

You are receiving this email because you're a NAMT member, donor or Festival alumni writer.



November 20, 2014

WRITERS RESIDENCY GRANT APPLICATION ONLINE

We are now accepting applications for our next round of Writers Residency Grants. These grants are given to NAMT Member theatres to support work with writers on projects in development. Only U.S.-based not-for-profit members in good standing are eligible. [You can read about the grants and access the application online.](#) Applications are due **Monday, December 1st.**

NATIONAL FUND FOR NEW MUSICALS INTENT TO APPLY NOW ONLINE

NAMT's National Fund for New Musicals has begun a new round of applications. The grants are given to not-for-profit, U.S. member theatres in good standing to support writers working at theatres at Project Development or Production stages of development. Grants are for projects happening between May 1, 2015 and October 31, 2016. **The Intent to Apply is due on December 11th and the application is due on January 22, 2015.** [The online application and granting guidelines can be found on our website.](#)

APPLY FOR THE 2015 FESTIVAL OF NEW MUSICALS

The application for the 27th Annual Festival of New Musicals will go online on **December 1.** You can read the guidelines and access the application on our website at that time. Member/Alumni submissions are due on January 29th (or February 12th with a late fee).



New Works Director Branden Huldeen will host a Festival Submission Q&A session in New York City for any writers or producers interested in submitting shows. Branden will walk through the application process with the attendees and provide tips for a successful submission. To RSVP, e-mail



UPCOMING PROJECTS

bolded blue = NAMT members

NFNM = National Fund for New Musicals

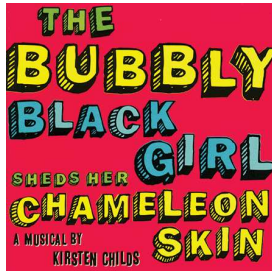
* = Sponsored Listing

IS YOUR SHOW MISSING?
[click here to give us the details!](#)

CARMEN (full production)
Book & Lyrics by Moises Kaufman
Music adaptation by Arturo O'Farrill
University of Miami, Miami, FL
Co-production with Tectonic Theatre Project

festival@namt.org with your name. The session will take place on December 11th from 5-6:30pm in Studio B at A.R.T./New York (520 8th Ave, 3rd Floor Studio B). Additional Festival info sessions TBA.

BUBBLY BLACK GIRL REUNION CONCERT



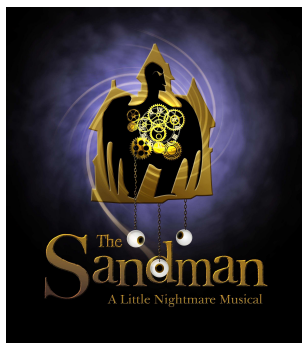
The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin by Kirsten Childs (Fest '98) will have a reunion concert on March 30, 2015 at 54 Below! This exciting concert will feature LaChanze in the title role and the entire cast of the original Off Broadway production and will be directed by original cast member Jerry Dixon. This

is a concert you will definitely not want to miss. [Tickets](#) are on sale now!



FESTIVAL SHOW UPDATE

This month, we catch up with alumni Richard Oberacker and Robert Taylor about the development of their 2013 Festival show, The Sandman, with Playing Pretend and their upcoming production in Denmark.



Drawn from the more nightmarish fantasy of E.T.A. Hoffmann, author of The Nutcracker, comes a new and darkly comic musical tale: The Sandman. When Maria, the wife of an ingenious German clockmaker named Albert Strauss engages a new nanny, Fraulein Kaeseschweiss, to care for the two children, Nathaniel and

Theresa, a series of bizarre and unnatural events begins to unfold. As Theresa falls mysteriously ill, a flamboyant and unconventional physician, Dr. Copelius, is summoned upon the nanny's recommendation. The doctor comes with a young ward in tow, Clara Stahlbaum, recently orphaned after her entire family was incinerated in an inexplicable Christmas tree fire. And as the Strauss family is thrust ever deeper into chaos, the sinister and Machiavellian forces at play are gradually revealed—forces from

Through Nov. 23

www.as.miami.edu

THE UNDERCLASSMAN (full production)

By Peter Mills (Fest '09- *Iron Curtain*, '12- *Golden Boy*...) & Cara

Reichel (Fest '12- *Golden Boy*...)

