



**2017
CHARLES SLUCKI
PLAYWRITING
AWARD**

**PART 1:
Objectives, Rules and Conditions of Entry**

**PART 2:
Judging, Criteria**

Entries Closing Date:

6th June 2017

(Entries must be postmarked on or before 6th June 2017)

Saltpillar Theatre Inc.
PO Box 1063, Caulfield North 3161

Email: info@saltpillar.org.au
Website: www.saltpillar.org.au

PART 1:

OBJECTIVES

Saltpillar Theatre holds the Award to foster and encourage playwrights who will be judged on the quality of their written script, and on its suitability for staging in a small, community theatre. The intention of the Award is to encourage playwrights to present new works. The inclusion or exclusion of an entry from the shortlist, or indeed the prize, is not necessarily a statement as to how the panel rates the play, but merely an assessment of how completely and successfully the Award criteria are met. This Award assists with the furtherance of Saltpillar's purposes of fostering performing arts talent within the Jewish community and for the benefit of the Jewish and broader communities by showcasing elements of Jewish arts, traditions and culture.

These scripts will be judged anonymously by an adjudication panel according to the criteria detailed below.

AWARD

The \$2,000 prize money will be awarded to the writer of the best script as determined by the judging panel. The Award is a game of skill, and chance plays no part in determining the winners. The winner will be notified directly by email and will be announced in the Australian Jewish News and on the Saltpillar website and Facebook page.

RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

PLEASE READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY AS ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

NB: Failure to comply with any of these rules will mean disqualification from the Award. Receipt of script will be acknowledged.

1) Scripts:

- a) Must be new, original and completed works of the playwright and not previously commercially published. Saltpillar reserves the right in its sole discretion to verify the validity of any entry and to disqualify any individual who Saltpillar has reason to believe has breached any of these conditions, or engaged in any unlawful or other improper misconduct calculated to jeopardise the fair and proper conduct of the promotion. Saltpillar's legal rights to recover damages or other compensation from such an offender are reserved.
- b) Must not have the author's name appear anywhere on the manuscripts. The scripts are adjudicated anonymously.
- c) May be work-shopped prior to entry, but may **not** have a public performance or play reading for a paying audience (including donations).
- d) Once entered, must **not** be work-shopped or performed before the

announcement of the winner, completion of the Award and Saltpillar Theatre has decided whether or not to exercise its option in rule 9a below.

(Entrants will be notified by 4th July 2017 whether their play has been selected as a finalist, and therefore continuing to be subject to this rule)

- e) Must cater for a performance time of approximately no less than 1 hour, 15 minutes and approximately no more than 2 hours - excluding interval (We suggest you read your script aloud, and time it.)
 - f) Must be suitable for production on a community theatre stage of approximately 60 square metres, with a proscenium width of 10 metres, stage height of 3.5 metres and depth of 6 metres, and fly tower, but no revolve.
 - g) While there are no restrictions on style, it must be remembered that this is a stage production, **not a film, TV or radio play.**
 - h) Will be returned (if entrant includes appropriately sized self-addressed envelope with adequate postage) or destroyed securely at the conclusion of the Award.
- 2) To assist circulation for adjudication, please supply:
- a) **Three** copies of your script
 - b) Printed on **one side** of A4 paper
 - c) Each copy must **include a Synopsis**
 - d) Each copy must be **secured in a folder or binder.**
- (Please ensure they will not fall apart – a paperclip or staple is not sufficient)*
- 3) a) The judging panel's decision is final and no communication or correspondence will be entered into regarding any aspect of the judging panel's decision. Saltpillar reserves the right not to award a prize if, in its absolute discretion, no entry adequately addresses all the criteria of the Award or is not otherwise deemed suitable by the judging panel. Finalists will be notified on 4th July 2017.
- b) If insufficient entries are received to constitute a competition, Saltpillar Theatre will return entry fees in full and conduct a communication with the individual entrants to explore the possibility of Saltpillar Theatre reading the submitted work to assess interest in producing the work on stage. If the entrant is not agreeable to this, the work will be returned unread to the entrant in the stamped, addressed envelope supplied with the submission or securely destroyed, under rule 1h of the Award.
- 4) Only short-listed plays will receive adjudicators' comments and feedback.
- 5) Saltpillar Theatre will not accept any responsibility for scripts lost or received late.
- 6) The official Entry Form with name of play, writer's full address, a Synopsis, and **AUD\$40 fee per entry** must be included with the scripts (*don't forget to include the Synopsis with each copy as well*). **NOTE:** Australian residents only may pay by cheque, money order or credit card (Visa / MasterCard); international entries can only use credit card, please contact the convener.
- 7) There is no limit on the number of entries, but each one must include:
- a) An Entry Form (*with synopsis attached*). (*Entry forms can be downloaded from the Saltpillar Theatre's website, www.saltpillar.org.au/charles-slucki-playwriting-award*)
 - b) 3 bound copies of the script, each with synopsis.
 - c) Fee of \$A40.

