

FOX FOUNDATION RESIDENT ACTOR FELLOWSHIPS

Administered by Theatre Communications Group

2009 ROUND 4 GUIDELINES

A fellowship for actors that supports their artistic and professional growth in collaboration with a TCG member theatre.

Actors in the *Extraordinary Potential* category demonstrate strong interest and a commitment to continued training, are in their early- to mid-career and have completed their training within the last fifteen years, receive \$15,000 and up to \$10,000 in student loan repayment.

Actors in the *Distinguished Achievement* category have demonstrated considerable experience in professional theatre with a substantial body of work receive \$25,000.

The TCG member host theatre receives \$7,500.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

THE FOX FOUNDATION RESIDENT ACTOR FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM is designed to provide substantial support for exceptionally talented actors to further their artistic and professional growth and to encourage theatre organizations to deepen their relationships with actors. The program supports actors of both *Extraordinary Potential* and *Distinguished Achievement* who demonstrate a strong commitment to a career in the not-for-profit professional theatre, defined in its broadest possible aesthetic and organizational structure, such as: traditional theatre organizations, avant garde collectives, ensembles and more.

CATEGORIES

Extraordinary Potential

Exceptionally talented, early- to mid-career actors who demonstrate a strong interest and a commitment to continued training. A professional actor training program degree is not necessary, however, any formal training (undergraduate, graduate and/or professional training program) must have been completed within the last fifteen years.

Distinguished Achievement

Exceptionally talented actors who have demonstrated considerable experience in professional theatre, with a substantial body of work.

The program acknowledges the physical and intellectual demands on an actor's life. It recognizes that an essential component of the actor's artistic growth is a commitment to continued development of the human instrument: voice, body, intellect and imagination. Support from the Fox Fellowship defines fellowship activities in the broadest and most generous way and encourages actors to reach their full potential by underwriting advanced training, research and development, which will enhance and expand his or her craft. These activities are not limited to the city of the host theatre and may take place at established actor training programs or with individual master artists within the United States and internationally. While cross-disciplinary work is encouraged, the Fellowship is intended to improve the recipient's growth as an actor rather than to be a springboard for other artistic paths such as directing or playwriting. It is incumbent on the actor to communicate the value and impact of cross-disciplinary activity to his/her professional development as an actor.

This program openly seeks to transform the relationship between a theatre organization and an actor. It recognizes that some actors desire an artistic home where they can deepen their commitment to live theatre while other actors already have an affiliation with a theatre and wish to enrich this relationship by training or studying elsewhere. But in both cases, it encourages actors to work outside their comfort zone. For those actors who already have a close relationship with their host theatre, the program seeks bold explorations of activities that are not "business as usual." It asks the actor to assume primary responsibility in defining his or her needs, ambitions and goals for artistic and professional development, and asks the theatre to join the actor in helping to realize and pursue these goals. Fellowship activities are not required to culminate in a committed production. In all respects, it should be the actor's goals that drive this proposal.

Though fellowship discussions may be initiated by either the actor or host theatre, all proposals must be developed jointly and signed by the actor and artistic leader(s). Proposals must demonstrate a strong mutual commitment to the actor's Fellowship activities. To plan for a successful Fellowship, the program advises actors and host theatres to fully discuss mutual expectations, requirements and logistics (actor training, schedule, housing, travel etc.) prior to submitting a preliminary proposal.

It is strongly encouraged that the actor position their proposal as a solution to an artistic challenge (or challenges). The Fox Fellowship is not solely a reward for best practices and an impressive career. Rather, it is an acknowledgement of outstanding artists who seek to improve and expand their experiences thus far.

The program will award five Fellowships in both categories combined. Actors in the *Extraordinary Potential* category will receive an award of \$15,000, with up to an additional \$10,000 available for student loan repayment. Actors in the *Distinguished Achievement* category will receive an award of \$25,000.

Host theatres will receive grants of \$7,500 to cover costs incurred due to residency activities. Program funds awarded to the theatre may be used for a variety of Fellowship-related expenses, including collaborator fees, equipment and other resources needed to support the actor's residency. **Fellowship funds cannot be used to replace compensation a host theatre would normally provide, in wages and benefits, to the actor.**

Fellowship activities will take place within a three-year time frame, beginning between October 1, 2009 and April 1, 2010 and concluding before March 31, 2013. During that time, the actor will spend at least four months (total of 88 days) on-site at the host theatre. The four months on-site need not be consecutive. Theatres may not host two Fox supported residencies concurrently. Previous host theatres who are re-applying must complete residency activities no later than September 30, 2009.

