



Grant Panelist Registration Guidelines

For most of TBA's grants, awardees are decided by peer panels – a group of subject matter experts drawn from the field. For TBA's grants, this means panels of theatre workers who have a particular understanding of, or specialization in, each grant's funding priorities.

All our grant panelists are paid for their time. In addition, serving as a grant panelist is a great way to learn more about the granting process, and will improve your own grant writing skills. Finally, it's enormously rewarding to give money away to fellow artists!

What do grant panelists do? You complete grant panelist training on your own time (currently just reading through some documents, but we're planning to add a video training module soon!), read the applications online, then meet with the panel on Zoom to make your decisions. Depending on the size of the applicant pool, the panel meeting can take anywhere from two to five hours. That's it!

Confidentiality is important to us, so you will be asked to sign a confidentiality agreement. In addition to protecting the confidentiality of our applicants, TBA also protects panelist identity during the process. Once the process is over, TBA includes panelist bios in the public awardee announcement.

Do I need to be a TBA member? You do not need to be a TBA member to apply for TBA's grants or serve on our panels. But we'd love to have you! [Click here to learn more about individual membership](#) and [click here to learn more about company membership](#).

Anyone can register to become a grant panelist. See the qualifications below to see which grant panels are right for you, then click here to register: [TBA GRANT PANELIST REGISTRATION](#). We strive to create panels that represent the professional, geographic, and demographic diversity of the Bay Area theatre community, so there will be some questions that will help us ensure that diversity.

General Eligibility Information for All our Grant Panels

In order to be eligible to serve as a grant panelist at TBA, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be a professionally-oriented theatre worker
- NOT be currently enrolled as a full-time high school or university student
- NOT be a current TBA employee or board member.
- Be located in any of the counties within Theatre Bay Area's Northern California service area: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma counties.

Which Panels Are Right for You?

Five of our grants use peer panelists: The Rella Lossy Award, The Arts Leadership Residency, CA\$H Creates and Performs, and the new CA\$H Sustains.

Rella Lossy Award

This award is for an emerging playwright (defined as a playwright who has yet to have a LORT or Broadway production) and the theatre company producing a world premiere play by that writer. In order to qualify for this panel, you must be ONE of the following:

- An emerging playwright as defined above
- A more established playwright
- A dramaturg or director specializing in new plays
- An artistic director, literary manager, or similar role at an org that produces new plays

This is a panel of three, and on each panel, we strive to have one emerging playwright, one established playwright, and one dramaturg, director, literary manager, or artistic director. Panelists are paid \$200, and this panel convenes in early June. Rella Lossy generally receives 10-15 applicants.

Arts Leadership Residency

This grant places an emerging arts leader who identifies as disabled, BIPOC, trans, female, and/or nonbinary in residence at an established theatre company, mentored by that company's leadership. In order to qualify for the panel, you must be ONE of the following:

- An emerging or aspiring arts leader
- An established arts leader

Priority is given to people who identify as disabled, BIPOC, trans, female, and/or nonbinary. This is a panel of five, usually three emerging or aspiring leaders and two established leaders. If you or your company received this grant in the past, you are an ideal candidate!

Panelists are paid \$200, and this panel convenes in late September/early October. ALR generally receives 10-15 applicants.

CA\$H Creates and CA\$H Performs

These two grants are decided by the same panel. In order to qualify for the CA\$H Creates and CA\$H Performs panel, you must qualify for the grant itself as an individual artist, or as someone working at a small theatre that qualifies.

Individual Artists:

- Are able to document at least one professionally-oriented production featuring your work as an actor, director, playwright, designer, or technician, or one professionally-oriented production that you produced that was presented earlier this year or within the three years prior. Professional workshops, staged readings, and streaming productions definitely count!
- Are NOT currently enrolled as a full-time high school or university student.

Company Representatives:

- Your company's annual budget does not exceed \$100,000
- It has a documented history of at least two professionally-oriented works that were presented publicly this year or in the three years prior. Staged readings and streaming productions definitely count!
- It creates and performs theatre performances for the public, and is not primarily a performance venue or presenter.
- It is not an arts education program, part of an arts education program, or primarily funded by an arts education program.
- It is not a religious organization, part of a religious organization, or primarily funded by a religious organization.
- It is not a political campaign, part of a political campaign, or primarily funded by a political campaign.

This is a panel of five. Panelists are paid \$500. The pay is higher because CA\$H Creates and Performs usually receive between 60 and 80 applications per round, which is a much larger applicant pool than our other grants. CA\$H Creates and Performs convenes two panels year– one in late May/early June and one in late November/early December.

CA\$H Sustains

Our newest grant provides general operating support for small theatres. In order to qualify for this grant, you must be in a leadership position at a company that would qualify for this grant. The qualifications are the same as above for CA\$H Creates and Performs. This is a

panel of three, and panelists are paid \$200. This panel convenes in late November/early December. We anticipate 10-15 applicants.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you serve on a grant panel, you (and any company at which you hold a leadership position) are ineligible to apply for that grant until the next round.

Questions? Email Melissa@TheatreBayArea.org.