

"Hip-hop theatre must fit into the realm of theatrical performance, and it must be **by, about and for** the hip-hop generation, participants in hip-hop culture, or both."

-Danny Hoch

## Hip Hop Theatre Creator Award

To continue the momentum generated by the Kennedy Center celebration ONE MIC: HIP HOP CULTURE WORLDWIDE, the excitement generated by Kendrick Lamar's sellout performance in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall and Nas' Twentieth Anniversary recreation of *Illmatic* with the National Symphony Orchestra, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival will again present the **Hip Hop Theatre Creator Awards** to an artist or creative team of artists in this year's Michael Kanin Playwriting Awards cycle.

The awards will celebrate new theatrical works that engage hip-hop as an ever-evolving attitude of contemporary resistance and self-definition; creating events for the theatre that tell contemporary stories through the use of one or more of the four original elements of hip-hop culture: B-Girl/B-Boying, graffiti, MC-ing, DJ-ing, and potentially utilizing spoken word, beat-boxing and dance. These awards will recognize single Creator/playwrights/authors, author/performers or collaborative teams.

**"Hip Hop Theater addresses ethnicity, class, culture, gender, sexuality and generation- it is a theatre of issues that confronts not just young people but the whole world."**

Daniel Banks, from *Say Word!:Voices from Hip Hop Theater*, University of Michigan Press

Selections from the award-winning works will be showcased [in concert reading format] at the Kennedy Center in April 2016. The authors or creative teams will be brought to Washington DC, expenses paid, for the showcase. Where appropriate and necessary, professional performers will be engaged for the presentation.

One Creator/Author or team will receive an award of \$1000, a residency at the KCACTF National Festival, and a professional development residency to be mutually determined.

A second place award of \$500 will be presented.

The selection panel will consist of members of the KCACTF National Playwriting Program and affiliated artists of the Kennedy Center ONE MIC Festival. Selection will be based on the reading, review and consideration of the full package of materials sent to the Kennedy Center for consideration.

### Eligibility:

- Author/Creator will be a student [undergraduate or graduate], currently enrolled in a college or university in the US.
- If a collaboration, at least 50% of the team will be current students.
- The work's length can be from ten-minutes to a full-length work
- Works currently in development will be eligible for award consideration.

## Materials to be received for consideration:

- Creator(s) name(s) and creative responsibility on the project
- Contact information (cell number and email address) for each
- College or University affiliation of the author/creator and collaborative teammates (if applicable)
- A logline or synopsis of the project (roughly 100 words)
- A brief letter detailing the development, performance and/or production history of the work
- A manuscript of the text/script of the project in PDF format

## Additionally, if applicable:

- a score for the project in PDF format
- any available recording of the project or score either in CD, via web-link , or MP3 recordings (or variants.)
- any available video of the project via Youtube or Vimeo (or variants)

## Entry deadline

December 1, 2015