Prospect Theater Co., New York, NY

Through Nov. 23

www.prospecttheater.org

SCROOGE IN LOVE! (workshop)

Written by Duane Poole (Fest

'14- *Beautiful Poison*)

Music by Larry Grossman (Fest

'95- *Paper Moon*)

Lyrics by Johnny Mercer

American Music Theatre Project at Northwestern University,

Evanston, IL

Nov. 23

www.amtp.northwestern.edu

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE

DAME (full production)

Music by Alan Menken (Fest

'03- *Ballad of Little Pinks*)

Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz (Fest

'96- *Children of Eden*)

Book by Peter Parnell

La Jolla Playhouse, La Jolla, CA

Through Dec. 14

www.lajollaplayhouse.org

Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn,

NJ

Mar. 4- Apr. 5

www.papermill.org

IRVING BERLIN'S HOLIDAY

INN (full production)

See article from previous issue

Music & Lyrics by Irving Berlin

Book by Gordon Greenberg (Fest

'09- *Band Geeks!*, '12- *The Single Girls*)

which only the children may be able to save them.

What was the feedback like after you presented at the Festival?

The feedback immediately following the presentations was very strong. This included members approaching us directly after the performances and at the followup "meet the authors" events. There were certainly a lot of questions about how the story ended, the true "fear factor" and the appropriateness of the material for various age groups. From our point of view this was a perfect response because it meant we had used the presentation to introduce the material, but not give the whole thing away and to make people curious about whether or not the show was right for their theater. It seems to us that the best thing an author can do is to present an excerpt that makes the members want to read and listen to the complete work.

You are now working with NAMT Member Playing Pretend to develop the show. Tell us a bit about all of the exciting developments on the show since the Festival.

Playing Pretend came onboard the project because of Stephanie Cowan, who served as our NAMT Consultant for the Festival. It was really her enthusiasm that brought that production company to the table. With them, and our director from the NAMT Festival Sam Buntrock (*Sunday In the Park With George* B'way revival), we have had continued conversations about the dramaturgy of the piece and have had the luxury of a week-long writing "summit" in New York that culminated in another private table reading of the complete work, incorporating all of the changes and new material. We have also secured the participation of several key design and creative collaborators who will be absolutely essential in giving the show an indelible look and physical vocabulary—one that we expect will be as surprising and unique as the story itself. We have on the calendar over the next few months several workshops with each of these artists to develop their particular contributions to the work. We expect all these elements to be brought together in a developmental workshop sometime in 2015. So far these collaborators include Michael Curry designing all sets, props, costumes and puppets; Jules Fisher and Peggy Eisenhauer designing the lighting; Sam Pinkleton creating the choreography and Teller (of Penn and Teller) designing the illusions.

What type of work have you done on the show since the presentation beyond the expansion of your team with Playing

Guide) & Chad Hodge

Goodspeed Musicals, East
Haddam, CT
Through Dec. 28

www.goodspeed.org

DISENCHANTED (full production)
Book, Music & Lyrics by Dennis T.
Giacino

Produced by **Town Square
Productions**

Developed at Straz Center for the
Performing Arts
Theatre at St. Clements, New
York, NY
Nov. 26-Jan. 25

www.disenchantedmusical.com

MURDER FOR TWO (full
production)
Book & Music by Joe Kinosian
Book & Lyrics by Kellen Blair
Pittsburgh CLO, Pittsburgh, PA
Through Jan. 18

www.pittsburghclo.org

The Old Globe, San Diego, CA
Jan. 21-Mar. 1

www.theoldglobe.org

**GOODSPEED FESTIVAL OF NEW
MUSICALS** (staged readings)

Goodspeed

Musicals, Chester, CT
Jan. 16-18

www.goodspeed.org

HAMILTON (full production)
By Lin-Manuel Miranda
Public Theater, New York, NY
Jan. 20-Feb. 22

www.publictheater.org

STAGGER LEE (full production)
**Previous NFNM Project
Development Grant**

Book and Lyrics by Will Power
Music by Will Power and Justin
Ellington
Dallas Theater Center, Dallas, TX
Jan. 21- Feb. 15

www.dallastheatercenter.org

Pretend?

