

BSB MINI-MUSICAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES (SEASON 2)

12-time award-winning series, ***Bite-Sized Broadway***, presents “mini-musicals” as fully-produced radio plays complete with lush orchestrations, captivating sound design, and the voices of industry giants from Broadway, The West End, and Hollywood! Each musical is followed by a talkback with its creators, giving them voices beyond theater walls and giving our global audience a “bite-sized” taste of the future of musical theatre!

Bite-Sized Broadway is committed to lifting up and offering production opportunities to Black, Latine, Indigenous/First Nations, API, SWANA folks, those who identify as transgender, non-binary, gender fluid, and gender nonconforming, people with disabilities, and intersectional musical theatre writers. Writers from these and other historically marginalized or underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to submit!

Pieces selected for production will be fully produced by IndieWorks as a radio play and will receive:

- Dramaturgical support to adapt your mini-musical to fit our radio-play format
- Full radio play production of your mini-musical including casting, rehearsal, direction, music direction, recording engineering, mixing/mastering, publishing, press, advertising, and more!
- A growing global audience of over ten thousand!
- A fully-produced radio-play recording of your musical for you to share on your website and with your fans and potential producers
- An opportunity to be part of a multi-award-winning program!

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Mini-musicals must be no less than ten minutes and no more than 25 minutes in length.
- All mini-musicals must be self-contained stories and have a beginning, middle, and end. No excerpts from pre-existing, full-length musicals will be accepted.
- Writers may submit adaptations, however, they **MUST** own the rights or have express written permission to use the underlying source material. We will ask for proof and do our due diligence in verifying this information.
- Writers may submit any mini-musical(s) they like provided they fit the above requirements.
- Writers may submit more than one mini-musical per season, but only one mini-musical per writer may be chosen for selection.

TIPS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR YOUR MUSICAL

- Comedies work well for these short-form programs, however, we like to break things up with a gripping thriller, captivating drama, or heartfelt family show.
- Shows with smaller casts or easy doubling tend to work best for our program.
- Though it is not required, shows that take place in real time and in a single location help our listeners to follow along easily.
- Characters with big personalities and voices help us establish the characters right from the start and tend to be most fun to listen to!
- We encourage winter-holiday themed shows for submission. Most specifically family-friendly material. We get a high listenership around the holidays.
- Narration can be a useful tool to help ease us into a world for which we might otherwise need visuals (eg. Season one’s productions of [Toy Box](#) and [Sheila the Tiny Turtle](#)), however, we are not creating audiobooks and look to keep narration to a minimum.
- It is best to not rely on visual gags or creative blocking to tell your story.
- Dialogue should be written in sentence case with lyrics written in ALL CAPS.
- Please do not include logos, pictures, key art, title-treatments, or branding references.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Bite-Sized Broadway enlists the help of a group of paid readers (the Mini-Musical Reading Committee or MMRC) to read and evaluate all submissions before passing along their recommendations to producers. The MMRC is a diverse group of trusted readers made up of different ages, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions,, cultural backgrounds, abilities, and other demographics in order to attempt to emulate our writers and our listenership as a whole.

Our selection process is as follows:

- Submissions open February 6th 2023 for four weeks.
- The MMRC Chair will randomly distribute the submissions into Google folders for the rest of the committee twice weekly.
- Mini-musicals are read by a minimum of two readers who then fill out an evaluation form.
 - If the musical is promoted by the majority of readers, it will move onto the next round.
 - If the musical is passed on by the majority of readers, it will be taken out of rotation. (Mini-musicals that are taken out of rotation can still be brought back in if there is express interest from the producers or the committee Chair.)
 - If the musical has closely mixed evaluations, it will be read by the Chair to make a decision.
 - If a reader feels that they are unqualified to give an educated and informed evaluation, they may request to receive a new musical and the original musical will remain in rotation.
- Once submissions are closed, those mini-musicals that pass the first round of evaluations will head to the second round where the rotation begins again and each second-round selection will be read by three more members of the committee.
 - If the musical is promoted by the majority, it will move on for final consideration.
 - If the musical is passed on by the majority, it will be taken out of rotation.
 - If a show receives mixed evaluations, it will be read by the Chair to make a decision.
- Members will meet virtually to discuss and vote on 12 final recommendations to producers.
- The 12 final mini-musicals will be read and discussed by producers who will approve the final nine for the season to be signed off on by the committee Chair.

Final considerations include (in no particular order):

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ARTISTIC CONSIDERATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quality of artistic material ○ Play reader opinion ○ Technical Challenges ○ Talent pool availability (directors, orchestrators, sound designers, etc.) ○ Balance of type/genre ○ Balance of musical style ○ Balance of writer and story diversity ○ Does it fit the IndieWorks and Bite-Sized Broadway Missions? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BUSINESS CONSIDERATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cost of production ○ Audience appeal ○ Length of musical ○ Balance of type (drama, comedy, musical, mystery, etc) ○ Developmental history and production/licensing status ○ Producer/Sponsor Interest ○ Does it fit our values of diversity, equity, and inclusion |
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Readers are prohibited from telling writers whether or not they evaluated their pieces.

THE APPLICATION

There are four sections (Contact, Collaborators, Musical Information, Demographics) that should take a total of approximately 20-25 minutes to complete. However, before you begin your submission, please create your submission folder and double check that the materials are formatted to fit the guidelines.

SUBMISSION FOLDERS

IndieWorks Theatre Company and *Bite-Sized Broadway* run on Google Workspace. Before filling out your application, please ready your materials, following all submission guidelines, and create a Google Drive folder with the header "BSB" and the title of your musical (i.e. "BSB – [Your Musical]") containing the following items:

- **PDF of your FULL LIBRETTO and label it "[Your Musical] – Libretto"**
 - Your libretto should have a title page with the title of your musical and the names of your collaborators prominently displayed.
 - Please remove any contact information (address, phone number, email address, and website) from your submission materials, including on your title page.
 - Your libretto should include a character listing with descriptions including age, gender or non-gender, race/ethnicity, and cultural background if and when those factors affect the story and/or casting of the piece.
 - Your libretto should include information on the time and location of your show on the cast list page.
 - Your libretto should include a list, in order, of all musical numbers (including instrumental numbers and underscores) that appear in your musical.
- **PDF of your FULL PIANO/VOCAL score and label it "[Your Musical] - Score"**
 - Your score should have a title page with the title of your musical prominently displayed.
 - Please remove any contact information (address, phone number, email address, and website) from your submission materials, including on your title page.
 - Your score should list, in order, all musical numbers (including instrumental numbers and underscores) and the characters who sing them
- **MP3 Demo Recordings of musical numbers (These can even be composer demos recorded on a phone). All demos should be in a folder labeled "[YOUR MUSICAL] – DEMOS"**
 - Your demos should correlate as closely as possible to your submitted score.
 - While we welcome you to add demos of the underscore music, it is not required.
 - Each demo file should be labeled with the listed musical number (using a zero before digits 1 through 9), followed by an underscore, and then the name of the musical number (eg. 04_His Holiness Prefers to Work in the Bathtub).

To see a sample folder, [click here](#).