



**2023 SUMMER PLAY LAB
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
to theater artists living in the HUDSON VALLEY, CAPITAL DISTRICT, BERKSHIRES, and
NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT**

Angram Opera House (AOH) seeks proposals from Hudson Valley, Capital District, Berkshires and northwest Connecticut based theater artists of all practices (playwrights, designers, performers, composers, directors, dramaturgs, interdisciplinary artists, etc.) to develop and present a new work as part of AOH's 2023 Summer Play Lab. The two-month residency will culminate with work-in-progress showings that will be offered to the public. It is anticipated that one artist or artistic team will be selected for this year's opportunity.

The intention of AOH's Summer Play Lab is to support theater artists creating new work at various stages of development. AOH seeks to further the artist's process and efforts to bring their new, emerging piece closer towards a fully realized production in the future at AOH or elsewhere. While the Summer Play Lab is open to theater artists working in an array of styles, a project proposal's fit with AOH programming aesthetics will be a consideration in the selection process.

To apply, artists must submit a proposal and application form to info@ancramoperahouse.org by April 14, 2023. All proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee convened by AOH. Selection will be made on or around May 1 with the residency to begin the week of May 15. See below for additional scheduling details.

Community Engagement

Central to its mission, AOH seeks to connect artists with the community-at-large. As part of Summer Play Lab, this engagement shall be facilitated through two public convenings:

- The artist will lead a two or three-hour interactive workshop that will be open to the public. In consultation with AOH directors, the artist can design the workshop experience based upon their expertise and practice (e.g, a playwright might ask participants to craft short monologues based upon writing prompts). The workshop may also be conceived so it helps the resident artist's work on their own project (e.g., a director might guide participants to create compositions exploring similar themes found in their Play Lab piece.) Enrollment will be limited and determined in conversation with each artist.
- Talkbacks following each public showing.

Additional Programmatic Considerations

- AOH's mission centers on providing the community with opportunities to connect through the performing arts.
- The residency is especially created to support artists making new, innovative, multi-disciplinary work that is immediate and directly engages its audience.
- The project being proposed can be at varying stages of development: from initial steps on a new idea to picking up on something that already has been started.
- To advance equity and inclusivity within the field through this residency opportunity, AOH encourages proposals from artists from underserved, underrepresented or historically marginalized communities.
- The residency will entail attending a weekly group check-in with AOH directors to share project updates.
- Approximately 40 hours of rehearsal time in AOH's performance hall is available prior to the final showings.



Additional Logistics

- The work-in-progress showing can be the full length of a piece or an excerpt of a longer work, with a total running time (in either scenario) of 45-55 minutes preferred.
- Each piece will be presented twice, as work-in-progress showings.
- AOH will host audience talkbacks with the resident artist following each Play Lab showing.
- Any participating actors who are members of Actors' Equity Association will need to be engaged under an appropriate agreement with the union if performing as part of a final showing.

Key Dates

Applications due April 14

Decision and artist notification on or around May 1

Residency begins week May 15

Community workshop held on June 17

Public showings on July 8 & 9

Residency concludes July 15

Financials

The artist or artistic team selected for the Play Lab will receive a budget of \$2,000 which the artist can allocate at their discretion as needed towards their own stipend, production materials, additional performers, etc. This budget shall be payable in two installments: half upon acceptance and the balance due the week of Play Lab showings.

About Angram Opera House

Under the leadership of directors Jeffrey Mousseau and Paul Ricciardi, Angram Opera House presents a mix of contemporary theater, alternative cabaret, and community arts programs. Located in the Hudson River Valley in a former grange hall converted into an intimate and flexible space, AOH offers a unique opportunity for audiences to directly engage, up close, with visionary theater artists at the top of their field yet rarely seen in our region. AOH programming is made possible through support from the New York State Council for the Arts and the generosity of community members. For more information, please visit www.ancramoperahouse.org.

SUMMER PLAY LAB – In Brief

AOH provides artist participants of Summer Play Lab the following:

40 hours of rehearsal time in AOH space (more may be possible)

Weekly meeting with AOH staff to discuss direction, progress and project needs

\$2,000 budget to be utilized at artist's discretion

Public visibility for project and artist through marketing, press releases, social media and website presence

Two final work-in-progress showings presented with use of AOH basic tech package (includes house light plot, sound, projections) and production staffing

Facilitated talkbacks with audience members following work-in-progress showings