Since the Festival presentation, we have continued to streamline act one: incorporating many of the edits we made to make the piece work in the festival time limit. We also added two new songs in act 2: one, a comic production number, and the other a song which deepens the emotional connection to one of the supporting principles, lending an additional layer of humanity to the piece as a whole.

Also, this February the show will premiere in Denmark at NAMT Member Fredericia Theatre. This is not affiliated with your work with Playing Pretend but what are you hoping to get out of putting the show up on its feet in Denmark?

We are thrilled that Soren Moeller took such a shine to the piece and followed through on his excitement by offering a full production. The fact that this production will be its own entity in terms of direction and design has more to do with the schedules of our U.S. creative team than anything else. That being said, we are actually looking forward to having the experience of handing the piece over to a completely new creative team and stepping back to allow them to do essentially as they please with it. And there is much to learn in the European approach to developing new work which relies less on multiple readings, workshops and notes by committee and more on putting the work before an audience and trusting that the authors themselves will see clearly what works, what doesn't and what they wish to change for future full productions. Naturally this approach saves any new work from dreaded "Development Hell" that sadly swallows most new works here in the States where production costs are so high—and not state or federally supported—and theaters are therefore extremely risk-averse. For the Denmark premiere we will have the privilege of having the score orchestrated by the brilliant Bruce Coughlin as well as having the material interpreted by an internationally recognized director who is Argentinean by birth, but lives and works throughout Europe. We look forward to what their combined life and artistic experience will bring to the bizarre and twisted world of our show. And lastly, as *The Sandman* is a fairy tale—albeit a macabre German fairy tale—fewer countries have a closer connection to the art of the fairy tale than Denmark. We expect to learn much about the tone of the piece in how these artists approach the material and how these audiences react to it.

What are you hoping will be the next steps for the show?

We hope that the next steps for the show are ones that organically arise out the needs of the piece itself. If the show,

WAITING FOR JOHNNY

DEPP (full production)

By Janet Cole Valdez, Deedee O'Malley & Bettie Ross

Theatre Under The Stars,

Houston, TX

Jan. 22-Feb. 1

www.tutsunderground.com

MY HEART IS THE DRUM (full production)

NAMT Fest '13

[See article from previous issue](#)

Concept and Music by Phillip Palmer

Lyrics by Stacey Luftig

Book by Jennie Redling

Kent State University School of Theatre and Dance, Kent, OH

Feb. 20-Mar. 1

www.kent.edu

LONG STORY SHORT (full production)

by Brendan Milburn (Fest '11-*Watt?!!*) and Valerie Vigoda (both, Fest '04-*Striking 12*, '12-*Sleeping Beauty Wakes*, '14-*Beautiful Poison*)
Prospect Theater Co., New York, NY

Feb. 28-Mar. 29

www.prospecttheater.org

FIELD HOCKEY HOT (full production)

[See article on the left](#)

Book, Music & Lyrics by Michael Ogborn

11th Hour Theatre Company,

Philadelphia, PA

Mar. 5- 22

www.11thhourtheatrecompany.org

IOWA (full production)

Written by Jenny Schwartz

Music & Lyrics by Todd Almond

Oratorio Lyrics by Schwartz

Playwrights Horizons, New York, NY

as we suspect, benefits greatly from unique designs that might be better executed and experienced in a non-traditional venue, then the next steps we would hope for would be ones that allow the design team to fully explore and develop these options. Once that has been fully realized, then surely the right venue for the production as it has been conceived would be self-evident and the producing team would move to secure it and present the show to the public. That particular venue and presentation might not be a commercial run in a proscenium theater. But once the show has had the opportunity to be experienced in a possibly unique venue, then a further step might be taken to find out if the show works in a more standard theatrical venue which would allow for a traditional commercial run.

