

Guidelines for playwrights regarding unsolicited manuscripts

Silverthorne Theater Company (STC) is the resident theatre company at Hawks & Reed in downtown Greenfield, MA, and our mission is “to present adventurous thought-provoking theatrical experiences, including productions of new and classic work, for audiences of all kinds and diverse populations” (for full mission statement: <https://silverthornetheater.org/mission/>).

We welcome new scripts and have produced several new plays in our six years of existence, but we have some very real limitations. Please read our guidelines and requirements thoroughly before submitting your play.

At STC, we currently have two ways we work with new plays.

- 1) This year, STC initiated a season of rehearsed readings of plays new to us that have not yet been fully produced. This program is still in its early stages, and we have great hopes for the success of our first season, which started with its first reading in March 2019. Though we give priority to regional artists, we accept submissions from playwrights across the country and abroad [in English only, please]. ***Plays for the 2019 reading series have already been selected, so any plays submitted specifically for this series will not be considered until planning begins for 2020.*** We hope to post submission deadlines for the 2020 reading series by the summer of 2019.
- 2) We have, on occasion, produced new plays as part of our main season. The determination of the suitability of a particular play for this kind of consideration is entirely at the discretion of the Literary Manager, in consultation with the Producing Artistic Director.

Production Guidelines:

- Our performance space is small and not a traditional theatre space [no wings, limited backstage, used for other events and must retain its multipurpose character], so we are limited in our technical abilities and unable to support major technical requirements.
- Due to our limitations, we can only consider new plays that require no more than eight actors [reasonable doubling included].
- Our audience is sophisticated and used to challenging and thought-provoking theatre that’s also tasteful and does not include gratuitous shock elements.

Requirements for Submission:

If you wish to submit a play to STC, please send the casting requirement and the **first** twenty pages of your manuscript as a single document (e-file) to the STC Literary Manager at stcliterarymanager@gmail.com. Please also include the following information with your sample pages in a single separate document:

- Playwright’s biography or resume (maximum two pages)
- Production history of the play (if any)
- Play synopsis and theme(s)

- How you believe your play meets STC's stated goals

Plays that are sent to us without this additional information will not be considered by STC. We will contact you if we wish to see your complete script. Please note that our literary department consists entirely of volunteers, so we are unable to respond to submissions with any detailed feedback, though we will try to send you information as to whether and how we are considering your play, though it could take six months or more for us to come to any final decisions.

If you have any questions or concerns before submitting your sample pages and required additional information to STC, please contact stcliterarymanager@gmail.com.