



ARTIST OFFERING 2023

A Performing Arts Commission for a Black Queer/Trans Artist

APPLICATION WINDOW OPENS: May 5th, 2022.

APPLICATION WINDOW CLOSSES: June 5th, or when we receive 50 applications.

WHO CAN APPLY: Black queer and/or trans artists anywhere in the world!

HOW: The application portal will be open [here](#) on May 5, 2022. A copy of our application is included below.

QUESTIONS: Can be addressed to HQ@QueerCatProductions.com.

MORE ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY

Who are we?

Queer Cat Productions is a theater company based in the San Francisco Bay Area. We create consent-forward, accessible, immersive theater and experiences that leave our audiences more connected.

We create *playful, curious, haunted* works of art that are queer, not just in content, but in vision, perspective, care, and collaboration at every level of the process.

We are committed to the spirit of *play*, as interactive and consensual; to *curiosity* about our world and each other; and to *haunting*: ancestry, fluidity, and resilience.

Learn more about us at queercatproductions.com!

What are we looking for?

- A “primary generative artist” (creator), for example: playwright, solo performer, choreographer, musician/composer, lead artist for a collaborative artwork, etc.
- A new artwork that falls under the Performing Arts umbrella (theater, solo performance, music, dance, etc.).



- An artwork that seeks to answer this question: What encourages your personal *playfulness*, engages your *curiosity* about our humanness and how we connect with each other, and/or what *haunts* you and drives you to build work that makes space in and/or for the places where you feel that “space” is needed the most?
- An artwork that engages with and interprets our mission.
- An artwork that can be performed with hybrid elements for both an in-person performance in the San Francisco Bay Area at least once over the weekend of October 20-22, 2023 and an experience that is accessible worldwide.

What are we offering?

Pay: A total of \$8,000 to create, develop, rehearse, and publicly share the new work (paid in quarterly installments and according to Queer Cat Productions’ flat artist pay rate, which is \$22/hour for 2022).

Other resources:

- A budget for hiring collaborating artists (i.e. actors, designers, musicians, dramaturgs).
- A budget for venue rental and materials.
- A travel stipend for artists outside the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Accommodations (i.e. ASL interpretation, flexible scheduling to accommodate childcare, and/or other accommodations you share with us).
- Tailored creative support specific to your artistic needs (i.e. dramaturgy, feedback and brainstorming, mentorship, workshopping and/or other creative supports you share with us).
- Connection to a community of Queer Cat Productions artists.
- Our commitment to create a supportive environment for your artistic process.

What are we asking you to commit to us if you get picked?

- To be in residence as primary generative artist (creator) with Queer Cat Productions for one year. (Residency is virtual - artists can be geographically located anywhere.)
- Creation of the new artwork.
- Monthly preproduction meetings (with the option of more frequent meetings if desired by the artist) during development period, including check-ins with the Selection Committee Leader for support and accountability.
- More frequent (weekly or biweekly) meetings during production period.
- Monthly Company meetings with Queer Cat Productions.



APPLICATION

The application portal is [here](#).

How do you apply?

Our application portal will open [here](#) starting Monday, May 5th, 2022. The application has two parts.

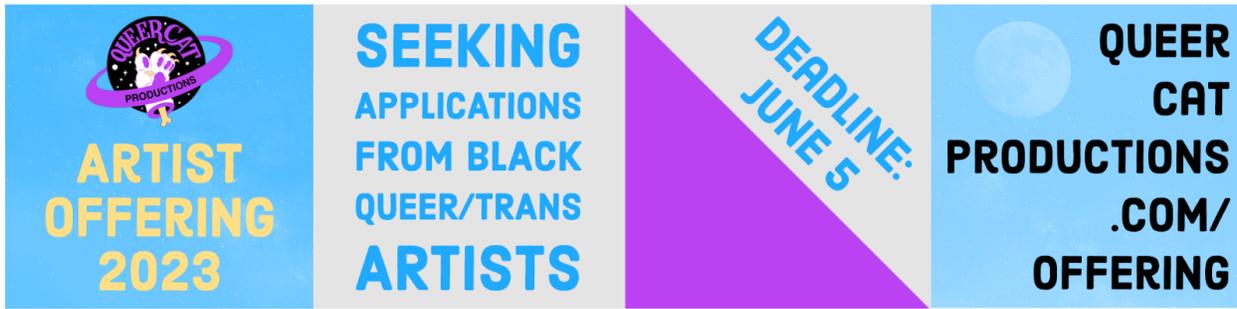
- 1) **About You:** An artist questionnaire (questions copied below).
- 2) **About Your Art:** A 1-2 page idea, concept, or pitch. Describe the work you want to create!

