



# **The Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition**

## **2016 One Act Plays**

Presented by



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**Entries Closing Date: 31<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2015**

**Stage Presentation: 2016**

**BATS Theatre Co. Inc**

**Buderim War Memorial Hall**

**Cnr Main and Church Streets**

**Buderim.**

**Ph: 0417603369 or 07 54 455 464/0431 025 920**

**Email: [pritchardelec@bigpond.com](mailto:pritchardelec@bigpond.com)/ [jacmata5@gmail.com](mailto:jacmata5@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.batstheatre.com](http://www.batstheatre.com)**

## PART 1:

# THE EDYTHER BROOK COOPER PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

Presented by



Edythe Brook Cooper was a member of BATS Theatre Co. Inc from the late 1980's until her death in 2003. Her first play to be produced by BATS was "Kisses In The Sky", set in Milton in Brisbane behind the Castlemaine brewery, and the name referred to the four Xs on the roof. This was followed by many others over the next 20 years.

Writing was Edythe's passion. Many of her plays have been published by The Australian Script Centre.

Prior to her passing, Edythe made provision in her will for the Edythe Brooke-Cooper Trust, established to sponsor a local playwriting competition. Considering Edythe's affiliation with BATS Theatre Co. Inc., they were chosen by the Trustees to act as administrators of this competition under specific guidelines set down by Edythe.

BATS Theatre Co. Inc. is very proud to present this competition on behalf of Edythe.

The competition is to be run **biennially** alternating between one-act plays and full length plays. It is the objective of this competition to foster and encourage playwrights, whether amateur or professional, who will be judged on the **quality of their written script, and its suitability in a theatre setting (see Rule 3. b), c) & d).** These scripts will be judged anonymously and equally by an adjudication panel.

### Co-ordinators:

Susie Pritchard

Ph: 0417603369

Email: [pritchardelec@bigpond.com](mailto:pritchardelec@bigpond.com)

Jacqui Mata Luque

Ph: 0431025920/07 54 455464

Email: [jacmata5@gmail.com](mailto:jacmata5@gmail.com)

## AWARDS 2016

### One Act Play Competition 2016

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Best Play – Trophy and \$3,000 prize money
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Play – Trophy and \$2,000 prize money
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Play – Trophy and \$1,000 prize money
- Best Director, Best Actor Male and Best Actor Female – trophies awarded.
- Audience Choice award as judged by audience vote – trophy awarded
- All awards presented at the conclusion of the final performance.

## PART 1:

### RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

***PLEASE READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY***

**AS ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

**N.B. Failure to comply with any of these rules will mean disqualification from the competition. Receipt of script will be acknowledged.**

1. a. Scripts must be new, original works of the playwright and not previously commercially **published** or publicly **performed**. Also these scripts must not be **workshopped or performed** between the time of entry and the close of entry to the Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition.  
b. Any play chosen as a finalist in another Q.L.D. playwriting competition, where the play is to be publicly performed, then becomes ineligible to be chosen as a finalist in this playwriting competition and must be immediately withdrawn from this competition. Playwrights will be responsible for notifying the co-ordinators of the Edythe Brook Cooper playwriting competition to advise them of the withdrawal of their script from the competition. **In the event of this the playwrights entry fee will be refunded in full.**
2. a. Scripts must be printed on **one** side of A4 paper and **three** BOUND copies must be submitted, accompanied by an **official entry form, synopsis and cheque**.  
b. Each copy **MUST INCLUDE A SYNOPSIS** and **MUST BE SECURED IN A FOLDER OR BINDER**.  
(Please ensure they will not fall apart-A paperclip or staple is **NOT** sufficient).  
c. The subject matter of the script **must have some connection with Australia** but the **nature and extent of that connection is entirely at the discretion of the trustees**.  
If you would like clarification of this point please do not hesitate to contact the co-ordinators.  
d. **Playwright must be an Australian resident.**
3. a. **SCRIPTS MUST CATER FOR A PERFORMANCE TIME OF **BETWEEN 30 MINS AND 45 MINS**** (*We suggest you read your script aloud, and time it.*)  
b. Scripts must be suitable for production on a theatre stage of approx 8.2m width, back to wall acting line 6.5m, traverse curtain 2.5m from proscenium line, apron 1.5m and height 3m.  
c. It must be remembered that this is a stage production, not a film, TV or radio play.  
d. One Act Plays should be capable of being performed within a **SIMPLISTIC stage setting** as the three finalists in the One Act Competition are performed each night. Plays should not involve more than one simple scene change and limited lighting, sound, special effects and props requirements.

4. a. The adjudicators' decisions are final and no communication or correspondence will be entered into regarding the selection or adjudication of the winning plays. Finalists will be notified early February 2016.

b. Scripts will be returned only if sufficient postage is supplied on a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Entrants will be advised of the winners.

c. BATS Theatre Co. Inc. **will not accept any responsibility for scripts lost, received late, or unable to be returned.** All scripts remaining in BATS Theatre Co. Inc.'s possession, three calendar months after the close of the Festival, will be destroyed, unless prior arrangements are made.

