



The Rella Lossy Award honors the memory of Rella Lossy, a lifelong champion of the American theatre and playwriting, by honoring the best new full-length script of a play by an emerging playwright that will premiere in Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Marin County, San Francisco County, and San Mateo County in the coming year.

GUIDELINES

ABOUT THIS GRANT

The Rella Lossy Award aims to celebrate and advance emerging writers for the theatre. The program solicits **unproduced full-length scripts from professionally-oriented Bay Area* theatre organizations that will be presenting the world premiere of a play by an emerging playwright**. The award goes to the playwright and the producing company.

*The company must be located in one of these five Bay Area counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, or San Mateo.

AWARD

Playwright: \$2,500

Company: \$1,000

DEADLINE

ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE by **5PM on May 1, 2023**.

ELIGIBILITY

COMPANIES

- Must be located in one of the following counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, or San Mateo
- Must have an active company membership with Theatre Bay Area that's maintained through the granting period (April 1, 2023 - July 1, 2024)

- Must be committed to producing a full-length world premiere work by an emerging playwright that opens on or after April 1, 2023 and closes on or before July 1, 2024
 - For the purposes of this award, “emerging playwright” is defined as a playwright who has not had a prior full production on Broadway or in a LORT member theatre. LORT member theatres are eligible to apply for this award as long as the playwright has not had a full production at a LORT or on Broadway prior to the opening of this production.
- Must commit to development of the piece with the playwright (as described below)

YOUR COMPANY IS INELIGIBLE IF:

- It’s primarily a presenter or performance venue
- It’s an academic institution or training program
- A member of your company leadership or board member at your company is serving on the Rella Lossy granting panel for this round
- A member of your company leadership serves as a Theatre Bay Area board member or is employed as Theatre Bay Area staff.

A PLAYWRIGHT IS INELIGIBLE IF:

- They have had a previous full production on Broadway or at a LORT member theatre
- They are currently a Theatre Bay Area employee or board member
- They are serving on the Rella Lossy granting panel for this round

DEVELOPMENT

The company must commit to developing the script with the playwright in ONE (or more) of the following ways:

1. The playwright is an active part of the rehearsal process, attending at least two weeks of rehearsals
2. The company holds a developmental reading with the playwright, either in person or via Zoom, with professional/professionally-oriented actors and a professional/professionally-oriented dramaturg

3. The company commits to a workshop process with the playwright, the director, professional/professionally-oriented actors and a professional/professionally-oriented dramaturg before rehearsals begin
4. Any other development process the playwright and the company find productive and necessary

HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE

A panel of three theatre professionals, including at least one playwright, will be recruited to review applications. Decisions will be made by the panel, whose names and bios will be released when the awardees are announced.

TIMELINE

A representative must be present to accept the award. Awardees will be contacted by July 1, 2023 .

REPORT

Awardees must provide a simple self-evaluation of the funded project. The self-evaluation form will be provided during the award period.

APPLICATION

The application is available online here: [Rella Lossy Award Application 2023](#). Applications must be submitted by 5PM on May 1, 2023.

You will need to upload the following as PDFs:

1. **REDACTED SCRIPT**: A copy of the script with the name of the playwright, the title of the play, the name of the producing company, and any other identifying markers removed.
2. **PLAYWRIGHT RESUME**: This will not be shared with the panel. It will be used to establish eligibility only.
3. **DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION**: A brief description of the development process the playwright and company have committed to using. We anticipate that this will be no longer than a paragraph, but you will not be penalized for writing more. **Please do not include the names of the play, playwright, company, director, or any other identifying markers**, as this PDF will be shared with the panel.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Programs Officer Melissa Hillman at melissa@theatrebayarea.org