



Playwrights First

The National Arts Club
15 Gramercy Park South
New York, NY 10003

ATTENTION PLAYWRIGHTS

Playwrights First announces its 2008-2009 playwright competition.

We require that the one play submitted be by one author, original, full-length, unproduced prior to submission, and in English.

No adaptations or translations will be accepted.

Please submit a resume with your play, both on paper. No e-mail.

Plays cannot be returned.

Deadline for submission: October 15, 2008

Notification of winner(s): May 2009

We offer to playwrights whose plays are selected:

- \$1,000 grant for a play of outstanding merit
- Professional readings, when appropriate, for a New York City audience: director and cast to be selected by Playwrights First
- Useful introductions to actors, literary managers, directors, etc.
- Committee feedback if desired

For further information:

Please write to us at the above address, where you will also submit your entry.

You may reach us by telephone at **212-744-1312** or **212-677-1966**; however, we cannot return long-distance calls, so if you don't reach us, please keep trying.



Playwrights First

August 22, 2008

Denise Matthes
Iowa Playwrights Workshop, University of Iowa
200 North Riverside, #107TB
Iowa City, IA 52242

Dear Ms. Matthes:

Playwrights First is an organization which recognizes, rewards and advances playwrights of unusual promise.

We are an eclectic group of professional men and women, all avid theatergoers, who are the judges in a playwriting contest we have held since 1993. We believe that drama is essentially a literary form that is fully realized in performance.

We look for:

- Imagination and originality in both style and subject or point of view
- Characters that intrigue and move us
- A compelling action which reveals the human condition
- Theatricalism inherent in the above but not so dominant that the play is little more than a scenario for the director.

We offer a \$1,000 grant for the winning play, as well as possible professional readings at The Players or the National Arts Club before a sophisticated New York audience, many of whom are well-known theater personalities. When appropriate, we will direct the playwrights we choose to literary managers, artistic directors, agents or producers. Our aim is to advance the play (and playwright) toward production.

If you know of students or faculty with the talent we seek, we hope you will encourage them to send their work to us. If you are responding to this notice, please indicate this by writing the name of your organization on the cover of the plays.

For further information, please write to us at the National Arts Club or call either Elizabeth Stevens (212-744-1312) or Carolyn French (212-677-1966, evenings or weekends). We regret that we cannot return long-distance calls until we obtain nonprofit status.

Sincerely,

Carolyn French, Ph.D.
Chair, Playwrights First

Enclosure: Notice for your bulletin board