

Fulbright Professional Playwriting Scholarship

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NEW FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP LAUNCHED FOR PLAYWRIGHTS

Playwrights who wish to develop their skills in the United States now have a new Fulbright Scholarship opportunity to apply for.

The new Fulbright Professional Playwriting Scholarship was launched today by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission and Australian arts organization, Inscription. It is supported by Copyright Agency Ltd, The Australia Council Literature Board and the Friends of Inscription.

The scholarship is for established playwrights with at least one main stage professional production to their credit.

“This initiative will provide established Australian playwrights with the opportunity to spend four months in the US connecting with a range of leading American theatre companies and script development organisations,” said Inscription Director, Mr Marcus West.

“Too often established talent can be neglected for the next-best-thing. This scholarship goes some way to re-shifting the focus. Additionally, we hope that by putting down deeper roots in America, Inscription can help more Australian stories find their way onto US stages,” Mr West said.

Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Dr Tangerine Holt welcomed the establishment of the new scholarship and said that she was delighted that the opportunity had been created for playwrights. “The Fulbright Program empowers individuals to be the best they can be while simultaneously encouraging them to give back to their local and international partners and colleagues,” Dr Holt said.

“The Fulbright Program has consistently attracted the best and the brightest minds and has a reputation for delivering premium quality opportunities which translate benefits to both Australia and the U.S. at local levels. It is wonderful that we are now able to offer scholarships to playwrights and give them the chance to develop their expertise in an international setting. ”

Applications for the new Scholarship are now open – visit www.fulbright.com.au for details. The first recipient will be awarded in March 2014.

Inscription is (www.inscription.com.au) an Australian arts organisation which focuses on Australian performance writers. Through commissions, productions, workshops, mentorships and scholarships we seek to provide the highest quality of script development and story consultancy as well as help writers to pitch their work to potential producers. Inscription has run masterclasses, mentorships and workshops with a who's who of American theatre and film, including Edward Albee, Will Eno, JT Rogers, Michael Hauge, Chris Vogler and Richard Walter. Through these links and relationships with La Jolla Playhouse in San Diego, The Steppenwolf in Chicago and New Dramatists in New York, as well as leading literary agents and other Broadway feeder companies, Inscription will

provide the Fulbright Professional Scholar with the opportunity to draft a new play and "plug into the grid" of the world's most dynamic theatre scene.

The Fulbright Program is the one of the largest and most prestigious bi-national educational and cultural exchange program in the world. Established in 1949, it continues to be supported by the Australian and U.S. governments and a generous group of sponsors, such as Inscription.

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