

Women & Science 10-Minute Plays

**Submit completed applications to:
scifestsubmissions@centralsquaretheater.org on or
before Friday, February 5, 2021**

Overview:

Building on the annual Brit d'Arbeloff Women In Science Production, Underground Railway and The Nora at Central Square Theater have long envisioned a Festival bringing together scientists, theater artists and creative thinkers from around the country. Our work with [Catalyst Collaborative@MIT](#), a collaboration between Central Square Theater and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is the nation's only on-going partnership between a professional theater company and a world-class research institution. Each season, URT or The Nora produces plays that open the door between art and science and push us to expand our visions of the future, framed by real-time encounters with scientists who are changing our world.

Slated for April, 2021 the Women & Science Festival ("W&S") will take place virtually with panels and performances, centering underrepresented voices. To amplify our commissioning arm, we are seeking 10-minute plays centering women and female-identifying writers and stories. We welcome bold ideas and innovative forms of performance within these plays, created for a Zoom platform.

Details

PARTICIPATION: **W&S** uses a committee-based selection process to ensure that a diverse set of projects, both in content and message, are selected. The plays must center real science in any way (which is to say, a narrative could be fictional, but the science on which it is based or which it references must be real). The plays should also include strong female characters and/or address issues of particular interest to women. Your audience can be any age group.

SCHEDULE: Reviewing will start in January of 2021. Final playwrights will be selected by Feb. 1 to leave time for revisions before the start of rehearsals in March.

RESOURCES: **W&S** will provide a playwright's fee of \$300 for every 10 minute play selected for production, as well as access to scientists with whom to discuss or vet the science in your play.

BOX OFFICE, TICKETING, FRONT-OF-HOUSE: Central Square Theater will provide event RSVP mechanisms through our box office and all contact information is kept for future use.

PUBLICITY: Central Square Theater will provide publicity for the Festival and all publicity will adhere to CST's union contracts. Participating artists are encouraged to share with their networks and will be given the social media and other documents to help with this.

ARTISTIC SUPPORT: While you control the development of your project, the Artistic Directors and Central Square Theater's Staff will provide advice and aid in the production of your work.

Selection Criteria

- The play must center women. Intersection with BIPoC communities is strongly encouraged.
- Your 10 minute play must engage real science, not science fiction.
- The play must work on the Zoom platform.

Selection Process

Your play will be reviewed by a committee in consultation with the Artistic Directors. You may be contacted by the project curators in order to discuss your project further or clarify certain details.

How to Apply

Please send applications to scifestsubmissions@centralsquaretheater.org

Please submit the following by or before Feb. 5, 2021:

1. **The Project:** Please include a copy of your 10 minute play or outline/synopsis. The script must be in standard play format, with a title page, a character listing, the setting, props, and any technical requirements or other production considerations. Your play may be one you have already written or a new work. If you submit an outline/synopsis, include with it at least one sample of your work (e.g. a complete 10-minute or full-length play).

2. **Personal Details:** Include a brief bio of who you are and the work you do. Please put all contact information for the playwright, including name, address, telephone number and email address on this page as well.

Who We Are:

Central Square Theater (CST), is dedicated to the exploration of social justice, science and sexual politics; catalyzing the dynamic synergies sparked by the collaboration between The Nora and Underground Railway. Through award-winning productions, the Catalyst Collaborative@ MIT Science Theater Initiative, and youth development programming - CST creates theater where points of view are heard, perspective shifts, and change can happen.

Created collaboratively 15 years ago by Underground Railway and The Nora Theaters, Central Square Theater is the oldest female-led theater organization in the Greater Boston area, under the leadership of Artistic Director Debra Wise, Artistic Director Lee Mikeska Gardner and Executive Director Catherine Carr Kelly. With a combined history of 50 years of work, CST engages over 35,000 people annually through live performance, rigorous youth education, and community programs. CST is also home, fiscal sponsor and provides mentorship, technical support, and space to The Front Porch Arts Collective (The Porch): the only professional theater/education company of black and brown theater artists committed to advancing racial equity in Greater Boston.

Please contact
scifestsubmissions@[centralsquaretheater.org](mailto:scifestsubmissions@centralsquaretheater.org)
with any further questions.