5. **THE AUTHOR'S NAME MUST NOT APPEAR ANYWHERE ON THE MANUSCRIPTS. The scripts are adjudicated anonymously.**

6. The **official ENTRY FORM** with **name of play, writer's full address**, a typed **SYNOPSIS** and a **CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER** for **\$A30 fee per entry must be included with the scripts.**

7. The adjudication procedure means there is some delay before a decision is made on the plays to be staged. For the One Act Play competition the order of the winners and runners-up will be announced **after the final performance.**

8. Should any script be chosen as a Finalist, performing rights are granted to BATS Theatre Co. Inc. for the duration of the performances of such plays, without the need to pay a Royalty fee.

9. BATS Theatre Co. Inc. retains the right to enter any of the **three finalists in the One Act Play** competition into the Sunshine Coast Theatre Festival, of that same year only, without payment of Royalties.

10. **No alterations** to the script will be allowed between time of entry and the announcement of the finalists.

**Closing Date is October 31<sup>st</sup> 2015.**

A copy of the adjudication criteria is included for your reference.

**SEND ENTRIES TO:**

**Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition**

**Co – ordinator – Jacqui Mata Luque**

**4 Gumtree Drive, Buderim QLD 4556**

The finalists will be required to supply a current photograph and a personal biography for publicity purposes and agree to print and photographic images of the production to be used by BATS Theatre Co. Inc. for publicity purposes at the time of staging and in the future.

## **PART 2:**

### **GUIDELINES FOR ADJUDICATORS**

#### **Adjudicators – Play finalists**

Adjudicators are asked to make themselves completely aware of the rules and conditions of this playwriting competition.

#### **Adjudicator – Best Actor Male, Best Actor Female, Best Director.**

The adjudicator for these categories must be familiar with the scripts prior to viewing the plays. They will be required to make an address from the stage at trophy presentation at the conclusion of the final performance.

## **PART 3:**

### **GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR DIRECTORS**

1. The choice of directors is at the discretion of BATS Theatre Co. Inc.
2. **Changes to the script will be allowed with** permission granted by the playwright.
3. A Stage Manager and Lighting and Sound Technicians will be appointed by BATS Theatre Co. Inc.  
They will need to know the requirements of the directors and be provided with a marked script **21 days prior** to Dress Rehearsal.
4. All directors are asked to make themselves familiar with Rule 3d. (page 3) with regard to sets, scene changes and technical requirements.
5. **BATS Theatre Co. Inc reserves the right to place restrictions on production expenditure.**

## **PART 4:**

### **JUDGING OF THE ONE ACT PLAYS**

The panel of adjudicators will assess each script independently and anonymously, within the guidelines of the criteria set out below.

Their assessments are collated by the co-ordinators and the final three plays confirmed.

Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Edythe Brook Cooper Trust.

Only the co-ordinators will know the final order of winning scripts until they are announced at the conclusion of the final performance.

### **CRITERIA**

- A) PLOT:**
  - Structure
  - Creativity of plot development
  - Originality of plot idea
- B) CHARACTERISATION**
  - Development of characters
  - Empathy of characters
- C) DIALOGUE**
  - Economy of language
  - Relevance to plot
  - Relevance to characters
  - Dialogue flow
- D) PLAY OVERALL**
  - Audience appeal
  - Suitability of staging
  - Simplicity of staging
  - Australian content

# Entry Form



## **The Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition 2016 One Act Plays**

(Please type your entry or PRINT clearly in black pen)

I. (Full Name): .....

Address: .....

.....

Suburb: .....State: .....Postcode: .....

Phone: .....Mobile: .....

Fax: .....

Email: .....

Make application for entry of my original script, entitled

(SCRIPT NAME) .....

In the Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition 2016 One Act Plays.

**PLEASE READ THE RULES CAREFULLY!!**

I herein after agree to abide by the conditions and rules:

Signed: .....Date: .....

How did you hear about this competition ?.....

.....

.....

### **CHECKLIST:**

[ ] 3 bound copies of manuscript with synopsis (**no reference to author's name**)

[ ] Stamped, self-addressed LARGE envelope for return of scripts

[ ] Official Entry Form

[ ] Cheque/Money Order for \$A30 (Payable to "The Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition")

**SCRIPT SYNOPSIS** (please type or PRINT clearly in black pen)

(This **must** accompany your entry form and scripts)

Script Title: .....

Plot Synopsis: .....

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Category (ie Drama, Comedy etc): .....

Setting: .....

Place: .....

Time: .....

Stage Sets and props: .....

.....

Estimated Running Time: .....

*(Please read your script aloud, allowing for stage movement and time it to make sure it complies with RULE#3a)*

Cast List (gender, age, specific requirements or description): .....

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