DR. BARBARA ANN TEER’S
NATIONAL BLACK THEATRE
THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM

SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENCY
FOR BLACK PRODUCERS

Soul
PRODUCING RESIDENCY
APPLICATION DEADLINE
JULY 1 at 11:59 pm

DR. BARBARA ANN TEER’S NATIONAL BLACK THEATRE
2031 5TH AVE
NEW YORK, NY 10035
212-722-3800
WWW.NATIONALBLACKTHEATRE.ORG
National Black Theatre (NBT), the nation’s first revenue-generating Black arts complex, was founded in 1968 by the late visionary artist and entrepreneur Dr. Barbara Ann Teer. Since its inception, NBT has been at the forefront of a broader movement of engaging the arts for social change, economic growth and transformation in innovative ways that build community. NBT is a leading institution engaged in intentional creative place-making by leveraging the power of theater arts with Black culture and creativity. Throughout its rich history, NBT has maintained a strong commitment to creating a space in which new and underrepresented voices can be brought to the forefront to provide unique and diverse perspectives on the myriad critical issues of equity and social justice that affect our nation today. During the last 51 years, NBT has produced over 300 original works, toured globally & launched international extensions, like the National Black Theatre of Sweden.

Launched in 2015, Soul Producing Residency Program is a training program working to empower the next generation of producers, general managers, and curators of the future. Through a ten-month residency, NBT gives one Black producer a place to call home. Through this program, we seek to help give artists of color the opportunity to learn and develop the skills and network needed to produce in NYC.

The residency culminates in a self-produced one-day event with an allocated budget and the full support of institution at the residences disposal under the guidance of the Artistic Director and Program Staff.

PREVIOUS SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENTS:
Ngozi Anyanwu
Marie Cisco
Tola Ozim
Emana Rochelle
TS Hawkins [Current]

RESIDENCY COMPONENTS
The SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENCY recognizes one Black producer annually. The chosen producer’s work must demonstrate exceptional artistic merit and excellence in the field.

The selected producer will receive:

• A min stipend of $10,000 [Pending Funding];
• Administrative support: access to office space, resource library and printing;
• Real time work experience helping to produce NBT’s current season: productions, exhibitions, readings and symposiums;
• Professional development opportunities through one on one mentorship, dialogue, network opportunities with industry professionals;
• Resident will be helm as a line producer one of the productions, concerts or micro-commissions taking place within NBT’s season;
• Tickets to see theatrical shows in NYC throughout the year;
• Two Complimentary tickets to National Black Theatre productions.
2020 SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENCY

ELIGIBILITY, CONDITIONS, & REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States.

- Self identify as a member of the African diaspora community

- 21 years of age or older

- Students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate degree programs for playwriting are not eligible.

- The resident producer MUST commit to spending the 10-month residency period September 1, 2020 thru July 31, 2021 by actively participating in doing various different roles for each production which include: a line producer, administrative aid, company management and production management within the National Black Theatre season.

- Must be able to be in the office for a minimum of 2 days for 10 hours per week.

- To serve on the Selection Committee for the following SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENT.

SELECTION

Applications are screened for eligibility by the National Black Theatre and evaluated by a selection committee of professional theater administrators within the field who select the five finalists. From that group the committee selects finalists that National Black Theatre’s Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director will evaluate. The selected finalists receive a scheduled interview. Selection is based on artistic potential, commitment and originality. The selection process is guided by the National Black Theatre’s mission statement:

Core Mission:

1. To produce transformational theater that helps to shift the inaccuracy around African Americans' cultural identity by telling authentic stories of Black lifestyle;
2. To use theater arts as a means to educate, enrich, entertain, empower & inform the national conscience around current social issues impacting our communities;
3. To provide a safe space for artists of color to articulate the complexity, beauty & artistic excellence intrinsic in how we experience the world in the domain of acting, directing, producing, designing, play writing and entrepreneurial autonomy.

Guiding Principles:

HOME: The commitment to creating a destination dedicated to Black artists where they have a sense of being and belonging. For people of African descent, having an artistic home helps heal the wounds of historical displacement and forced migration that Black
2020 SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENCY

people have suffered in America ever since the establishment of slavery. “Welcome To Your Home Away From Home” -Dr. Teer

BRAVE AND SACRED: The establishment of a brave and sacred space connected to indigenous practices to welcome Black artists, activists, and NGOs within the field to exercise creative autonomy in taking risks to connect, support, train, and incubate artists.

BLACK LIBERATION: The unapologetic and intersectional love, celebration, preservation, cultivation, illumination, generation, and transcontinental connectivity of the African Diaspora.

HUMAN TRANSFORMATION: The act of creating and elevating the belief and practice that exposure to an intentional environment that celebrates and reveals the truth of the Black cultural experience and aligns it with our shared humanity promotes the purpose of liberation from systematic oppression for all people.

INTEGRITY: The incontestable practice of remaining mission-centered and engaging with others from an authentic space of honesty, love, and respect.

TO APPLY:

Using the subject line SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENCY, send an email to submit@nationalblacktheatre.org as a single PDF document, containing the following elements, arranged in this sequence:

1. AN APPLICATION COVER LETTER (max 1500 words) tell us about yourself. Who are you? Talk about your background. What drives your creative decisions? And what is your experience with mounting theatrical productions? Please include the following information:
   
   NAME
   COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS
   HOME PHONE, OTHER PHONE
   EMAIL ADDRESS

2. Separately Answer these following questions:
   a. Why do you want to be a producer? [250 word max]
   b. Why do you want to train at the National Black Theatre (NBT)? [250 word max]
   c. Define “entrepreneurship.” [250 word max]
   d. Define “success.” [250 word max]
   e. How do you embody teamwork? [250 word max]
   f. What do you believe will be the most significant obstacle you will overcome as a resident? [250 word max]
   g. Who is the community you seek serve? [250 word max]
2020 SOUL PRODUCING RESIDENCY

3. A RESUME [listing all artistic projects, managerial experience, productions, awards, commissions, etc.]

4. WORK SAMPLE: [OPTIONAL] Please provide any videos, reviews, articles or pictures of events, productions and/or programs you have produced.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS: Each application needs to submit a letter of recommendation from an industry professional that can speak to your work ethic, creativity, and character. In addition to this each applicant needs to provide 2-3 references that the selection committee can call if the applicant is advanced to becoming a finalist. The one page letter of recommendation need to be submitted with the application.

Name the application packet file with your last name followed by soulapp [Example: application packet sent by Jane Smith = Smithsoulapp.pdf]

Email your application packet by July 1, 2019 at 11:59 pm. No late applications will be accepted. Receipt of application materials will be confirmed via email.

DEADLINE & IMPORTANT DATES
Applications must be received by: July 1, 2020 at 11:59 pm
Finalists will be notified on: July 22, 2020
Recipient(s) will be notified on: August 15, 2020
Residency term: September 2, 2020 thru June 30, 2021

QUESTIONS
Contact: Program Coordinator : Belynda Hardin
submit@nationalblacktheatre.org
CC: Belynda@nationalblacktheatre.org