



**CRACK THEATRE FESTIVAL INC.**

% PACT centre for emerging artists

107 Railway Parade, Erskineville NSW 2034

Tel: 0416 912 763 (Finn) 0422 682 185 (Hannah)

E-mail: [cracktheatrefestival@gmail.com](mailto:cracktheatrefestival@gmail.com)

ABN: 51 393 647 030

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

### APPLYING FOR CRACK THEATRE FESTIVAL

Submit an application form - available from the Crack Theatre Festival website by the due date: **MARCH 30, 2015**. A sneak peak of the application questions can be found at the end of this document - you won't be able to save your application form as you go, so use these questions to prepare your answers. However, we can only accept applications via the online form.

The application process for the Festival is in three stages:

- **Application** - complete all elements of the application form
- **Offer & Agreement** - successful applicants receive an offer and sign an agreement
- **Logistics** - stage and technical requirements, travel and accommodation (if applicable) bookings, and other logistical information confirmed.

If your application is successful, you will be notified via email and advised of your requirements for each successive stage.

If your application is unsuccessful, don't worry! We receive many applications for the Festival each year and often have to turn away a lot of wonderful work. We'll let you know that you weren't successful and try to find time to offer feedback.

Also, an unsuccessful application doesn't mean you can't come to our Festival. In fact, we want you there, no matter what! There will be plenty of other ways you can get involved with the Festival (we always need volunteers) or simply attend to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to meet other artists, explore your ideas, and hone your practice - even if you're not on stage! We also have a series of workshops, master classes, forums and panels that are great for professional development.

## PERFORMING AT CRACK THEATRE FESTIVAL

### Venues

One of the exciting things about the Festival is that we activate disused spaces in Newcastle. We dust out dirt, old stock shelving, and pigeons and make a space where art can exist. We've been lucky enough to convert old offices, discount stores and even a whole floor of a department store into contemporary performance spaces. It feels very adventurous watching and performing in places where people aren't usually allowed to go in at all!

However, this means that there is often a lot of negotiation with owners, council, and property managers so securing a venue can take a while.

We can give you a few details that might assist you in your thinking about how your project will be staged and what will be available to you:

- We operate primarily out of a hub - 'The Crack House' - which hosts the majority of the programmed events including performances, forums, and parties. This venue is usually a disused/untenanted and non-traditional performance space which we transform for the Festival
- We also utilise a number of satellite venues that we share with the other Festival Co-presenters and which are often established or existing venues



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- Our venues do not always have 3-phase power so technical resources will reflect lower wattages and be balanced by Production staff so as not to overload any circuits
- We will endeavour to provide venues that are safe for artists and audiences at all times. All Festival-goers and artists are covered by the Public Liability Insurance provided by This is Not Art
- We endeavour to create a range of performance spaces across our venues - intimate spaces, large floor areas (great for dance works), raised performance areas, and site-specific performance areas around Newcastle.

## **Technical Information & Support**

If you are able to bring your own technical staff (operators, assistants, crew, etc.), please do! While the Festival employs a host of Production staff and volunteers who will be operating, stage managing, and supporting your performance, there are always too many jobs to be done and not enough hands or hours in which to do them.

The Festival will provide a basic setup for each performance area that will be shared across other events. Please note ALL technical requirements in your application and we will endeavour to provide all other/special gear as best we can. If you are bringing your own gear or are able to lend gear to the Festival, please also let us know in your application.

We cannot guarantee any rehearsal space or time - you will be given time to tech your performance prior to the Festival but this is usually a maximum of one hour with Production staff.

## **Marketing & Documentation**

We employ a photographer and videographer, who will document the whole Festival. On request, we can provide you with stills and raw video footage of your event. You are welcome to use these for your own archiving or promotion, but you must include acknowledgement of the photographer/videographer and Crack Theatre Festival.

We employ a Field Reporter who will write articles about individual artists and events at the Festival. They may contact you for an interview to be featured on our website and social media as part of our 'Inside Crack' series.

We are also pretty active on social media! Please 'like' us on Facebook, 'follow' us on Twitter and be part of the conversation! We have official tags that we use, so keep an eye on us and stay trending!

This is Not Art will also employ marketing and social media staff. Your show will be photographed, tweeted, shared and mentioned across many platforms, to a considerable online (and we hope real life) audience!



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## **Ticketing, Fundraising & Payment Information**

All the Festivals that participate in This is Not Art are FREE. This means that there are no ticket sales, and subsequently no Box Office takings. Occasionally there will be a 'pay for' event, and we will endeavour to provide Artist Passes or ticket deals if this should occur.

If you are raising funds to perform at the Festival, we will happily write letters of support for funding applications. However, we are unable to promote individual crowdfunding campaigns through our networks.

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer a fee or any reimbursements to most artists performing at the Festival (please see Setting the Stages for more information)

## **TRANSPORT & ACCOMMODATION**

Unfortunately, the Festival cannot provide assistance with, or subsidies for transport to and from the Festival, or accommodation and transport during the Festival for most artists (please see Setting the Stages for exceptions). There are many cheap travel and accommodation options in and around Newcastle, but please book early to avoid disappointment. Newcastle is also a very bike-able city, so please consider bringing or hiring a bicycle for the duration of the Festival. Rideshare websites like jayride.com.au can also be useful.

