



OTTAWA
LITTLE
THEATRE

CALL FOR ENTRIES

to the

80th NATIONAL ONE-ACT PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

DEADLINE

December 31, 2020

ottawalittletheatre.com

The Ottawa Little Theatre is pleased to announce that it is now accepting submissions to the

80th National One-Act Playwriting Competition

PRIZES

First Prize	\$1,000	Ottawa Little Theatre Award
Second Prize	\$750	Dorothy White Award
Third Prize	\$500	Gladys Cameron Watt Award
Sybil Cooke Award for a Play for Children or Young People \$500		

COMPETITION RULES

- original one-act plays in English, encouraging literacy and dramatic talent in Canada
- plays with a maximum playing time of 60 minutes, and a minimum playing time of 25 minutes
- plays that are previously unproduced OR have been produced no earlier than in the current year
- all professional and non-professional Canadian playwrights residing in Canada, including landed immigrants
- special award for the Best Play for Children or Young People

Entry forms are available, along with latest news, at

www.ottawalittletheatre.com/call-entries-80th-national-one-act-playwriting-competition

DEADLINE: December 31, 2020

Winners will be announced in May 2021

All entrants must agree to allow the Ottawa Little Theatre, if it chooses to do so, to produce their play at the 2021 Eastern Ontario Drama League One-Act Play Festival.

Please note that there will be no Playwrights' Week in 2021.

HISTORY OF THE COMPETITION

The Ottawa Little Theatre One-Act Playwriting Competition is Canada's oldest playwriting competition. It was first held in 1937 and has been won by a who's who of Canadian literary luminaries. Past winners include esteemed Canadian writers and prominent playwrights such as Robertson Davies, John Murrell, Erika Ritter, Catherine Banks and Ken Mitchell, to name just a few.



COMPLETE SUBMISSION REGULATIONS

1. The play must be an original one-act stage play in English with a maximum playing time of sixty (60) minutes and a minimum playing time of twenty-five (25) minutes (playing time is usually estimated at one minute per typed, double spaced page.) The play must either be previously unproduced, OR produced for the first time during the year 2020.
2. A page showing only the title of the play and the author's pseudonym (pen-name) must cover the manuscript. Include a list of characters before the first page of dialogue.
3. Scripts should be formatted properly. There are a number of acceptable formats and writing programs available. An improperly formatted script is difficult to read and may be rejected. If you are unfamiliar with proper formatting, please keep in mind the following guidelines:
 - Text should be double-spaced between speaking parts.
 - Speakers names should be isolated from their dialogue in some manner.
 - Stage directions need to be clearly distinguishable from dialogue by the use of italics or other similar manner.
4. Scripts must be submitted in digital format, either PDF or MS Word. All other document formats will be rejected. Send scripts as email attachments or via file sharing software (e.g. dropbox, google drive, onedrive) to
playwriting@ottawalittletheatre.com
5. A printed copy of prize-winning scripts will be placed in the City of Ottawa Archives as part of the Ottawa Little Theatre archive collection. All scripts which do not place in the competition will be destroyed.
6. Each submission must include a completed [Entry Form](#) and entry fee. A submission will not be considered complete until the script, entry form and payment have been received. Entry forms may be downloaded from the Ottawa Little Theatre website: www.ottawalittletheatre.com/call-entries-80th-national-one-act-playwriting-competition. ENTRY FEE: \$30. Payable by Interac e-Transfer or cheque.
7. Entrants who are under the age of 18 as of December 31st, 2020, (the competition closing date) are required to submit a signed [Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Form](#) along with the entry form.
8. A contestant may make multiple entries of up to three plays, but must use a different pseudonym for each entry.
9. The appearance of the playwright's name or any other identification mark on the manuscript will disqualify the manuscript.
10. Prize-winning plays in any previous year of the Ottawa Little Theatre's National One-Act Playwriting Competition are not eligible.
11. Musicals or any manuscript where song or dance is the focus of the material will not be eligible for entry.
12. The decision of the adjudicator(s) of the competition is final. The identity of the adjudicator(s) will be withheld until the awards are announced.
13. The competition is open to professional and non-professional Canadian playwrights residing in Canada, including landed immigrants.