

# The Jonathan Larson® Grants of the American Theatre Wing Application Guidelines 2011



The Jonathan Larson Grants, established fourteen years ago with the resources of the Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation and gifts from the Larson Family to honor the memory of Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize recipient Jonathan Larson, recognize and support emerging composers, lyricists and book writers. The grants will be celebrated at a reception featuring performances of the honored artists' work in the Spring.

Artists seeking a Jonathan Larson Grant must submit a written application. The completed application must be returned by mail, along with the required attachments, in order for the committee to evaluate the artist's work.

## **The application deadline for the 2011 grants is September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.**

To be considered for this grant, applications must be postmarked no later than September 1<sup>st</sup> or hand delivered to the ATW offices (570 Seventh Ave, Suite 501, New York, NY) no later than 5:00pm on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **General Criteria**

- The Jonathan Larson Grants are intended to honor and recognize emerging musical theatre artists. Composers, lyricists, and librettists who work in musical theatre are the focus of the grants.
- Grant awards are based on merit. In addition, the Grants are intended for those artists with a demonstrated commitment and dedication to a career in musical theatre. Further, the grants are not intended to be scholarships, and artists applying for grants should be working professionally in the field.
- For the 2011 grant cycle, all applications must represent samples of work from one (or more) complete works of musical theatre, and include samples of book, music and lyrics. The work submitted may be written by an individual applicant or by a team. Unlike past years, individual artists working solely as lyricists, composers, composer/lyricists, or librettists can not apply without their collaborators. Collaborators who work together regularly are encouraged to highlight the breadth of their collaborations in their submissions, rather than focus on a specific project.
- United States citizenship is not a requirement to receive the grant, but you must be eligible to work in the U.S. and reside/work here on at least a part-time basis and submitted work should be predominately in English.
- Artists may appear as an applicant on only one application per grant cycle, and no applicant may be part of more than one creative team.
- Prior Jonathan Larson Grant Recipients are not eligible.

**Required Materials** - Applications that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be considered.

Applicants must submit **THREE (3) IDENTICAL COPIES** of the following to be considered for the Jonathan Larson Grants:

#### **APPLICATION PACKET**

- Completed **Application Form**, including:
  - **Artistic Statement (one per application)**— on the form provided, describe your achievements and goals for your career as a creative artist or collaborative team.
  - **Creative Curriculum Vitae (one for each applicant or each member of a team)**— including productions/workshops/readings, educational history, and list of awards.

#### **SAMPLES OF WORK PACKET**

- Representative samples of work (be sure to consult instructions for formatting this packet listed below)

Additionally, though not required, applicants may provide **ONE (1) COPY** of each of the following:

- Letter(s) of support/recommendation from theatre artists or educators  
(No more than two letters per application, please).

**Please note:** Only the materials listed above will be provided to the adjudicators for review. Anything else included in your application will not be seen by the reviewing committee. Please **do not include** cover letters, headshots, video tapes, DVDs, production photos, production programs, playbills, design renderings, brochures, reviews, symphonic scores, or sheet music.



## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING AND FORMATTING WORK SAMPLES PACKET**

The Jonathan Larson Grants are intended to honor and recognize emerging musical theatre writers. We are aware that artists work in multiple disciplines; and while it is not necessary that you only work in musical theatre, **selections of representative work submitted for the grant must be for musical theatre.** Applications submitting oratorios, operas, symphonic scores, or film scores will not be considered.

Submissions of representative work are coded and will be reviewed blindly during the first round of review. In other words, no artistic adjudicators will see the names of the applicants during the initial round of assessment. Applicants should include the name(s) of the writer(s) only on the application, letters of recommendation, CV, and personal statement. The **names of the writer(s) should not appear anywhere else in the submission**, including on the manuscripts, lyric sheets, CDs, cover pages, and document headers/footers. **Please insert the last 4 digits of the applicant's social security number (as entered on the application) on all items included as part of the work samples, so that items may be identified by staff.**

Send **THREE (3) IDENTICAL COPIES** of the work samples, as described below:

### **All applications should include**

#### **Audio CD/Lyric Sheets**

No less than 3 and no more than 6 song selections, from one or various shows (no more than 30 minutes total) on a standard audio CD (mp3 or other digital audio formats are not accepted). Include a track listing for the CD, track length, and typewritten lyric sheets as well as descriptions of dramatic context for each selection. The pages should be stapled or bound with brads. No folders, bindings, or ring binders, please.

Collaborating teams need only submit one CD of no more than six tracks totaling 30 minutes, with supporting lyrics and track information as described above.

#### **Libretto**

Please submit one-act only of a musical book (or if your work does not have a traditional act-break, an excerpt of 65 pages or less). Please include a one-page synopsis of the dramatic context of the entire show. The book should correspond to some, but not necessarily all, of the submitted song selections. The pages should be stapled or bound with brads. No folders, bindings, or ring binders, please.

**Note:** All applicants should submit one combined application, with combined work samples that demonstrate range and represent samples from one complete work (book, music, and lyrics). For example, Jonathan Larson might have submitted one application with an audio CD featuring three selections from *Rent*, two selections from *Tick, Tick...Boom!*, and the book of Act II from *Rent*.

**Adapted Works:** Should you choose to submit selections from work which is in whole or part adapted from an existing work, you must provide proof of rights for that adaptation as part of your application packet, as we do not wish to adjudicate work which cannot ultimately be produced.

#### **Do not**

- Submit a recording of an entire act or production. Select individual pieces that reflect your best work.
- Use separate CDs for each track selection.
- Submit videotapes or DVDs.
- Submit originals, as materials cannot be returned.
- Make specific monetary requests as part of the application.

#### **Do**

- **Call if you have any questions, 212.765.0606**

Applications must be postmarked by **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**, and sent to:

#### **American Theatre Wing**

570 Seventh Avenue, Suite 501  
New York NY 10018

**ATTN: Jonathan Larson Grants**