If you are from a regional or remote area and are interested in applying for the Festival but the cost of travel is going to keep you away, please get in touch. We're no genies, but we'll definitely try to work our magic to make sure you can attend.

## **SETTING THE STAGES**

*Setting the Stages* is a Crack Theatre Festival initiative supported by the Australia Council for the Arts. This program is like a scholarship for entry into the Festival - we offer transport, accommodation, and production costs, plus an artist fee for one work from each State and Territory in Australia.

## **Applying for Setting the Stages**

Submit a regular ol' Festival application form - available from the Crack Theatre Festival website by the due date: **MARCH 30, 2015**. Just make sure to tick the box that says you want to be considered for the initiative.

If your application is not chosen to be a part of the initiative, you will still be assessed for inclusion in the Festival program. Please let us know in your application if your attendance at the Festival hinges on this support.



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## The Criteria

To be eligible for the funding, you must be able to demonstrate:

- That you are an **independent** artist or group of artists, and
- That you are presenting a **new** contemporary performance work (can be part of an existing tour, but not a remount)

## Transport & Accommodation

If you are successful in receiving the additional support of the *Setting the Stages* initiative, **the Festival will organise and pay for your travel to and from the Festival.**

It is imperative that you complete the travel information in the artist agreement and return it to us by the due date so that we are able to organise travel as early as possible.

Travel options will include:

- Direct or indirect flights to Sydney or Newcastle, including airport transfers/taxis and additional baggage
- Trains, coaches, and buses to regional hubs, airports, or directly to Newcastle
- Reimbursement for petrol if driving

We will often have more than one group or artist travelling in the same bus or car together, so you may need to wait for others to arrive and collect their luggage.

While every effort will be made to avoid this, sometimes the only travel options will be at questionable hours of the day, but we'll do our best to support you if this happens.

**The Festival will also organise and pay for your accommodation in Newcastle during the Festival.** The accommodation will be a mix of hotel-style/shared/serviced apartments and is for the artists presenting at the Festival only.

## Artist Fees

One of the (many) perks of the *Setting the Stages* initiative is that you get PAID! We are budgeting to pay a fee for **two** key creatives per project of \$1040.25 each (including super - we care about your future!), plus \$160 in per diems for the duration of the Festival. If your team has more than two key creatives, let us know and we'll see what we can do (but no promises!).

Payments will be made upon receipt of invoices - complete details will be in your artist agreement. All payments are made via EFT.



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## **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

### **Part One: Applicant Details**

We need some information for our records, and some for reporting on demographics. All information will be kept confidential.

We'll need details for a primary contact person including: full name, e-mail, phone number, and postal address.

We'll also want to know a few things about you/your company such as: are you applying as an independent contemporary performance maker or group of makers, some of your previous experience (max. 300 words), and whether you've applied to any of the other TiNA Festivals.

Then, we'll want details of ALL the artists participating in the project including: full name, date of birth, e-mail, postcode, career status (emerging, mid-career, or established), whether they're attending the Festival, and their bio (max. 50 words, for online and print material).

### **Part Two: The Event Proposal**

This is the super important part! We need all your event info... like, ALL of it.

Including: event title and event type (performance, installation, panel, etc.), a brief description of the project (max. 20 words, for online and print program) and a detailed description of the project (max. 600 words), a detailed explanation of why you want to present the event at the Festival (max. 600 words), goals for the event in the long term (max. 200 words), and details about previous performances of this event.

### **Performance Dates & Times**

We endeavour to program all events twice across the Festival period - one day-time or earlier performance and one evening or late night performance – so we'll need to know your available dates and your ideal performance times/daily availability, AND if you/your company are interested in participating in a panel discussion or running a workshop at the Festival?

### **Technical Requirements**

The Crack Theatre Festival is able to obtain a limited pool of technical equipment for the whole Festival. All equipment is shared, and larger or more specific items cannot be guaranteed to be available. We aim to supply for each event: a few lights, two washes, a PA, and an operator. If there are important items for your show, please endeavour to bring them yourself.

We'll need you to list in detail the ideal technical requirements you would like us to supply, the technical equipment you intend on bringing and using, that will NOT be sourced by the Festival, and venue requirements (keeping in mind that we have access to a limited number of venues and most events will be sharing performance space).



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### **Support Material**

We will accept the following as support material: photos (up to five, max. 100MB), video footage (10 mins max., post online and provide links), written excerpts of the work (15 pages max.), written feedback/reviews from a prior showing or of previous work (up to five), other supporting documents such as letters of support (up to five).

### **Part Three: Funding**

Lastly (phew), we want to know how your project will be funded (self-funded, crowdfunding, grants, etc.), if you'd like to be considered for the *Setting the Stages* initiative, and what your contingency plan is if your funding is unsuccessful (can you still attend? We hope so!).