24-HOUR THEATRE PROJECT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

For The Phoenix Theatre Company's 29th Annual Festival of New American Theatre December 2026

The Phoenix Theatre Company's 29th Annual Festival of New American Theatre will run December 4-20, 2026 featuring a variety of events, including the 24-hour Theatre Project. This event will showcase 4 short plays written, rehearsed, and performed 24 hours later! Directors, playwrights, and actors will be randomly paired at a drawing event on December 18th at 7:00pm and the plays will be performed in a showcase the following evening on December 19th at 7:00pm. **To champion local artists, we are actively seeking submissions from local Arizona directors and playwrights to participate in this event.** If selected, all artists will be paid a small honorarium for their work. There is no fee to submit. Please see below for instructions and additional details.

The submission window is Monday, August 31, 2026 – Friday, September, 18, 2026, at 5:00pm. Submissions received after this time frame will not be accepted.

The Phoenix Theatre Company is accepting submissions for the following:

- Directors:
    - We are seeking 4 local Arizona directors to direct the 4 short plays to be presented as part of the 24-hour Theatre Project on December 19, 2026 at 7:00pm
    - Directors must be available for the drawing of artists at 7:00pm on December 18, 2026 and for rehearsals on December 19, 2026. Rehearsals are typically scheduled 10:00am – 6:00pm. We will rehearse and tech during this time and AEA breaks will be observed before half hour at 6:30pm.
    - Directors will be selected in October of 2026. All artists will be notified once all selections have been made
    - All interested directors must be local to Arizona
    - To Submit:
        - Please prepare a cover letter indicating your interest and relevant experience
        - Please attach a directing or artistic resume
        - Please upload these items to the submission link for the 24-hour Theatre Project
- Playwrights
    - We are seeking 4 local Arizona playwrights to write 4 short plays to be presented as part of the 24-hour Theatre Project on December 19, 2026 at 7:00pm
    - Playwrights must be available for the drawing of artists at 7:00pm on December 18, 2026 and ideally for the performance on December 19, 2026. Playwrights are welcome to attend rehearsals but not required.
    - At the drawing of artists, playwrights will also draw two prompts which must be incorporated into their writing:
        - A setting
        - A first line of dialogue for one character
    - Playwrights will have the opportunity to interview their director and actors and then will have until 7:00am on December 19th to write their short play
    - The short play should run about 10-15 minutes total
    - Playwrights will be selected in October 2026. All artists will be notified once all selections have been made
    - All interested playwrights must be local to Arizona
    - To Submit:
        - Please attach an artistic resume
        - Please attach a sample or your writing (either a short play or an excerpt from a full-length piece) formatted as a PDF
        - Please upload these items to the submission link for the 24-hour Theatre Project