

The Dramatists Guild and Other (Submission) Resources

The Dramatists Guild

If you're serious about writing plays, you need to join [The Dramatists Guild](#). Full stop. The Guild is the professional association of playwrights, lyricists, librettists and composers, dedicated to protecting our rights. I've been a member for a long, long time, and you should be too. If you're a student playwright, you get 50% off either level of Guild membership (Member or Associate).

Being a Guild member has all kinds of benefits. Here are just a few:

- Standard contracts for all kinds of productions and other arrangements (e.g., commissions, collaborations, etc.)...
- The Resource Directory, an electronic directory of opportunities of all kinds, from competitions to writing residencies to theatres to grants...
- *The Dramatist* magazine, which features wisdom from top industry pros and more...
- A Business Affairs department that will consult on all of your contracts—so you can make sure they meet industry standards before you sign them—and offer other general legal advice you may need...
- Free tickets through Playwrights Welcome...
- And much more.

[Go here](#) to find out more about the benefits of joining The Dramatists Guild.

Other Organizations for Playwrights

Note that many areas have their own organizations for playwrights. For example, there is the [Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights](#) and the [Philadelphia Dramatists Center](#). At one time or another in my life, I ran both of them. A local playwrights' organization can be a great way to connect with writers (and other theatre practitioners in your area).

Submission and Other Resources

The Dramatists Guild Resource Directory is, as the name implies, a great resource to find out about submission opportunities, and elsewhere on this site, I've included a list of contests for young playwrights.

Some other places you might look (note that these opportunities are not necessarily specific to young playwrights):

[New Play Exchange](#) is a place where you can list your work and tag it/submit to various opportunities that come along, all for a very low annual fee.

[nycplaywrights](#), a website with a list of opportunities.

[The Young Playwrights Guide](#), a resource maintained by Dr. Jim DeVivo, with submission opportunities and more.

[The Official Playwrights of Facebook](#), a large, moderated Facebook group to which competitions and small theatres will occasionally post opportunities. Be mindful that as is often the case with any social media group, there is sometimes "noise" that just needs to be ignored.

[Kat's Play & Musical Submission Central](#), a crowd-sourced submission repository on Facebook.

[Playwright Marketing Binge](#), an online community of playwrights with a focus on marketing and the business side of playwriting. Twice a year, they go on submission "binges."