

THE Red EYE 10S

INTERNATIONAL PLAYFESTIVAL

The Red Eye Play Festival is a 24-Hour, 10-Minute Play festival featuring six original plays in multiple theaters around the world ON THE SAME DAY! Our goal is to find hosts around the world to produce the six plays and share that process with everyone else involved through social media and our redeye10s.com website. It's a worldwide collaboration and celebration of new work for young audiences.

Our 2016 Festival will take place on Saturday, *September 17th*.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A RED EYE 10S HOST?

The most important Red Eye Host Theater requirement is a love of collaboration and creativity. The entire festival takes place within a 24-hour period. Some sites may choose to have a Cast Selection Reception at 8 pm on Friday night to celebrate the random casting of the plays and give the director a chance to pass on information to the cast before rehearsals begin the following morning. Some sites may not have the space available Friday night and choose to cast and kick off rehearsals Saturday morning. Each site should choose the method/structure that works best for their theater.

The Red Eye Play Festival team is available to answer questions throughout the entire process to help each host theater have the most positive experience possible. However, a certain level of stress is inherent in producing a 24-hour event, so host theaters should be aware of that going in. It's a wonderful, chaotic and creative stress, however, and tends to lead to fantastic and unique productions across the country.

RED EYE PLAY FESTIVAL HOSTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. A performance space and chairs for an audience.
2. Five (5) rehearsal spaces in addition to one (1) performance space. - This can be very flexible. We've had parking lots designated as rehearsal spaces, as well as theater lobbies, hallways and office spaces. Be creative!

3. Eighteen (18) to thirty-six (36) actors (cast requirements will be made available by Sept. 1st). Some hosts mix community, student and professional actors. Some hosts are in an educational setting (i.e., junior high, high school or colleges) or purely community-based. Part of the fun is seeing how each site deals with the plays in their own way.
4. Six (6) directors - Again, due to the mixed nature of the host theaters, all ranges of experience and training are perfectly acceptable. Some theaters use the Red Eye to try out new directors or give students a first-shot at directing, while others bring in experienced directors. The only requirement is that there are six people willing to direct.

Playwright guidelines:

1. Each script must be no more than ten minutes long and in English.
2. Each script should have between 3 and 6 characters, taking into consideration that most theaters have more women available than men.
3. All plays must be written with minimal production needs, including set, costume, props, lights and no elaborate special effects.
4. All plays must be appropriate for general audiences. No gratuitous adult content or language. No nudity. Think rated PG. Our Festival is focusing on plays for young adults, so please submit accordingly.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Playwrights from around the world may submit one (1) 10-minute play for consideration, with a cap at 50 plays. A jury of 3-4 theatre professionals read and score each script. The Red Eye Play Festival Selection Committee gives the top ten plays a second round of reads and makes a final selection of six plays which they feel best create a varied and exiting evening of original work. All host sites are invited to have one representative join the jury for the first round of readings and help recommend the top ten plays.

Once final selection has taken place (10-14 days prior to the performance day at the latest), each Host Theatre will receive the six scripts and be able to determine cast requirements, as well as any specific costume/prop needs. The Host Theater may match their directors to the appropriate play at this time and forward to the script to their directors, if they choose.

Casting takes place by a random draw NO MORE THAN 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE. The six directors should line up and take turns pulling one actor name at a time from a hat until all roles have been cast. If the host site wishes, they may use a male hat and a female hat, although it tends to be more fun if the casting is completely random and cross-gender opportunities are allowed to occur organically. However, if a

host theater is using less experienced actors, it may create a more positive working atmosphere if the casting is gender correct.

Once the plays have been cast, each director & cast is given a rehearsal space and a schedule for the day. Generally, each group has 45-60 minutes on stage at one point during the day and the group moving from the stage switches space with the group going to the stage next. At a time deemed appropriate by each site, all groups will have a short cue-to-cue on stage before breaking for dinner and opening the house.

The Red Eye provides each host with marketing material templates (i.e., a sample press release, poster, etc.) and a playbill template. Hosts simply need to add their actor/director info and make copies. We also provide step-by-step directions for the social media campaigns to stream to our website, Twitter and Facebook page.

At 8 pm in each respective time zone the performances begin! Each host site may choose whether to have cast members sit in the audience before/after their performances or to keep them backstage. Both models have proven successful. Each host site may also choose whether or not to host a post-show talk back and/or party for the artists and audience.

Throughout the day, host theaters around the world share pictures and messages via the Red Eye Play Festival FaceBook page and Twitter, which automatically stream to our RedEye10s.com website. This creates a wonderful collaborative excitement and connection between the groups. As theaters in each time zone kick off their performance, messages of support pour in from fellow host theaters. Some theaters may choose to set up a television in the lobby to display the FaceBook page activity or share video interviews with the playwrights, directors and actors. That is completely up to each host site and their technical capabilities.

Some host sites choose to use the Red Eye festival as a fundraising opportunity while others prefer to offer a free theater option. Please choose the method and ticket price that fits your audience. ***At this point in time there is no fee connected to being a Red Eye Host.*** Most importantly, though, is that each host site promises to have a ridiculous amount of fun throughout the entire Red Eye process!

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this event, please contact our Festival *Executive Producer*, Wendy-Marie Martin at (805) 540-8695. Thank you!