

BITE-SIZED BROADWAY WRITER FAQ*

*Please note that this is not a comprehensive list and that it will continue to grow as more questions arise.

WHAT IF MY MATERIALS AREN'T PERFECT? WILL I BE PASSED OVER?

We realize that time, money, and education are linked to privilege and that there are some writers who have distinct advantages over others because of the schools or programs they've been fortunate enough to attend. We take that into consideration when evaluating musicals and do our best to determine whether or not, with the right resources and developmental support, the work can be ready for production in time for our program.

At the submission stage, our readers are focused on finding a balance of musical styles/types/genres, diverse stories/themes/characters/storytellers, cost/time-effectiveness, technical difficulty, alignment with our mission and values, and overall artistic quality. The level of "perfection" is of lesser importance.

I CAN PLAY MY MUSIC, BUT I CAN'T TRANSCRIBE IT. CAN I STILL SUBMIT?

You can! Readers receive a folder of your materials with the libretto and demos. They do not receive copies of your score. However, IndieWorks keeps the scores on file so that, at the appropriate time, producers and members of our music team can assess the time it would take to feasibly and properly prepare the materials for our creative teams and casts.

If you are concerned that you do not have the proper resources to create a piano/vocal score, please contact us at info@indieworkstheatre.com and we will do our best to help find a mentor or resources at little or no cost to you in preparation for this submission.

I CAN TRANSCRIBE MY MUSIC. BUT I CAN'T PLAY IT. CAN I STILL SUBMIT?

As mentioned above, readers do not receive copies of your score as not everyone reads music. So demos help our readers to better understand the musical world of your show and your score's effectiveness to tell the story.

If you are concerned that you do not have the proper resources to create demo recordings, please contact us at info@indieworkstheatre.com and we will do our best to help find a mentor or resources at little or no cost to you in preparation for this submission.

I DON'T HAVE PROPER DEMOS. CAN I STILL SUBMIT?

A demo can be done with anyone, even a member of the writing team singing into their phones, computers, or other recording device, along to either live or recorded instrumental accompaniment. What's important is that our readers and producers are able to evaluate the artistic merit of the music and the effectiveness of your musical storytelling.

If you are concerned that you do not have the proper resources to create demo recordings, please contact us at info@indieworkstheatre.com and we will do our best to help find a mentor or resources at little or no cost to you in preparation for this submission.

I DON'T HAVE DEMOS, BUT I HAVE A VIDEO OF A PREVIOUS READING/WORKSHOP/PRODUCTION OF MY MUSICAL. CAN I SUBMIT THAT INSTEAD?

We would prefer that you do not submit a video so that our reading committee can focus on the merits of your writing and not be distracted by casting or production elements used in your video. We would suggest that you extract the songs from your video and save them as individual song files which you can then use as demos for the purposes of this submission.

If you are concerned that you do not have the proper resources to create demo recordings, please contact us at info@indieworkstheatre.com and we will do our best to help find a mentor or resources at little or no cost to you in preparation for this submission.

WHAT IF I'VE MADE CHANGES TO MY LIBRETTO/SCORE AND NOW MY OLD DEMOS DON'T MATCH UP PERFECTLY?

It is preferred that your sheet music, libretto, and score match up as closely as possible. We understand that sometimes small changes are made last minute to the material that don't affect the overall piece. However, if you cut a song from the show, please do not include the song in the score or the demos. If you have added material last minute, please indicate that in the notes section of your submission form.

CAN I SUBMIT A SHOW TO BITE-SIZED BROADWAY THAT I'VE SUBMITTED IN THE PAST?

If you've submitted shows for previous seasons, we ask that you not submit those same shows again unless significant changes have been made to the piece including but not limited to major plot changes, a completely reworked book/score, or a change of writers. There are myriad reasons a mini-musical might not be selected. However, we've flagged the shows that are the most viable and have our reading committee revisit them each subsequent season to see if any might fit with the current selections.

However, we encourage teams and individuals to keep honing their craft and submitting their work. So if you have a new mini-musical, we're happy to look over the materials.

ARE SELECTED WRITERS PAID?

At this time, writers are not given advances or upfront monetary compensation for their work, however, we take on full financial responsibility for producing the recording at the highest levels of production with full orchestrations and top notch voice and music talent; publishing, advertising and marketing; etc. amounting up to \$15,000.

Additionally, IndieWorks also provides writers access to the full podcast episode, a digital file of the recording of their fully-produced musical, a digital production file with updated script and score, access to any press clippings/reviews/releases, and any information, images, or site bugs to go with corresponding awards the podcast or musical might receive.

HOW ACTIVE ARE WRITERS IN THIS PROCESS?

After musicals are chosen and agreements are signed, the writers will be invited to participate in production meetings with producers and the episode creative team as well as attend recording sessions. Final creative approval will be at the discretion of the Executive Producer.

Writers will be required to participate, either online or in person, in a recorded and filmed "talkback" with the podcast host that will be broadcast with the musical as well.

We also sincerely hope that writers will participate in the promotion of the podcast as a whole and their individual episodes through their own networks via email, word of mouth, social media, etc. as well as by attending and participating in promotional events planned by our marketing team and producers if available.

WHO PAYS FOR THE PRODUCTION COSTS OF MY MINI-MUSICALS?

Bite-Sized Broadway and IndieWorks Theatre Company assume the responsibility for all production costs and liability. Writers are not asked to pay for any of the costs of production. However, writers' accommodations, lodging, and travel within and to and from New York City is not covered.

WHO CONTROLS THE RIGHTS TO THIS PRODUCTION OF THE WORK?

IndieWorks Theatre Company retains ownership and copyright of all recorded contents of the podcast, including but not limited to the podcast in part or in whole, outtakes, vocals, orchestrations, sound effects, talkback, design, and direction and licensing rights to the recorded materials.

Writers may use the recording of their musical for self-promotional and non-commercial use only. The recordings of the musical may not be used in any other public or private broadcast context for any reason without express written consent.

WHO RETAINS THE RIGHTS TO THE WRITTEN/COMPOSED MATERIAL?

Writers retain ownership, copyright, and future licensing rights to their originally written material. Any changes made to the book, lyrics, and/or music of the musical in adapting for our radio play format shall become property of the writer including arrangements, lines, narration, stage direction, and melody.

CAN WRITERS STILL TAKE THEIR SHOWS TO OTHER PRODUCERS FOR FUTURE PRODUCTIONS?

IndieWorks Theatre Company holds the exclusive broadcast rights for a period of time as laid out in the agreement and there is a moratorium on the work as we attempt to maximize profit potential for your episode. If IndieWorks would like to make plans beyond the time period agreed to, a new agreement will be made between the producer and the writers outlining the new terms. If IndieWorks no longer wishes to hold the rights, notice will be given and writers may do as they please with their work including future productions with other producers.

However, writers agree to give credit to IndieWorks Theatre Company as outlined in the agreement in all future productions of the musical, live performance, recorded, broadcast, in developmental histories, programs, etc.