

PREVIEW OF APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2027 Open Stage Space Grant Application

PLEASE READ THE BELOW CAREFULLY BEFORE BEGINNING YOUR APPLICATION.

Applications will be accepted through Sunday, May 31.

For over 100 years, EAG has provided emergency financial aid and career support to New York City's professional performing artists. We take pride in our ongoing effort to find new ways to support our vibrant performing arts community. Understanding how challenging it is for emerging theatre companies to find affordable space for creating work in NYC, we introduced the Open Stage space grant in 2017. With Open Stage, we can support theatre companies by giving them an opportunity to create and present work without the challenges that come with finding and maintaining affordable space.

When a NYC theatre company is awarded an Open Stage grant, they will receive:

- a \$6,000 credit to be used towards booking up to 80 hours in our historic theatre space at our EAG member rate of \$75/hour during a two-month residency at Guild Hall (1 East 29th Street, NYC 10016),
- \$1,000 from EAG's Teri Black Performance Fund to be used towards performer/director stipends, AND
- limited additional funding (amount TBD) for some specific line items in their production budgets thanks to NYSCA and NYC's DCLA.

During a grantee's residency, they can use their time booked in Guild Hall to meet, develop, devise, rehearse, tech, and perform the piece of their choosing. Each residency must culminate with 4-8 ticketed public performances in Guild Hall. The gross proceeds from these performances will be split evenly between the grant recipient and the charitable programs of EAG.

All applicants are **highly encouraged** to familiarize themselves with our unique space before applying (www.actorsguild.org/rent-our-space). If you have not been to Guild Hall before and would like to see it in person, please call or email us and we will be happy to schedule an appointment for a walk through.

This year, we are accepting applications for ONE Winter 2027 (January/February) Open Stage grant and ONE Summer 2027 (July/August) Open Stage grant.

For our 2027 Open Stage grants, EAG is specifically looking to support NYC theatre companies that are seeking a residency to present:

- a staged reading of a new/original work with a larger cast,
- a developmental workshop of a new/original work with a smaller cast, OR
- a more fully realized production of a new/original solo show or two-hander.

After several years of offering Open Stage grants, we believe that these options for the scale of a piece/presentation provide the most flexibility to grantees to successfully develop and explore a new work in our unique space while making mindful use of everyone's time and paying everyone equitably.

What makes for a successful Open Stage application?

- A strong mission,
- A demonstrated need,
- A commitment to equitable pay for artists, AND
- A demonstrated ability to achieve stated goals for the project (appropriate levels of staffing and funding to see the proposed project through, etc.)

You can [preview the questions asked on this year's application here](#). All applications must be submitted online through this form in order to be considered for this opportunity.

TIMELINE

- **Application due: Sunday, May 31, 2026.** No applications will be accepted after the deadline.
- Finalist Interviews (in person at Guild Hall): The week of July 6
- Announcement of grant recipients: The week of July 13

EAG's Open Stage space grant program is supported by the Teri Black Performance Fund, and by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

2. Name of the Theatre Company? *

3. Company's Website? (or social media handles if you don't have a website) *

4. Primary Contact Name? *

5. Primary Contact Title? *

If you don't hold a title with the applying company, how would you best describe your relationship with the company?

6. Primary Contact Email Address? *

7. Primary Contact Phone Number? *

8. Which period(s) will work for your company? *

Check all that apply.

Yes! We want to be considered for a Winter (January-February 2027) space grant!

Yes! We want to be considered for a Summer (July-August 2027) space grant!

Tell us about your company.

9. Mission Statement and/or Artistic Vision Statement? *

10. How long has your company been working together? *

Mark only one oval.

- 1 year or less
- 2-3 years
- 4-5 years
- 6-10 years
- More than 10 years

11. Tell us a little bit about your company's production history. *

No need to copy and paste your entire production history page from your website. Give us the highlights!

(Does your company mainly do readings and workshops or are you doing multiple full productions a year? What venues have you worked in in the past? Is there a production you are particularly proud of? What has the company done most recently?)

Tell us about your proposed Open Stage piece.

12. What is the title/working title of the piece you wish to present as a part of EAG's Open Stage Grant? *

13. Your presentation of this piece will be: *

Mark only one oval.

- a staged reading with a larger cast
- a developmental workshop with a smaller cast
- a more fully realized production of a solo show or two-hander
- Other:

14. Tell us more about your proposed piece. *

Please include details such as:

- Where you are in the development process
- The name of any playwright/choreographer/director/performer, etc. already attached to this project
- The size of the cast
- The approximate running time
- Any specific technical requirements
- Why you want to present this particular piece and why you want to present it now
- The intended audience for this piece
- All art is in conversation with the world around it; what conversations do you hope to spark when you present this piece?

15. When is the last time you were at our venue, Guild Hall? *

Have you performed here? Seen a show? Volunteered? Let us know!

16. Why do you want/need our unique space rather than a traditional black box? How do you envision using our space? *

Additional photos of the space are available on our website (www.actorsguild.org/rent-our-space).



Rehearsing and Producing your Open Stage Piece

17. Could you provide us with a rough outline of how you foresee using your development/rehearsal/performance time? *

We are not looking for a specific schedule, we just want a better idea of how you envision using the time you would book in Guild Hall during a two-month residency.

18. How many ticketed public performances/presentations are you hoping for at the end of your residency? *

The Open Stage grant requires 4-8 public performances/presentations. We cannot offer more than 8 public performances/presentations through this grant. The hours for these performances/presentations must either be scheduled as a part of your granted 80 hours in the space or, if additional time is required, booked at the EAG member rental rate of \$75/hour.

Remember, the maximum capacity of the venue is 65. The maximum number of seats/tickets available for each performance will be 65 MINUS the number of performers, your stage manager and other production staff, and EAG's house manager. Please keep that seating capacity in mind when you are planning your public run.

Mark only one oval.

- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

19. Are you planning on producing this piece under an Equity Code or Contract? *

Grant recipient companies (not EAG) are responsible for obtaining a contract with AEA. In the past, Guild Hall has been approved by Actors Equity Association (AEA) as a Showcase venue; with a bathroom rider, Guild Hall has also been approved for solo shows being performed under a Transition Agreement. Guild Hall could work nicely for "by appointment" auditions but the space is not suitable for open calls.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Maybe
- Other:

20. How much do you think your proposed project will cost to produce? *(How much are you planning to pay your artists? Will you be budgeting for a press rep or marketing? etc.)* *

How much income do you estimate your proposed project will bring in from tickets sales and other sources?

21. Additional Comments?

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