

GUIDELINES FOR THEATRE BOARD SEED FUNDING GRANTS

The University of Melbourne Theatre Board offers **Seed Funding** to new **affiliated student theatre groups**. This grant is designed to encourage diversity and renewal of student theatre.

Applications are accepted throughout the year and will be discussed and assessed at Theatre Board meetings (held monthly during Semester). Decisions regarding the applications are announced following the assessment meeting at Theatre Board.

Seed Funding is to be spent on a production or performance within one year of the grant being approved. It is possible for applicants to apply for other funding sources from Theatre Board to support the same production or performance (as long as each application meets the requisite requirements and criteria).

Maximum funding: \$2000.

The purpose of this initiative is to enrich the ecology of student theatre on campus by

- Encouraging new group formation
- Encouraging innovation and diversity of work
- Facilitating and supporting a diversity of student theatre groups on campus
- Supporting new voices to be heard
- Creating more opportunities for engagement and
- Removing financial barriers to engage in new and interesting ways with student theatre.

The grant will aid production costs, including but not limited to

- Materials and technology (excluding the purchase of desktops, laptops, tablets and mobile devices)
- Royalty payment
- Venue hire
- Equipment hire.

Seed Funding WILL NOT pay for

- Travel and transport
- Payments to students.

Eligibility criteria

- The application must clearly articulate the student theatre groups aims and objectives
- At least 75% of the people involved in the new student theatre group must be currently enrolled students in any University of Melbourne course (undergraduate or graduate)
- Productions and performances must be extracurricular and not form part of any academic assessment. Where there is ambiguity about this point please consult the Artistic Director/Theatre Coordinator, Union House Theatre.

Process of application

- An application form will be available via the Theatre Board Blog: <https://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/theatreboard/>
- Applicants must address how their project may respond to the specific aims or purposes of the initiative, as detailed above
- The creative work must be performed within 12 months of approval
- Applications must include rationale; short biographies of all key personnel including applicants, and a budget that specifies grant money expenditure
- Applications must use the online form provided
- Theatre Board will accept applications throughout the year ahead of its meeting in that month.

Expected outcomes

- Theatre Board is to be informed of the dates, times and venue for the production so that representatives of the Board and UHT may attend. The group may suggest preferred times for such attendance. Where possible a complimentary ticket for Theatre Board members would be appreciated
- As the group prepares for production, ensure the program and promotional material acknowledges financial support from Theatre Board. The following wording is to be used: *This production gratefully acknowledges the support of the University of Melbourne Theatre Board through its Seed Funding scheme*
- Theatre Board strongly encourages theatre groups that have received its financial support to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which their production is produced and performed. The suggested wording is as follows

(The name of the group) acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which this work was developed and is presented. We pay our respect to their elders past and present
- The group is required to submit a report to Theatre Board **within a month** of the **completion** of the project. The group will be sent a link to support the submission of this acquittal, which will include what the group did, who was involved, how effective it was and what future outcomes are likely. A financial report, including receipts, must be attached to the report.

If your group has any questions about the Theatre Board Seed Funding Grants, contact the Artistic Director/Theatre Coordinator, Union House Theatre artistic@union.unimelb.edu.au
