

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

## GUIDELINES FOR THEATRE BOARD NEW WORK GRANTS

The University of Melbourne Theatre Board offers New Work Grants grants to affiliated student theatre groups to encourage creative risk taking and the development of original Australian work (in any performing arts discipline) with a production outcome.

Please note that the New Work Grant differs from the Theatre Board's Creative Development Grant in that it is a requirement that the new work will result in a production/performance that will occur within one year of the grant being approved. It is possible for applicants to apply for both a Theatre Board Creative Development Grant and a New Work Grant for the same project (if each application meets the requisite requirements and criteria).

Applications can be submitted via SmartyGrants. Refer to the Theatre Board Blog to initiate the application process: <https://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/theatreboard/>

Maximum funding: \$2000.

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

- Encouraging creative risk-taking by providing a safety net
- Encouraging activities which deepen the understanding of form
- Facilitating the exploration of different art form practices
- Encouraging cross-art form collaborations.

Projects might take several different forms, including but not limited to

- New Writing
- Adaptation of Classic Text
- Devised work
- Dance work
- Cross-Disciplinary work
- New Australian work (unproduced).

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
- Fees for professional artists to work with the group
- Venue hire
- Equipment hire.

A development grant WILL NOT pay for

- Administrative costs associated with the running of a group
- Funding for theatre camps
- Productions or other activities that are part of an assessment for a subject or course
- Travel and transport
- Payments to students.

## Eligibility criteria

- The application must demonstrate creative risk taking and the development of an original Australian work (in any performing arts discipline) tied to production outcomes
- At least 75% of the people involved in the proposed project must be currently enrolled students in any University of Melbourne course (undergraduate or graduate)
- At least one of the personnel involved in the project must work in a professional capacity in the arts industry. This will need to be demonstrated in the application. Professional involvement in the project can take many different forms. The desire from the Theatre Board here is for a professional to provide artistic mentorship, leadership and support. It also supports the development of networks and pathways into professional life as an artist
- Proposed activities must be extracurricular and not form part of any applicant's academic assessment. Where there is ambiguity about this point please consult the Artistic Director/Theatre Coordinator, Union House Theatre.

## Expected outcomes

- The 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 the 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 New Work Grant scheme*
- The group is required to submit a report to the Theatre Board at least once during the development process and within a month of the completion of the project. The acquittal report should include what the group did, who was involved, how effective it was and what future outcomes are likely (if any). It should also include a brief response from any professional personnel involved on the effectiveness of the process
- A financial report, including receipts, must be attached to the acquittal report.

## Access

- Accessibility in theatre means considering and identifying what barriers your production might pose to audiences and what action you can take to remove those barriers
- Refer to the following for information on how to make your theatre show more accessible: [umsu.unimelb.edu.au/studentlife/theatre/infogroups/access/](https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/studentlife/theatre/infogroups/access/)

If your group has any questions about the Theatre Board New Work Grant scheme contact Annie Fitzgibbon [afit@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:afit@unimelb.edu.au)