

Please read this document carefully. There have been several changes in 2019.

INTERCULTURAL CONVERSATIONS

BACKGROUND

The Cole Foundation is a private family foundation based in Montreal. It supports research and child care in pediatric and young adult leukemia and lymphoma, as well as a variety of community initiatives. The Intercultural Conversations–Conversations Interculturelles programme is one of its community initiatives.

Montreal is a multicultural city, open to the world, welcoming people of all ethnic origins. The Cole Foundation wants Montrealers to have a greater awareness of the voices and stories from and about its diverse cultures/communities.

The Cole Foundation believes that dialogue leads to better understanding, appreciation, and greater social harmony amongst the cultural communities. The challenge is to encourage this intercultural conversation.

The Cole Foundation has initiated Intercultural Conversations-Conversations Interculturelles to stimulate the production of theatrical events that will feature intercultural dialogue, and that will introduce Montrealers to other cultural heritages and social realities.

THE PROGRAMME

The goal of this programme is to encourage theatre companies to present existing works and create new ones about cultural and/or ethnic diversity. These works will inform and stimulate audiences, engage them in a dialogue to improve understanding between the cultures, and assist in breaking down barriers that separate the cultures that exist in Montreal.

Priority will be given to the production, the writing or the translation of plays that give voice to those cultural communities which are represented in Quebec but not being heard in Montreal, and therefore in need of access to a wider audience.

As a **PILOT** project for the 2019-2020 year, applications will be accepted in **September** and **April** (see details below – Deadlines) for theatre productions that take place on or after February 1, 2020 as well as for presentations in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons. Companies may apply for more than one grant. The Cole Foundation grants are given to support expenses incurred for all aspects of the production of the play, such as readings, additional rehearsals, and most importantly, educational or informative activities surrounding the performances to engage the audience in dialogue about the issues that the

play raises. Funds available are not meant to replace the current federal, provincial or municipal funding, private fund raising, nor box office revenues. The Cole Foundation is not an arts council. It does not give operations grants. The awards are project-specific and the jury is asked to consider the nature and strength of the inter-cultural content in the play as well as the quality of the production values.

Grants will be awarded to professional theatre companies and through them to playwrights and translators with whom they have entered into a contract for the commissioning, translation and/or performance of the original script. The financial assistance granted is not allocated for an advance or compensation in respect of royalties or residual rights. Rights to the final product remain the property of the author.

The grant categories are as follows:

Production grants:

- Amounts up to \$25,000, but not exceeding 25% of budget
- Applications must include the full script
- For companies that work in a collective creation format, the creation and production aspects can be combined together in a production grant
- Payment structure: 90% at the beginning of rehearsal and balance (10%) after the show closes and upon reception of the artistic and financial report

Talk-Back grants: NEW in 2019

- \$150 per show, to compensate artists, theatre management or facilitators who animate the discussion with the audience
- There is no limit on the number of Talk Backs to be funded
- Theatre performances for young audiences (AYA) are not eligible as Talk Backs are integral parts of the performance
- Payments for Talk Backs will be included in the final payment

Commissioning grants:

- Amounts up to \$10,000
- For playwrights to write original scripts
- Companies may include workshop readings as part of the commissioning
- Payment structure: 50% at the start of writing process, 25% upon acceptance of the first draft, and 25% on Opening night

Translation grants:

- Amounts up to \$10,000
- For the translation of original plays into French and/or English
- Companies may include workshop readings as part of the translation
- Payment structure: 50% at the start of writing process, 25% upon acceptance of the first draft, and 25% on Opening night

Note that companies may submit applications for either or both deadlines.

A credit of the Cole Foundation's contribution to the project must appear in printed programs, publications, broadcasts and in any other media disseminating the work. For commissions and translations, this credit is to appear in perpetuity.

If a substantial change is made to the project, the budget, or to its work schedule, the Cole Foundation must be immediately contacted to make the appropriate arrangements. Should the artist/theatre company fail to comply with this condition, the Cole Foundation reserves the right to withhold final payment or to demand repayment of the grant

THE JURY

Theatre/arts professionals and members of the artistic community will be on the jury that assesses all applications.

DEADLINES

Deadline 1: Friday September 27th 2019 at 5:00pm. Cole Foundation Board decisions will be announced in January 2020.

PILOT PROJECT Deadline 2: Friday April 3rd 2020 at 5:00pm. Cole Foundation Board decisions will be announced in June 2020.

ELIGIBILITY

Theatre companies must be recognized as 'professional'. The artists are paid for their services, the companies have a history of past performances, and the standard of performance is recognized by theatre community peers. Theatre companies that cater to young audiences and/or adult audiences are equally eligible. Young audiences are to be students in at least primary school who will be able to appreciate the intercultural issues contained in the plays.

The programme is reserved for theatre companies based in Greater Montreal. Applications from Montreal-based companies wishing to co-produce with companies outside Montreal are eligible. While some companies may tour, there must be performances in Montreal of the production granted financial assistance. Final payment of grants will not take place until after the date of the Montreal performances and the artistic and financial reports have been received.

All plays must be written, translated and produced primarily in either the French or English language.

Special notes regarding Translations: Translators must have already published at least one translation of a literary work from the language of the work under application. A letter confirming the author's permission to translate his work must be submitted with the application. The work to be translated must have already been written or published. Productions of Quebecois plays translated for an Anglophone audience and productions of English Canadian plays translated for a francophone audience are eligible for grants. The plays must show a dimension of the culture (historical or social, for example) that is unique to it and which will in turn broaden the perspective of the audience.

All theatre companies must be not-for-profit and be able to provide a tax receipt for the amount of money directed to it. If young companies do not have charitable tax status, the grants awarded can be directed through Le Conseil des Arts de Montréal, which will provide the Cole Foundation with a tax receipt. All such theatre companies applying to the Cole Foundation must provide a letter from Le Conseil des Arts Theatre Section agreeing to this relationship. As an alternative, some larger companies have acted as a mentor to younger companies and have processed grants through their accounting system. This must be documented by a letter accompanying the application form.

Applications will not be considered from companies which have received grants in the past, have completed their project, but who have not yet sent in their final artistic and financial report.

HOW TO APPLY

Please print out and complete the "Application for Funding" document found on the Cole Foundation's website (<http://colefoundation.ca/community/competition-forms/>). Follow the instructions on the website for submission of documents.

RESOURCE MATERIAL

The Centre des auteurs dramatique and the Playwrights Guild of Canada have plays that pertain to intercultural issues. Please contact:

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