

OnStage! festival
L'America è di scena
Rome, Italy - January 21st – 27th 2019

**OFFICIAL CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:
FIRST EDITION OF THE ONSTAGE! FESTIVAL
ONSTAGE! PLAYWRITING AWARD**

We strongly recommend that you carefully read through the following Festival rules and guidelines before submitting your application.

DEADLINE: JUNE 20st 2018

1. FESTIVAL MISSION AND GUIDELINES

Created to celebrate independent American Theater in Italy, OnStage! follows in the long-running, successful footsteps of InScena! Italian Theater Festival in New York, and mirrors it across the ocean. OnStage! is the American Theater Festival in Rome. It is presented by KIT Italia, Kairos Italy Theater, and The International Theatre, in partnership with several Italian and American institutions (find the updated list on our website: onstagefestival.it)

The Festival's first edition will be held in January 2019 in Rome, Italy, across a few different venues. OnStage! will host fully staged productions of American shows (in English with Italian supertitles), readings of plays by American playwrights (with full Italian translations), and the OnStage Award for US playwrights. The winning play will receive a staged reading of its Italian translation, which will be provided by the Festival as part of the award. The calendar will also include special events, panels, lectures, and master classes. Admission to all Festival shows and events will be ticketed, with a moderate ticket price to partially cover the organizational costs.

Submissions are now open for the OnStage Playwriting Award. This category is open to any and all unproduced plays by American playwrights. We are seeking submissions across any and all themes, subject matters, and theatrical styles. See below section 3.2 “Eligibility Requirements” for further details on eligibility requirements.

By submitting your proposal, you fully agree to the rules and regulations outlined in this document. If your proposal is selected, you will be required to sign a detailed agreement in line with these regulations.

2. SUBMISSION FEES

As is customary for theater festivals in Italy, submissions in the OnStage Playwriting Award category will be subject to a \$40 non-refundable submission fee. The fees will be used to partially cover administrative costs and translation costs, as an Italian translation of the winning play will be commissioned by the Festival as part of the award. The fee is to be paid via paypal through our website onstagefestival.it

3. ONSTAGE PLAYWRITING AWARD

Since its first edition, *OnStage! L'America in scena* Festival will establish a Playwriting Award to be awarded each year to a US playwright for an unproduced play. Submissions are open to any and all playwrights living in North America and writing primarily in English.

Plays must be full-length, between 40-100 pages, unproduced and original. Plays that have previously received a workshop or university production are considered

unproduced. Plays that have been published but haven't received a full production are considered eligible. We accept adaptations from dramas or novels, but not translations.

Submissions must be in PDF format. Only one submission is allowed per playwright per year. A jury of theater professionals working in Italy and in the USA, theater critics and artists will select the winner.

There is a \$40 submission fee to cover administrative and translation costs.

3.1 THE AWARD

The OnStage Award is given every year to an original play by an American playwright. Its aim is to promote contemporary American playwriting and to offer the winner the opportunity to showcase their work in Italy, by having their play premiere during the Festival as a reading.

The winner will receive a professional Italian translation of the play as well as a public reading of the play during *OnStage!festival* in Rome, Italy, curated by the Festival organization with a professional director and cast.

In addition to the translation, the winner will receive professional Festival photos of the reading, video recording of the reading and all press materials related to the award – as well as an especially created Award artwork designed by an Italian artist.

The winner will be officially notified via email by September 10th 2018.

3.2 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Submissions are open to any and all playwrights living in North America and writing primarily in English. The play must have never been previously produced, but it can have been published or presented as a reading outside of Italy.

3.3 SELECTION PRIORITY

Priority will be given to plays that:

- a) do not last more than 1 hour and 15 minutes when presented as a reading
- b) are easily accessible to a broad audience

NOTE - *The play as a reading may not last more than 1 hour and 15 minutes. The jury will take into consideration the following: quality of the writing, originality of the subject matter, universality including potential to be meaningful in an international context. Each playwright is allowed to submit one play only.*

3.4 CRITERIA FOR EXCLUSION

Submissions that do not comply with the above requirements will be excluded from the competition.

The plays must have never been previously produced and must not be professionally produced anytime before the *OnStage* award ceremony, but they can have been published or presented as a reading outside of Italy. Playwrights that submit more than one play will be disqualified.

3.5 THE JURY

The Jury of the OnStage Award includes theater professionals working in Italy and in the USA, theater critics and artists. The Jury may decide not to give the Award if they do not deem any of the submitted plays eligible and deserving. Jury decisions are final.

The members of the Jury will be announced by **July 15th 2018**.

3.6 TRANSLATION

The professional Italian translation of the winning play will be commissioned by the Festival as part of the award and at no cost to the playwright. The translation will be sent to the winning playwright within 30 days of the public reading of the

play, to be held in Italy during the Festival. When the winning play is announced, the playwright will be required to sign an agreement with the Festival detailing the terms of the translation copyright. The rights to the translation will remain exclusive property of OnStage! Festival for 10 years.

The winning play will also be published (e-book and/or printed) in a bilingual edition in the OnStage Award series.

3.7 GUIDELINES TO SUBMIT TO THE ONSTAGE PLAYWRITING AWARD

- Each playwright must complete the **ONLINE FORM** found at: onstagefestival.it and pay the \$40 submission fee via paypal through our website onstagefestival.it

- At the same time, each submission must be completed by sending an email to OSAward@onstagefestival.it , with the subject: "ONSTAGE AWARD + title of the play", attaching:

- A short cover letter introducing the playwright and the play
- The full play script (PDF)
- Playwright's biography
- A signed copy of the release form, which may be downloaded from our website
- Proof of payment of the \$40 submission fee

Only complete submissions received **by June 20th 2018** will be eligible.

The winner of the OnStage Drama Award will be announced on **September 10th 2018**.

For any questions, additional information, or technical enquiries, feel free to contact us at info@onstagefestival.it