

THEATER MASTERS

We are thrilled once again to invite the MFA students in your department to participate in **Theater Masters TAKE TEN!**

Theater Masters TAKE TEN: NY 2025 Festival + Wonder Week

This year's **MFA Playwrights Festival** will be back IN PERSON and in New York City. This year's festival will take place over 4 days in late April / early May 2025. Exact dates and venue TBD. Playwrights will participate in up to 5 hours of workshop time on their play with a professional director, culminating in a live reading presentation of their 10-min plays at a New York City venue.

The winning playwrights will also participate in our annual **Wonder Week**: a series of meetings and events connecting writers to Artistic Directors, Literary Managers, Literary Agencies, and other leaders in our industry. Wonder Week 2025 will consist of both virtual and in-person meetings. **Virtual Wonder Week** will commence prior to the in person festival week .

Finally, *Samuel French: A Concord Theatricals Company* will publish the TAKE TEN plays in our 2025 TAKE TEN Anthology.

Prior to the spring events, playwrights will be connected with Theater Masters' artistic staff, and Take Ten directors to discuss feedback, casting, and festival goals. In addition, Take Ten playwrights will have the opportunity to meet with the 2025 National Adjudicator (TBA), who will offer professional mentorship and structured feedback on their 10-minute plays. (Past adjudicators have included Lauren Yee, César Alvarez, Martyna Majok, Craig Lucas, David Auburn, Kathleen Chalfant, James Anthony Tyler, and many other distinguished professionals in the field.)

Theater Masters' TAKE TEN fills a need that no other organization addresses head-on: bridging the gap between the classroom and the professional realm. Connections fostered during our festival have brought many playwrights to great heights of success in their careers, ultimately sewing new and exciting voices into the fabric of the American Theatre. We hope you will invite your graduate student playwrights to submit a 10-minute play this year.

Below, and attached you will find important dates, as well as **the Submission Guidelines and Cover Sheet**.

Please review the dates, share the submission guidelines and coversheet with your students, and email us to confirm your school's participation.

We look forward to hearing from you, and please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Victoria Hansen
Executive Artistic Director

Julie Kramer
Take Ten 2025 Director

Lulu Guzman
Artistic Administrator

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IMPORTANT DATES

- **Submissions due:** January 31st, 2025
- **Finalists announced:** By or before March 1st, 2025
- **Introductions to Take Ten artistic team (virtual/phone):** March - April 2025
- **Virtual Wonder Week:** End of April. Exact dates TBA (on Zoom, based on avail)
- **In-Person Wonder Week, Rehearsals, and Reading Presentation:**
4 days between April 22nd and May 10th 2025. New York City. Exact dates and venue to be announced as soon as possible New York City.

STUDENT GUIDELINES

- Students are invited to submit only one play each, and the submitted play must be *unpublished*, and *unproduced professionally*.
- All plays submitted must be no more than ten-minutes in length. We encourage you to use your own voice and style within this structure.
- We will select between 5 - 6 plays. We will not necessarily select one play from each participating school.
- **Playwrights MUST be able to attend the festival in-person, in NYC.**
- Theater Masters will cover and coordinate all travel to and from NYC. **Playwrights are expected to arrange their own housing** (preferably with friends or free homestay).
- **Playwrights MUST be able to attend the vast majority of virtual Wonder Week meetings.** . We do try to accommodate class and work conflicts when possible, however we are also confined to the availability of our industry guests. It is our hope that program and department heads recognize the importance of this professional development opportunity and allow for some flexibility within schedules when possible.
- Theater Masters will match each playwright with a professional director. Casting will be decided by Theater Masters in consultation with directors, playwright, and a professional casting consultant.
- Theater Masters will coordinate special events and professional development meetings – via Zoom and in-person. Playwrights will have the opportunity to meet and engage with other artists and industry professionals such as literary managers, artistic directors, literary agents, and alumni of Theater Masters programs.
- Playwrights are expected to participate in the programming in a manner that is professional, considerate, and respectful of their fellow playwrights and collaborators; and Theater Masters reserves the right to dismiss any playwright who we feel is not abiding by these rules of conduct.
- We assume that by submitting a play you are willing to agree to these conditions.
- Upon acceptance, winning playwrights will receive official letters of agreement.