Call for Submissions: Boundless Exposed 2023

About: Boundless Exposed is a workshop and mentoring opportunity for early-career theatre designers of color. During this ten-week program, participating designers will have the opportunity to work alongside experienced mentors in shaping an installation-style design based on a short play. The program is open to early-career theatre designers in the tri-state area (NY, NJ, CT).

Program Overview:
- We are seeking early-career theatre designers of color interested in an intensive collaboration with peers, mid-career design mentors, and professional actors and directors.
- Boundless Exposed will foster an inclusive, creative workshop process with no conceptual boundaries. Participants must be interested in exploring a text fully through design.
- Participating designers will collaborate to create a conceptual installation that will accompany a short play. This play will be written by playwright Mariana Carreño in response to the research and design interests of the participants.
- The workshop will include weekly collaborative design meetings over a 9–week period, as well as one final week of hands-on implementation and construction (10 total).
- The program will conclude with a public presentation of participants’ original installation design, created in collaboration with a playwright, a director, and 1–2 actors. The presentation will be followed by a talkback.
- The program is open to early career designers in the tri-state area (NY, NJ, CT).

Stipend: Participating designers will receive a $1,000 stipend upon conclusion of the program.

Mentors: An incredible team of professional theatre artists will mentor Boundless Exposed participants from start to finish, providing guidance and assistance throughout the collaborative design process. Mentors will include lighting designer María-Cristina Fusté, costume designer Danielle Nieves, set designer Regina García, and playwright Mariana Carreño. Additional resources, such as a consulting composer or video editor, may be available as needed.

Covid-19 Procedures: Participating designers will attend design meetings virtually when necessary and in-person whenever possible, in accordance with Covid-19 safety recommendations. The final presentation will take place in-person on May 20th at the Julia de Burgos Performance and Arts Center in NYC.
Program Dates (Subject to Change):

- Design meetings will take place on February 27th, March 6th, March 13th, March 20th, March 27th, April 3rd, April 10th, April 17th, and April 24th at 7pm (subject to change).
- Rehearsals will take place the week of April 24th. Designers are expected to attend as many rehearsals as possible in-person or virtually.
- Load-in will take place May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, with a dress rehearsal on May 4th.
- The final presentation and talkback will take place on May 5th, 2023.

The performance and design installation will take place at the Julia de Burgos Performance and Arts Center in East Harlem (1680 Lexington Avenue). Audience members and design participants will attend in-person and virtually. The event is free of charge for audiences to attend.

Who Should Apply?: We are seeking enthusiastic early-career set, lighting, and costume designers eager to examine the conceptual design possibilities within a theatrical text. Participants should be committed to exploring ideas collaboratively in a boundless creative atmosphere. Designers should have an interest in networking with experienced design professionals and should share the goals and values of our company. The program is open to early-career designers in the tri-state area (NY, NJ, CT).

Who We Are: Boundless Theatre Company is a designer-led organization seeking to investigate, push and redefine the boundaries of theatrical storytelling. Spearheaded by women, Latinx theatre-makers and other theatre-makers of color, we strive to nurture cross-cultural voices in our programming, producing aesthetically challenging and visually mesmerizing interpretations of new and existing work. Through professional productions, community arts engagement, and other programming, we foster a collaborative artistic landscape as richly and authentically diverse as our own communities.

To Apply: Please submit your resume, a letter of recommendation, two samples of your work, and a letter of intent to mcfustei@boundlesstheatre.org. The letter of intent should explain why this program is a good fit for you, why you are interested in collaborating with Boundless, and how this experience will contribute to your career goals. All application materials should be submitted in a single PDF document with the subject line “Boundless Exposed Application.” Applicants may also include a link to their website. The program is open to early career designers in the tri-state area (NY, NJ, CT).

After the submission deadline, a member of our team will contact select candidates to schedule an interview. Successful candidates will be notified of their selection by February 20th, 2023.