- 8) Entries which are the work of more than one playwright may be entered for consideration for the Award, but winning co-authors will share the one prize.
- 9) By submitting an entry for the Award, the playwright hereby agrees that, in the event of his/her play being adjudged the winner of the Award, the executive of Saltpillar ("the executive");
 - a) will have the first option, if it so chooses, without having to make any payment to the playwright, of workshopping the winning play, and producing it for, and performing it at, a public play-reading or full scale production (and doing all things reasonably incidental thereto), both to take place at times and places and under conditions to be determined by the executive at its sole discretion; and
 - b) will have the right, without having to make any payment to the playwright, to publish and cause to be published images of the playwright and reasonable excerpts of the winning play (and doing all things reasonably incidental thereto).
- 10) After the judging has determined up to 3 finalists, and the adjudicator's comments have been sent to the playwrights, there is then an opportunity for the finalists to make changes to the scripts, based on these comments, should they so choose. The amended script must be received by Saltpillar Theatre within 2 weeks. No other alterations to the script will be allowed.
- 11) The finalists will be required to supply a **professional** headshot and personal biography for publicity purposes.
- 12) No person sitting as a member of the Saltpillar Theatre Inc ("Saltpillar Theatre") Executive for anytime of the duration of the Award shall be eligible to submit a work for consideration for the Award.
- 13) There will be no connection between any donor and a recipient of this Award. To that end, Saltpillar will not seek an individual to sponsor the Award. Either general raised funds or a corporate sponsor would be utilised.

Closing date is 6th June 2017

(Entries must be postmarked no later than 6th June 2017)

Please post entries to:

Saltpillar Theatre Inc
Charles Slucki Playwriting Award 2017
PO Box 1063
CAULFIELD NORTH VIC 3161

PART 2:

JUDGING OF THE PLAYS

The panel of judges will assess each script independently and anonymously, taking into consideration the criteria set out below.

The convener may **not** be a member of the reading panel. All entries are to remain anonymous to the Reading Panel at all times.

The Convener coordinates their assessments and a shortlist of plays is then re-judged. Only the Convener knows the playwrights' names and the final order of winning scripts until the completion of the entire judging process.

CRITERIA

- A) **JEWISH RELEVANCE:**
Saltpillar Theatre is a community theatre company of the Jewish community. The play should be by a Jewish playwright or have a Jewish theme or relevance to the Jewish community and with an interest to the broader community
- B) **PLOT:**
Structure
Creativity of plot development
Originality of plot idea
- C) **CHARACTERISATION:**
Development of characters
Empathy of characters
- D) **DIALOGUE:**
Economy of language
Relevance to plot
Relevance to characters
Dialogue flow
- E) **PLAY OVERALL:**
Audience appeal
- F) **THEATRICALITY:**
Is this play written for the stage, or is it a "film or radio script, with many short scenes?