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CATCO, GCAC Announce 2018 Playwright Fellowship Program

Submissions due Dec. 30

CATCO, in partnership with the Greater Columbus Arts Council (Arts Council), announced today it will accept submissions for the 2018 Playwright Fellowship program through Dec. 30, 2018.

Through the fellowship, CATCO will award one \$5,000 fellowship for a previously unproduced, full-length play by a local playwright. The recipient will be announced March 18, 2019, with a staged reading of the completed work to be produced in June 2019. To be eligible, an applicant must be a Franklin County resident for at least one year.

"CATCO has a long history of supporting new works and local artists in the central Ohio community and we look forward to working, once again, with the fellowship winner and helping him or her to develop a play," said Joe Bishara, CATCO associate producing director.

"The Art Council's Individual Artist Fellowship program was established in 1986 to recognize outstanding local artists, and since that time we've continued to grow our program by engaging partners to increase the numbers and types of fellowships we offer," said Tom Katzenmeyer, Arts Council President and CEO. "We are delighted to continue our partnership with CATCO to benefit artists in the theatre community through this playwright fellowship."

Though not part of the commission, the selected play may be considered for a full production at a future date.

Undergraduate students enrolled in a degree- or certificate-granting program at the time of application or during the grant award period are not eligible to apply. In addition, adaptations of other written work will not be considered, and works submitted must have been created within the last three years. Musicals are eligible.

Selection criteria will include originality, likelihood of future productions, clarity of voice and general interest in the subject matter. Interested artists are asked to submit a cover letter and the following:

- Breakdown of characters with brief descriptions
- Up to 10 pages of sample dialogue
- Brief synopsis (one or two paragraphs) of the play to be considered
- Cover page that provides the playwright's name, address and contact information. (Plays will be considered without the playwright's information attached to insure impartial selection.)

Collaborative works may be submitted, but only one award is possible. Collaborating playwrights must submit a joint cover letter and clearly indicate the names of the collaborative writers.

Submissions should be mailed to:

Joseph Bishara, CATCO Associate Producing Director and Playwright Fellowship Coordinator CATCO 77 S. High St., 2nd Floor, Columbus, OH 43215 jbishara@catco.org

For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org and gcac.org.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' 34th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Helen E. Sandfort Arts-in-Education and Florence E.K. Hurd Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library; and media sponsor is WOSU public media. CATCO is Kids' presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit **catcoistheatre.org**.

About the Greater Columbus Arts Council

Through vision and leadership, advocacy and collaboration, the Greater Columbus Arts Council supports art and advances the culture of the region. A catalyst for excellence and innovation, the Arts Council funds exemplary artists and arts organizations and provides programs, events and services of public value that educate and engage all audiences in our community. The Arts Council is supported by the city of Columbus, the Ohio Arts Council, and individuals and businesses throughout the community. www.gcac.org

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org. Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.