For more information about the show and to listen and download the demo recording featuring Mary Testa and Patrick Page, please [click here](#).

NEW WORK IN PROGRESS

This month, we check in with Kate Galvin, Associate Producer and General Manager at 11th Hour Theatre Company, as she tells us about their brand new musical, Field Hockey Hot.



Field Hockey Hot is a smart and entertaining new satire about a high school girls' field hockey team, their ambitious coach and America's favorite

pastime...winning! When Applebee Academy's star goalie is injured two weeks before the championship, Coach Shipley Barnes will stop at nothing to win the North American title. It's a hilarious and zany comedy featuring a pop score inspired by iconic musicians of the 1980s and a world where field hockey rules all!

How did Field Hockey Hot find its way to 11th Hour?

Writer/Composer Michael Ogborn had come to see our 2008 production of *Reefer Madness* and it just clicked! Michael has an outrageous sense of humor and he'd been kicking around an idea about field hockey and female athletes (those hot, tough, unapproachable girls from high school) but the show hadn't taken shape for him yet. When he saw our version of *Reefer*, the style

Mar. 20-May 10

www.playwrightshorizons.org

LMNOP (full production)

Music by Paul Loesel

Book & Lyrics by Scott Burkell

Theatre Under the Stars,

Houston, TX

Apr 7-19

www.tutsunderground.com

NEXT: New Musicals in the Making (workshops)

Theater Latté Da, Minneapolis, MN

Apr. 30-May 17

www.theaterlatteda.com

THE ZIMMER GIRLS (full production)

Music by Ed Linderman (Fest '96-*Fragrant Harbour*)

Book & Lyrics by Robert Solomon & Ed Linderman

Nebraska Wesleyan University, Kent, OH

Apr. 30-May 10

www.nebrwesleyan.edu

EVER AFTER (full production)

Music by Zina Goldrich

Book & Lyrics by Marcy Heisler

Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn, NJ

May 21- June 21

www.papermill.org



www.DISENCHANTEDmusical.com

Off-Broadway Nov 26 - Jan 25

and performances and musical drive matched what he wanted *Field Hockey Hot* to be. He knew then that he wanted 11th Hour to produce this show.

What attracted you and the rest of 11th Hour to the show originally?

We love Michael's work and we also love him. Although he may be unknown to many of the NAMT members, Michael's work is beloved in Philadelphia; he's been produced by 1812 Productions, the Arden Theatre Company and People's Light and Theater, where he has written many British-style Pantos for the holidays. So we were honored that he wanted to work with us. And we couldn't stop laughing when he pitched us the show! Michael sat down at a piano and talked us through the basic story, playing a little bit of the songs and stepping in to each character. He's a master; we were rolling!

Your organization has been quite active in the development of the show. Tell us a bit about the process of developing the show.

Once Michael gave us the initial pitch, we agreed to commission it. So 11th Hour has been involved every step of the way, with director Megan Nicole O'Brien providing valuable input to the development of the script. We've also had a few actors involved since the beginning, including Jennie Eisenhower who will star as Coach Shipley Barnes. Michael wrote the role for her after seeing her in *Reefer*, so her voice is very strong in the style of the piece. We did a few table reads with the staff and a handful of actors. And then we were lucky enough to get a workshop opportunity with University of the Arts. This gave Michael and our Musical Director/Orchestrator Daniel Kazemi the chance to really flesh out the vocal arrangements and gave our choreographer Kat Borelli the chance to experiment with the physical side of the show. We then shifted our focus back to the book and have been working on that for the past several months, trying to work out the complicated second act and figure out how to get the cast to 10 actors (down from 17 in the UArts workshop). There is a lot of gender-bending in the show, so figuring out the right male to female ratio and all of the doubling was a little tricky. We have a final 29-hour reading coming up in December with the full cast and then we start rehearsal in February.

