



The 2017 Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Playwright's Award

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Playwright's Award is a \$25,000 award for the creation of a new play by an Indigenous playwright. Now in its fifth year, the award comprises \$10,000 prize money and a \$15,000 commission for a new play each year.

Applications will be accepted from writers of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. They will be assessed by a panel including both Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists.

CRITERIA

- Applicants must be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.
- Writers may submit one application per round only.
- Past winners cannot apply the year after they win, or while their commission is still in process.

DATES AND DEADLINES

1 MARCH 2017	Award applications open
7 APRIL 2017	Award applications close
31 MAY 2017	Award recipient announced

HOW TO APPLY

Download the application form from belvoir.com.au/balnaves or email literary@belvoir.com.au to request one be sent to you.

Applications must include:

- The completed application form.
- A current résumé (no more than 2 pages).
- An outline of a new play (pitch) you would like to write. This should be no more than five pages long. Please look at the Frequently Asked Questions on page 2 for more information on what you should include in your pitch.
- An example of your past writing, either:
 - A full length play or musical that you have written.
 - Or;
 - If you don't have a play to send you can send a theatrical scene of at least 10x A4 pages and support material. Support material can be short plays, poetry, songs, prose or a DVD of work you have created (ie. comedy, devised work). We won't accept examples of work you have acted in that you did not write yourself. Support material is limited to 50 pages or 30 minutes.

ASSESSMENT

- The assessment panel for 2017 will be comprised of Belvoir's Associate Director – New Work, Anthea Williams, Indigenous artistic leaders and Belvoir staff.
- The full panel will decide the award recipient.



OUTCOMES

The award is valued at \$25,000. The award recipient will receive \$10,000 on receipt of the award. The further \$15,000 will be received as a commission for a new Australian work. This is received in four installments - \$6,600 when the commission is contracted, and \$4,200 upon successful delivery of a first draft. Payments of \$2,400 and \$1,800 will be paid on receipt of a further two drafts, with assessment and notes from Belvoir between each draft.

As a commission Belvoir will provide guidance, dramaturgical assistance and other forms of script development support.

Upon delivery of the final script, Belvoir will have the opportunity to accept the work and in doing so shall be granted an exclusive license to produce the work for two years.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does a pitch look like?

Make sure your pitch is a pitch not a draft of your idea.

Your pitch must include:

- What your idea is
- Why you are passionate about your idea and how the idea developed
- What form does the piece of theatre you want to write for us take (is it dance/theatre? Is it naturalism? Is it going to be a musical?)
- Make sure you include one example scene of no more than five pages.

Make sure your idea is new and available for commission by Belvoir. We cannot commission you if the work is already connected to another theatre company. We will not commission you for another draft of a work that already exists.

Can I apply if I have previously won the award?

You cannot apply if you have won the award in the previous year to applying, or while you are still under commission for your Balnaves commission.

Can I email my application in?

We would prefer you email your application to us rather than send a hard copy.

I have limited access to a computer, how can I get my application to you?

If you have limited access to a computer but live close by to Belvoir, please contact us to arrange a time to come in and use one of our computers. Otherwise, most libraries have free access to computers and the internet so check with your local council.

Applications must be received by 6PM FRIDAY 7 APRIL 2017

Please email your complete application to: literary@belvoir.com.au with the subject line:
2017 Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Playwright's Award

If you would like to discuss your application before submitting, please contact:

Anthea Williams, Associate Director – New Work

(02) 8396 6208

anthea@belvoir.com.au