

For immediate release: September 21st, 2015



The 2015 International Centre for Women Playwrights 50/50 Applause Awards: International and more consistent support for women playwrights swells in theaters!

The International Centre for Women Playwrights (ICWP) is delighted to report the increasingly consistent and diverse recipients for this year's **50/50 Applause Awards**, which sets out to recognize theatres that produced 50% or more women playwrights in their season of shows. ICWP defines 50/50 by the number of qualifying performances in a theater's season. This allows us to measure what percentage of resources is being devoted to women playwrights.

This year, we are pleased to be honoring 60 recipients, representing nine countries. The list includes theatres in Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Scotland, Sweden and the United States. Our recipients range from small or new theaters to well-established larger theaters. We are thrilled that one third of the list are repeat recipients who have demonstrated gender parity in two or more seasons, indicating an increased awareness and commitment to women playwrights from the larger theater community. Meet some of the theaters in our multi-lingual video. <http://www.womenplaywrights.org/2015-award-video>

While these theaters are serving as role models, ICWP recognizes that the average of productions of women playwrights internationally continues to remain under 25%. The United States' 2015 The Count, measuring productions nationwide 2011-2014, found that women playwrights were being produced 22% (up from the 2009 Sands report at 18%). In Canada, The Equity in Theatre (EIT) report (2015), however, showed a decrease in productions by women playwrights from 29% for the season of 2010/11 (PACT report) to 22% for the season of 2013/14.

There is also a disparity in the size of theaters and stages that women playwrights are given in comparison to their male counterparts. This directly affects the ticket price and, therefore, the potential income for the playwright. According to the EIT, the largest theaters in Canada produce men 70% while women's work is produced 19.5%. The UK's report "Still Looking Through A Glass Ceiling?" found that "...on average, new plays by women are performed in theatres that are 24% smaller than those which present new work by men, while the ticket price is 23% lower." (British Theatre Consortium in collaboration with the Society of London Theatre and UK Theatre, 2015)

Theaters that are looking for plays by women can find the seasons of our recipients listed on our website. Other resources are The Kilroys List, The New Play Exchange and Treepress.

ICWP started in 1988 with a mission to support women playwrights worldwide and bring attention to their work. The **ICWP 50/50 Applause Awards** were founded in 2012 to increase awareness and applaud theatres that produced a season with an equal or greater number of plays written by female playwrights. More information about the awards can be found at: <http://www.womenplaywrights.org/award>

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Congratulations to the Recipients of the 2015 ICWP 50/50 Applause Awards!

16th Street Theater (Berwyn, IL, USA), NextStop Theatre Company (Herndon, VA, USA), Actors for Children Theatre (Flatwoods, KY, USA), Northlight Theatre (Skokie, IL, USA), Bread & Roses Theatre (Clapham, London, UK), **Obsidian Theatre Company (Toronto, Ontario, Canada)**, Centaur Theatre (Montreal, Quebec, Canada), **Off the Wall Productions (Carnegie, PA, USA)**, **Cherry Lane Theatre (New York, NY, USA)**, **Paul Robeson Theater (Buffalo, NY, USA)**, Chicago Dramatists (Chicago, IL, USA), Performance Network (Ann Arbor, MI, USA), **Company One (Boston, MA, USA)**, Perseverance Theatre (Juneau and Anchorage, Alaska, USA), Court Theatre (Chicago, IL, USA), **PlayGround (San Francisco, CA, USA)**, Delinquent Theatre (Vancouver, BC, Canada), **Playwrights Horizons (New York, NY, USA)**, Dobama Theatre (Cleveland Heights, OH, USA), Poorboy (Various locations, Scotland), **Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre (Summit, NJ, USA)**, **Port City Playhouse (Alexandria, VA, USA)**, Ensemble Studio Theatre (New York, NY, USA), **Ragged Wing Ensemble (El Cerrito, CA, USA)**, Entity Theatre (Munich, Germany), Rats Teater (Stockholm, Sweden), **Factory Space Theatre Company (Sydney, NSW, Australia)**, Round House Theatre (Silver Spring, MD, USA), **Factory Theatre (Toronto, Ontario, Canada)**, **Salvage Vanguard Theater (Austin, TX, USA)**, **Forum Theatre (Silver Springs, MD, USA)**, **Sarasvati Productions (Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada)**, GALA Hispanic Theatre (Washington, DC, USA), Shelterbelt Theatre (Omaha, NE, USA), Globus Theatre (Bobcaygeon, Ontario, Canada), South Baldwin Community Theatre (Gulf Shores, Alabama, USA), **Golden Thread Productions (San Francisco, CA, USA)**, Stark Naked Theatre Company (Houston, TX, USA), Hartke Theatre, Catholic University of America (Washington DC, USA), Sterling Theatre Company (Toronto, Ontario, Canada), **HERE Arts Center (New York, New York, USA)**, Tarrant Actors Regional Theatre (Fort Worth, TX, USA), Ivy Theatre Company (New York, NY, USA), Teatro Paraguas (Santa Fe, NM, USA), Keluarga Teater (South Jakarta, DKI Jakarta, Indonesia), The Catastrophic Theatre (Houston, TX, USA), La Boite Theatre Company (Kelvin Grove Village, Queensland, Australia), **The English Theatre of Rome (Rome, Italy)**, Langham Theatrical Company (Langham, Saskatchewan, Canada), The Road Theatre Company (North Hollywood, CA, USA), **Latino Theater Company/Los Angeles Theatre Center (LATC) (Los Angeles, CA, USA)**, Theatre Inconnu (Victoria, British Columbia, Canada), Longacre Lea (Washington, DC, USA), **Theatre Passe Muraille (Toronto, Ontario, Canada)**, Luna Stage (West Orange, NJ, USA), Ujima Theatre Company (Buffalo, NY, USA), Manbites Dog Theater (Durham, NC, USA), WaterTower Theatre (Addison, TX, USA), Månteatern (Lund, Sweden), Windy City Playhouse (Chicago, IL, USA)

*Highlighted theaters are repeat recipients