Why is the show a good fit for your organization and audience?

11th Hour has had a lot of success with highly stylized comedies like *The Bomb-itty of Errors*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Reefer Madness* and *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*. *Field Hockey Hot* absolutely fits into that genre and we know our audience is going love this show. And after doing many Philadelphia premieres, we're really excited to be producing our first World Premiere!

TOURS AND OPEN-ENDED RUNS

ALADDIN (Broadway)

Music by Alan Menken (Fest '03–*Ballad of Little Pinks*)

Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice (Fest '94–*Tycoon*)

Book & Add'l Lyrics by Chad Beguelin (Fest '94–*Wicked City*)
New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, NY

Open-ended run

www.aladdinbroadway.com

A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER (Broadway)

Book & Lyrics by Robert L. Freedman

Music by Steven Lutvak

Produced by **Margot Astrachan Productions** in association with **The Old Globe**

Walter Kerr Theatre, New York, NY
Open-ended run

www.agentlemansguidebroadway.com

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO (Broadway)

Music by Lucy Simon

Lyrics by Michael Korie (NAMT Fest '89–*Blanco*) & Amy Powers (NAMT Fest '00–*Lizzie Borden*)

Book by Michael Weller

Produced by **Junkyard Dog Productions** and **RKO Stage Productions**

Broadway Theatre, New York, NY
Performances begin March 27

www.doctorzhivagobroadway.com

IF/THEN (Broadway)

Music by Tom Kitt

Book & Lyrics by Brian Yorkey (Fest '01–*Making Tracks*)

Richard Rodgers Theatre, New York, NY

Open-ended run

www.ifthenmusical.com

HONEYMOON IN VEGAS

Why should everyone come to Philly in the spring to catch Field Hockey Hot?

Because you should know Michael Ogborn! Because we have an all-star cast of Philadelphia actors and creatives. And because who doesn't love 80's pop music and men in skirts?

For more information about the show, please [click here](#).

2014 FESTIVAL PHOTOS



Photos by Ric Kallaher

(Broadway)

Book by Andrew Bergman
Music & Lyrics by Jason Robert Brown
(NAMT Fest '97- Songs for a New World)

Produced by **Paper Mill Playhouse**
Nederlander Theatre, New York, NY
Performances begin Nov. 18
www.honeymoonbroadway.com

IT SHOULD A BEEN YOU

(Broadway)

NAMT Fest '09

Music by Barbara Anselmi
Book & Lyrics by Brian Hargrove
Brooks Atkinson Theatre, New York, NY

Performances begin March 17
www.itshouldabeenyou.com

THE LAST SHIP (Broadway)

Music & Lyrics by Sting
Book by John Logan and Brian Yorkey
(NAMT Fest '01- *Making Tracks*)
Neil Simon Theatre, New York, NY
Open-ended run
www.thelastshipbroadway.com

THE LION KING (Multiple Locations)

Book by Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi
Music by Elton John, Lyrics by Tim Rice (Fest '94-*Tycoon*)
Multiple productions
Open-ended runs
www.lionking.com

NEWSIES (Nat'l Tour)

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music by Alan Menken (Fest '03-*Ballad of Little Pinks*)
Lyrics by Jack Feldman
Nat'l Tour
www.newsiesthemusical.com

WICKED (Multiple Locations)

Book by Winnie Holzman
Music & Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz (Fest '96-*Children of Eden*)
Multiple locations and tours
Open-ended run
www.wickedthemusical.com

Clockwise from the top: *The Noteworthy Life of Howard Barnes*; Lewis Cleale and Mary Testa in *Stu for Silverton*; EJ Zimmerman and Marc De La Cruz in the Songwriters Showcase; Amber Reauche Williams, Jon Rua and Vladimir Versailles in *How to Break*; Mamie Parris, Emerson Steele and Kevin Earley in *Mary Marie*.

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