

The Birds of Paradise & Playwrights' Studio Mentoring Award: practice application form and guide

This practice application form and guide is designed to help you draft your submission before transferring it to Submittable, and to give you some suggestions on how to approach each question.

Make sure you have read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) before starting your application. If you have any further questions about the Programme, please get in touch via info@playwrightsstudio.co.uk.

We welcome applications in other formats, including video submissions and BSL. Please contact us at access@playwrightsstudio.co.uk to discuss the best method of application to meet your individual requirements.

The deadline for applications is **Wednesday 30 September at 5pm**.

Other information

In addition to the information included in this practice form, as part of your application you will also need to provide:

- > Contact details (including name, address and mobile number).
- > Details of any communication or other access requirements that we should be aware of to support your participation in this Programme.
- > A brief biography of your experience to date. If your application is selected, this will be published to the [Playwrights Database](#) on the Playwrights' Studio website. Please visit the Database for examples on how to format your biography.
- > Two five-page samples of your writing, at least one of these must be from a stage play. If you are unable to provide these, please contact us to discuss alternative options. Please don't let this put you off from applying. We are happy to be flexible.
- > Synopses for each sample (maximum 50 words each. Please include these at the top of each writing sample). If you are unable to provide these, please contact us to discuss alternative options. Please don't let this put you off from applying. We are happy to be flexible.
- > Whether you would like to write in English, Gaelic, Scots or BSL. Applicants writing in Gaelic or Scots can submit their application in their chosen language.
- > Confirmation that you are available on Friday 4 December 2020 for the Playwriting Programme Induction Day. If you are unable to make this date, please let us know via info@playwrightsstudio.co.uk.
- > Whether you would like to receive feedback on your application.

We wish you the best of luck with your application.

1. Tell us about why would you like to be mentored. This short statement could include:

- > What excites you about playwriting and why you want to write for the stage
- > The kind of writing that inspires you
- > The strengths and weaknesses of your writing and the areas you would like to develop
- > Why you feel this is the right Programme for you at this time
- > Your ambitions as a playwright and the ways in which you plan to develop your skills in order to achieve them

2. A short statement on your play idea. **This is not a synopsis of the play** as we understand that your idea may not be that well developed at this stage. You could be thinking about:

- > The story you want to tell and what inspired you to tell it
- > The style or form you want to explore in telling this story
- > What is important to you about this story, e.g. characters, theme, etc.
- > Why your idea is dramatic and would work well on the stage

Note: It is important that it is an **idea** at this stage. You will receive the most benefit from the Mentoring Programme if you are writing a play from scratch, so your idea should not be fully or substantially written.

3. A 100 word summary of your play idea (If your application is successful, this will be published to the Playwrights Database on the Playwrights' Studio website)

4. Tell us anything else about yourself you feel is relevant to your application.

- > Please let us know if there is any other information you would like the panel to know about you as part of your application.

(This could include any Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion information you would like to tell us about. The form which is completed as part of this application is processed separately and anonymously and therefore cannot be considered as part of your submission. Therefore, if you would like us to consider characteristics such as gender, race, ethnicity, economic background, etc. please use the space below to do so.)