**How we respond:**

- We will only confirm receipt of your script if you include a self-addressed stamped postcard with your submission.
- We do not return scripts. All scripts will be disposed of after the competition.
- All entrants will be notified of the results of the completion by email prior to the public announcement of the winner.

**Please note:**

- Do not phone or e-mail the theatre to inquire about the status of your script.
- We do not provide a critique or any dramaturgical feedback on your script.

**Adjudication & Award**

- The finalists will be read by our celebrity panel of three jurors.
- The winner of the competition will be announced in September 2010.
- The winning playwright will receive a cash award of **\$3000**, and the opportunity to participate in Tarragon's annual **Play Reading Week** (airfare and accommodation included).

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

**Entry Form**

- Each submission must be accompanied by a completed **Entry Form**.

**Script Format**

**Please submit two copies of your script with your Entry Form.** Your script must adhere to the following guidelines in order to be considered for this competition.

- Scripts must be printed on white 8 1/2" by 11" paper. We encourage you to double-side.
- Scripts must be typed in minimum 12 point font, and double-spaced between speaking parts.
- Stage directions must be formatted to differentiate them from dialogue.
- The page number and play title must appear on each page.
- Scripts must be securely bound. eg., with a large clip, spiral binding, etc.
- Scripts must include a cover page with the title and a character breakdown, including suggested doubling if it applies to the play. If the play is a musical, please note that on the title page as well.
- If music is essential to your storytelling, you must include a recording of the music and lyrics.

**Please note:**

- **Because scripts are read blind, any appearance of the playwright's name, initials or other identifiable marking in the script will disqualify the entry. Your name should only be on the Entry Form.**
- No fax or e-mail entries will be considered.

Please submit your application package to:

RBC Tarragon Under 30 National Playwriting Competition  
c/o Tarragon Theatre  
30 Bridgman Avenue  
Toronto, ON.  
M5R 1X3

**DEADLINE**

All application packages must arrive at Tarragon Theatre by **Friday, April 30, 2010 at 5:00 pm.**

**For more information, please contact:**

Andrew Lamb, Director of Education and Outreach  
(416) 536-5018 ext. 229  
andrew@tarragontheatre.com

Andrea Romaldi, Literary Manager  
(416) 536-5018 ext. 230  
andrea@tarragontheatre.com