

The Edythe Brook Cooper
 Playwriting Competition

2018 Full Length Play

Presented by

**Part 1:
Introduction, Awards, Rules and Conditions of Entry**

**Part 2:
Notes for Adjudicators**

**Part 3:
Guidelines and Rules for Director**

**Part 4:
Judging, Official Entry Form, Synopsis**

**Entries Closing Date: 31st OCTOBER 2017
Stage Presentation: 2018**

**BATS Theatre Co. Inc
Buderim War Memorial Hall
Cnr Main and Church Streets
Buderim.**

**Ph: 07) 54 444 263
Email:** **pritchardelec@bigpond.com.au** **Website:** [**www.batstheatre.com**](http://www.batstheatre.com)

**PART 1:**

**The Edythe 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 Brook 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: 07) 54444263 Email: pritchardelec@bigpond.com
 Jacqui Mata Luque Ph: 07) 54455464/0431025920 Email: jacmata5@gmail.com**

**AWARDS 2018**

**Full Length Play Competition 2018**

* 1st prize – Best Play – Trophy and $5,000 prize money
* 2nd prize – Runner Up – Trophy and $1,000 prize money

 **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.**
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
n**ature 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 80 MINS AND 100 MINS** (*We suggest you read your script aloud, allowing for stage movement, 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.** Plays should be capable of being performed within a SIMPLISTIC stage setting due to constraints of the venue.

**4. a.** The decisions of the adjudicators’ and the Edythe Brook Cooper Trust are final and no communication or correspondence will be entered into regarding the adjudication or selection process. Finalists will be notified in February 2018
 **b.** Scripts will be returned only if sufficient postage is supplied on a stamped, self-addressed envelope. **All plays will receive adjudicators’ comments and score.**

 **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.** Presentation of prizes to the winner and runner up will take place after the final performance of the winning play.

**8.** Performing rights for the winning script are granted to BATS Theatre Co. Inc. for the duration of the performances of the winning play, without the need to pay a Royalty fee.

**9.** **No alterations** to the script will be allowed between time of entry and the announcement of the winning script and runner up.

**Entries Closing Date is October 31st  2017.**

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

**SEND ENTRIES TO:
Edythe Brook Cooper Playwriting Competition
Co – ordinator
4 Gumtree Drive
Buderim. QLD. 4556**

**The winner and the runner up 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 are asked to make themselves completely aware of the all the rules and conditions of this playwriting competition.**

**PART 3:**

**GUIDELINES AND RULES FOR DIRECTORS**

1. The choice of director is at the discretion of BATS Theatre Co. Inc.

2. C**hanges to the script will only be allowed with the written permission of 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 **at the time of auditions for the production.**

4. **BATS Theatre Co. Inc. reserves the right to place restrictions on production expenditure.**

**PART 4:**

**JUDGING OF THE FULL LENGTH PLAYS**

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

Their assessments will be collated by the co-ordinators and the winning play and runner up confirmed.

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

**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

2018 Full Length Play

**(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 2018 Full Length Play.**

**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: …………………………………………………………

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Estimated Running Time: …………………………………………………….
***(Please read your script aloud, allowing for stage movement, time it and make sure it complies with RULE#3)***

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

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