Artist Questionnaire:

1. Do you identify as Black, African American, African, and/or as part of the African diaspora?
2. Do you identify as queer, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or pansexual?
3. Do you identify as trans?
4. How would you describe yourself as an artist? What kind of art do you want to make? What kind of art do you want to see that doesn't exist?
5. How are your identities (any and all of your identities) expressed through your artwork?
6. What are you curious about?
7. What are you haunted by?
8. How would you like to be supported as an artist AND as a human? (For example, as an artist you might want the support of a dramaturg, or tickets to a virtual show. As a human, you might need ASL interpretation, image descriptions, or a flexible schedule to accommodate childcare.)
9. How do you feel your work incorporates immersion and connects with and/or leaves audiences more connected?
10. A sample of your existing work may be attached here, if desired. We welcome up to 3 pages of text OR a 2 minute clip of audio or video (if your video is longer than 2 minutes, please identify the two minutes you would like us to watch. If none are chosen, we will watch the first 2 minutes).

Questions?

Email hq@queercatproductions.com.



Frequently Asked Questions:

What does it mean for the work to be "new"? Can I submit something I've already worked on?

For the purposes of this commission, a “new” performance is:

- For a script: the entirety of the script has not been previously written, or the creator enters into the commission with the goal of substantially changing 30% or more of their existing script.
- For a dance or music piece, ritual, comedy show, burlesque, drag show, or any other performing art piece that does not necessarily begin with a script: the entirety of the piece has not been previously created, or the creator enters into the commission with the goal of substantially changing 30% or more of their existing piece, or the previous iteration of the piece lacked significant and necessary aesthetic elements (i.e. music, costumes or makeup, projections, puppets, etc.).

It is understood that the primary generative artist may enter into the commission period with an idea for their performance; however, the performance must be considered a “new work.”

What is a "Primary Generative Artist"?

The primary generative artist is the creator of the project and holds the rights to the work (for example: in a play, the playwright is the primary generative artist, a director or actor would be an interpretive artist).

A primary generative artist may be a playwright, solo performer, choreographer, musician/composer, or other performance artist who creates the work.

If you are not the sole creator/writer and are working with another artist or artists (i.e. a group of performers creating one show, a musical written by one person and composed by another), you must apply as a team. (See “**I work with a company of performers, can we submit as a team?**”)

What does residency with Queer Cat Productions entail?

Essentially it means becoming a part of the QCP company for the duration of residency. We meet monthly to discuss progress on our existing projects and the way ahead for the company.



How many performances are intended to take place during the slated production weekend of October 20 -22, 2023?

We can support 1 - 3 performances.

I work with a company of performers, can we submit as a team?

Yes! The concept may include a group of performers that work together to devise the work, as long as the piece is new. Please identify the artist who will serve as lead for communication.

What does it mean to engage and interpret Queer Cat's mission and values?

Our mission includes the following language: “Queer Cat Productions creates consent-forward, accessible, immersive theater and experiences that leave our audiences more connected,” and a “commitment to theater that is queer, not just in content, but in vision, perspective, care, and collaboration at every level of the process.” We welcome a creative interpretation of these values.

I have a question not answered here.

You're welcome to email us at hq@queercatproductions.com.

How does the selection process work?

This process was designed by the Manifestation Council: Genevieve Jessee, librecht baker, and Troy Rockett. The artists who will read submissions are: Genevieve Jessee, Chivas Michael, Rawiyah Tariq. Additional readers may be added and will be named here.

The process has three rounds. In Round 1, all Readers read all applications. Readers give a “yes” or “no” vote on whether each application should go to the next round (and briefly say why). Applications that receive a majority of “yeses” move on to Round 2.

In Round 2, Readers evaluate applications according to a rubric and select three finalists. The elements on the rubric are: 1) The application demonstrates a desire to generate new work that is immersive and/or will leave audiences more connected to each other; 2) The application demonstrates a desire to generate new work connecting to and/or elevating the humanity of the artist’s identit(ies); 3) The application demonstrates a desire to generate new work that explores playfulness, curiosity, and/or haunting (in whatever way the artist defines it), and that in some



way engages with Queer Cat Productions' mission; 4) The application demonstrates a desire to generate new work that has qualities of an evolving form, and/or expands or elevates the genre(s) the artist works in; and 5) I want to hear more from this artist.

In Round 3, Readers interview each finalist and choose one artist. Finalists will be compensated for their interview time at a rate of \$22/hour for about 2 hours.