

# The Launchpad Project

## A 5-Week Devised Theatre Intensive

Sarasvati Productions is accepting submissions from women and non-binary artists aged 18 and older to take part in its 2020 Launchpad Project. We are seeking emerging theatre artists to participate in a 5 week long intensive to create a brand new theatrical experience to be showcased at our annual theatre festival, FemFest, in September 2020.

Participants will create and perform an original piece centred on the theme of this year's festival, *Engaging Community*, with a specific focus on climate change. To inspire their creative process, they will also have the chance to engage with works by New York-based playwright and FemFest guest artist, Chantal Bilodeau.

Artists interested in the program may come from any background, education, or ability level provided they meet the criteria for an "emerging artist": being in an early stage of their artistic path while demonstrating a passion for working in theatre.

### **About the Launchpad Project:**

The Launchpad Project was launched in 2019, as an initiative looking to engage and collaborate with emerging artists from a variety of disciplines: directors, writers, performers, designers. Participants will be selected based on creating a diverse and well-rounded creative team that can work with and learn from each other over the course of this process.

This year, participants will gather in August to begin the process. During the first week, they will take part in several workshops to ensure the ensemble share a working vocabulary of theatrical techniques, before beginning the creation phase of the project. Following that, rehearsals will be devoted to creating content with the goal of performing as a part of FemFest's annual *Walking Tour*; an interactive theatre experience that engages with Winnipeg's downtown through a series of site specific theatrical performances.

Honourariums will be provided and transportation subsidies will be available.

Rehearsals and workshops will be held over the course of 5 weeks from August 17th to September 17th, 2020, and shows will take place between September 19th and September 26th, 2020. Please ensure you are able to commit to the full length of the project when submitting (see schedule below).

### **How to Apply:**

Submissions are to be sent by email to Lindsay Johnson and Victoria Hill at [launchpad@sarasvati.ca](mailto:launchpad@sarasvati.ca) by 11:59pm on May 1st, 2020.

Please include:

1. A cover letter, which includes:

- Full contact information (mailing address, phone # and e-mail)
- A statement on why you are interested in being involved, what you hope to bring to the project / ensemble, and your background in theatre.

2. A resume detailing past theatrical experience or a list of past work.

3. Sample of past work (optional) – for playwrights, maximum 15 pages and must be formatted according to accepted Canadian script guidelines. Video submissions, links, or photographs are also welcome.

Our goal is to make the Launchpad Project as accessible as possible. Participants needing further assistance with submitting materials, including alternative ways of applying, are welcome to contact [launchpad@sarasvati.ca](mailto:launchpad@sarasvati.ca) to discuss further.

For more information please contact us at (204) 586-2236 or [info@sarasvati.ca](mailto:info@sarasvati.ca) . To view details on past FemFests, check out our website at [www.sarasvati.ca](http://www.sarasvati.ca) .

### **The Important Bits:**

#### **Who Can Apply:**

- Anyone over the age of 18 who identifies as a woman or non-binary person and is an emerging artist: being in an early stage of their artistic path while demonstrating a passion for working in theatre. This means writers, directors, dancers, improvisers, designers, performers... all are welcome!
- Participants from Launchpad 2019 are welcome to re-apply.

#### **What:**

- A 5-week Devised Theatre Intensive with a focus on Environmental Issues. The final product will have 4 public showings as part of Sarasvati's FemFest *Walking Tour*.

#### **When:**

- Rehearsals: August 17th to September 4th, Monday to Friday 11am-5pm.  
September 8th to September 17th, Saturday/Sundays 11am-5pm, Tuesdays/Thursdays 6pm-9pm.
- Shows: 4 performances during FemFest between September 19th and September 26th.
- Additional mentorship options may be available after FemFest as part of Sarasvati Productions' 2020/2021 season.

#### **Where:**

- Rehearsals: Location TBD.
- Shows: Site specific locations in the downtown area.

#### **Cost:**

- Free! YOU get an honorarium of \$700 to participate, along with some travel subsidies.