ELIGIBILITY

PROGRAM

- Must have submitted online registration and mailed completed application package by the postmark deadline (Midnight, June 15, 2009)

ACTOR

- Must not work exclusively in other disciplines (e.g. film, television).
- Must not be a full-time student at a university or conservatory training program at the commencement of the fellowship period (October 1, 2009).
- Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States at the time of the application postmark deadline.
- Previous recipients of the Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowships are not eligible to apply.
- For *Extraordinary Potential* applicants: Must have performed in at least three, fully staged, professional productions. Productions are considered professional if all artists are compensated at least a minimal amount for their work. Productions at educational institutions or community theatres do not meet this requirement. It is not necessary for the production to have operated on a union contract.
- Actors must self select a category (*Extraordinary Potential* or *Distinguished Achievement*), and may submit only one proposal per round.

THEATRE

- Must be a TCG member theatre in good standing.
- Must have a minimum total operating budget of \$500,000 in the most recently completed fiscal year. In-kind contributions and services may not be applied to meet this minimum.
- Theatres may submit only one proposal per round.

A listing of TCG member theatres can be found at http://tcg.org/about/membership/member_list.cfm

SELECTION PROCESS

The five recipients will be chosen through a competitive application process by a national, independent advisory panel, consisting of professional artistic directors, freelance directors and actors.

Based on the application and the actor's letters of recommendation, an advisory panel will submit their recipient recommendations to the Fox Foundation who will make the final selection. At least one actor will be selected in each of the two categories, and the remaining three awards will be granted according to overall applicant quality as determined by the advisory panel.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The advisory panel will review submitted material using the following criteria:

ACTOR

- Talent and creativity;
- Skills and professional experience;
- Degree to which the Fellowship can contribute to the actor's artistic and professional growth;
- Evidence of commitment, ability and a clear plan to carry out the proposed activities;
- Appropriateness of the partnership with the host theatre;
- Demonstrated commitment to a career in the not-for-profit theatre.

HOST THEATRE

- Evidence of commitment, ability and a clear plan to carry out the actor's proposed Fellowship activities;
- Appropriateness of the partnership;
- Organizational stability.

APPLICATION PROCESS CHECKLIST

POSTMARK AND REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2009

Applications must be jointly developed by the actor and host theatre, and submitted by the actor.

- 1. Complete the **Online Registration Form** by the postmark deadline (Midnight, June 15, 2009):
www.tcg.org/grants/fox/fox_registration.cfm
Keep the confirmation e-mail for your files. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail, your registration has not been processed.

All application materials must be completed using
- a font no smaller than 11-point Times New Roman,
- submitted single-sided, unstapled and on 8.5" x 11" paper,
- with at least 1" margins on all sides in the order listed below.

Applications must be typed and not handwritten.
Headshots, brochures, reviews and other supplemental material will not be accepted. No photos of any kind are allowed within the application documents.

- 2. **The typed and signed Application Form**
- 3. **The Actor Narrative**
- 4. **The Host Theatre Narrative**
- 5. **The Joint Narrative**
- 6. **The Actor's Resume**
with production dates, listing only professional experience as an actor and related training no longer than two single-sided pages in length;
- 7. **The Host Theatre's Mission/History Statement**
- 8. **The Host Theatre's Current Season Schedule**
noting only title, playwright, director and venue. Do not submit a brochure.

Please also include the following:

- 9. **One photocopy of all the materials listed above**, in the order listed. Please do not staple, and use only one clip.
- 10. **One copy of document proving citizenship/residency**: birth certificate, voter registration card, passport or green card.
- 11. **One copy of the Host Theatre's Audited Financial Statement** (a Form 990 is acceptable);
- 12. **Two Letters of Recommendation** (may be sent under separate cover).
Please use the Letter of Recommendation Form included in the Application Form PDF.

All applications must be submitted by the June 15, 2009 postmark deadline to:

FOX FOUNDATION RESIDENT ACTOR FELLOWSHIPS

Theatre Communications Group, 520 Eighth Avenue, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4156

Faxed or e-mailed applications and materials will not be accepted. Any additional pages or materials will not be forwarded to the panel.

Please do not seek information on the status of your application prior to the August 10, 2009 notification date.

TIMELINE

JUNE 15, 2009

Application/Letters of Recommendation, Online Registration and Postmark Deadline

WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 2009

Recipient Notification

OCTOBER 1, 2009

Earliest start date for Fellowship Activity

APRIL 1, 2010

Latest start date for Fellowship Activity

JUNE 2010

Fox Fellows Meeting and TCG National Conference

MARCH 1, 2013

Latest end date for Fellowship Activities

The **William & Eva Fox Foundation** (www.thefoxfoundation.org) was established in 1987 by Belle Fox in honor of her parents, who founded the Fox Film Corporation. The Foundation has awarded more than \$2.7 million in fellowships to 296 actors since 1994. The Fox Foundation is the largest U.S. grant maker dedicated to the artistic and professional development of theatre actors, and one of very few that provides direct financial support to individual actors.

Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, offers a wide array of services in line with its mission: to strengthen, nurture, and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. Through its artistic, management, and international programs, advocacy activities, and publications, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field, and promote a larger public understanding of and appreciation for the theatre field. TCG has over 460 member theatres nationwide.