

THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE'S

2025 Season



Image by Cole Baxter

Application Info Pack

The Blue Room Theatre stands on the lands of the Noongar peoples of the Bibulmun Nation. We acknowledge Elders past and present, and emerging, and pay our respects to the continuing culture and contribution that all First Nations people make to the life of this city and this region. We acknowledge that stories have been shared on this land over thousands of years and that this building marks a footprint on what is and will always be Aboriginal land.

Contents

Welcome to The Blue Room Theatre	2
Application Process - 2025 Changes	2
2025 Programs	3
Selection Process	3
2025 Season Eligibility	4
2025 Season Selection Criteria.....	4
Assistance with Applications	5
Key Dates and Timelines	6
Differences between Summer Nights and Annual Season:	
Resources, Technical Support & Finances	6
Venue and Tech	7
FAQs	8
Accessibility, Application Form & Submission	9
Contact Us.....	9

The Blue Room Theatre
Perth Cultural Centre
53 James St, Northbridge WA
(08) 9227 7005
www.blueroom.org.au

Office hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am – 5pm

Welcome to The Blue Room Theatre

Located in the heart of the Perth Cultural Centre in Boorloo, The Blue Room Theatre (TBRT) has been the creative hub of Western Australia's independent theatre and performance scene for 35 years. We exist to enable the development of performing artists by providing a venue, resources, and support to create and produce new work. Artists are at the centre of our organisation, and we service their needs through support (financial and in-kind), resources, opportunities, advocacy, information, and advice.

Artists and companies whose work is selected for the 2025 Season are offered unparalleled support across all aspects of their production. This information pack details the support provided across venue, tech and production, along with what artists need to bring to the table; it provides information on the application process and the selection criteria which applications will be assessed by; and answers some questions you may have – so read on!

Artistic

The goal of our Season is to minimise the risk involved in independently creating new work, while giving creatives artistic autonomy in this pursuit. Administrative advice and support is available in the development of the work, however, ultimately artists are the guardians of their own work and we do not censor or influence your creativity. **TBRT is not the producer of your work.**

Front of House

The Blue Room Theatre provides ticketing and bar staff to work the season, and tickets are sold by our office and front of house staff through our ticketing system, Ferve.

Sustainability

One of The Blue Room Theatre's core values is to pursue ethical and sustainable practices holistically across our whole organisation, and we ask the same of the producers/artists who work with us. Programmed productions are strongly encouraged to use resources in an environmentally sustainable way; employ ethical, equitable and transparent processes; address financial, environmental, and social sustainability for all artists involved; and place a priority on the health and wellbeing of artists involved in their production. Our team will work with programmed teams, provide resources and advice to pursue these values together.

Application Process - 2025 Changes

This year, the application process is looking a little different! There will be **one application form** where you can tick which program/s you are interested in for your project for 2025.

Applications Open: Wednesday 1 May 2024
Applications DUE: 12pm AWST Thursday 1 Aug 2024

Please note this will be the **only** period that TBRT will have applications open for 2025 Summer Nights, Annual Season & Residencies.

2025 Programs

You may be at the initial spark of your idea, or you may have a work that is almost ready to be presented. **You can opt-in to be considered for multiple programs** but please note, **you will only be successful in one program**. We recommend applying for the program/s that resonate most with your project.

SUMMER NIGHTS

- Festival runs 31 January – 22 February 2025
- Works between 45 - 60 minutes
- Number of performances: between 1 – 6
- No seed fund
- Standard Festival Lighting Rig with minimal capacity for Tech
- Up to 50 hours of in-kind rehearsal room hire per production
- Producing, marketing, technical and front of house (FoH) support and advice
- In-kind venue hire for performance and in-kind FoH staffing

ANNUAL SEASON

- Season runs across April - November
- Works between 50 – 90 minutes
- Performance Slot over 1 – 3 weeks, up to 15 performances (*if your idea sits outside of this standard slot, let us know! We are open to programming differently*)
- 180 hours of in-kind rehearsal space
- \$2,500 Seed Fund
- \$300 Mentorship Fee towards an Industry Professional Mentor
- Exclusive use of performance space (including lighting rig)
- Producing, marketing, technical and FoH support and advice
- In-kind venue hire for performance, and in-kind FoH staffing

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

- 1 or 2 weeks in-kind rehearsal space
- Producing, marketing, technical and FoH support and advice
- Opportunity to present a showing with invited guests and industry professionals

Selection Process

Projects that opt-in to be considered for Summer Nights & Residencies will be assessed **internally** by staff at TBRT.

Projects that opt-in to be considered for Annual Season will be assessed and programmed by an **independent panel of peer assessors**. The panel members change every season and are inducted by our programming team on our organisational values and [Equity & Justice Action Plan](#).

We aim to curate a season of works from artists who are looking to challenge themselves and their form, grow their skills, diversify participation in the arts, and open up conversations with fresh perspectives and experiences.

2025 Season Eligibility

Projects that fit the following criteria can apply for a 2025 Program. Please consider them carefully to assess the eligibility of your project:

- You are an independent artist
- These opportunities are not for annually funded organisations
- Work that has not been presented in WA, including new local and international plays and timely reinterpretations of current and classic texts
- Works that have obtained or sought rights (for existing scripts only)
- If programmed, show teams must become Members of TBRT

2025 Season Selection Criteria

Creativity: The project and artists demonstrate a clear artistic vision and rationale. Applicants can express creativity in a number of ways, including originality in concept, an innovative form or style, timely and relevant themes, and/or representation of diverse voices and perspectives.

Development: The project demonstrates a clear opportunity for professional development and growth in artistic practice of the artists and participants involved.

Planning: The project is realistic and achievable within the time, space, budget and resources.

Selection Criteria	Question
Creativity	1, 2
Development	3, 4
Planning	Planning Section

PROGRAMMING CONSIDERATION

Representation – Does the project involve people from underrepresented communities as artistic leaders of projects and/or within the artistic team, in line with our Equity and Justice Plan?

Have a read here: [page 13 terms and definitions](#).

TBRT encourages authenticity and intentionality in creating and presenting work. Please keep this in mind when responding to the representation section.

Assistance with Applications

Join us for our 2025 Application Info Session

Our Program and Engagement Manager Joel Evans and Producer Briannah Davis unpack the Application Pack and Form to give their top tips for a successful application.

Date: Wednesday 15 May, 5.00 – 6.00pm

Venue: Attend in-person at The Blue Room Theatre's Old Office or via Zoom

RSVP: [Click here to confirm your attendance](#)

Stick around after the session to watch *The State* at 6.30pm for the discounted preview tickets of \$22! Grab tickets at: [The State - The Blue Room Theatre](#)

Chat with our Programming Team

We are here to help you with your application! Our Program & Engagement Manager and Producer will be available for one-on-one meetings to listen to and soundboard your ideas as well as help you to understand and navigate our application and opportunities. We highly recommend first time applicants to connect with us, as well as returning artists to discuss how you can take your next steps.

Let's have a phone call, zoom or even grab a coffee to discuss your thoughts! Please reach out to our Producer to schedule in these chats with someone from the team: briannah@blueroom.org.au

Public Co- Working Space

The Blue Room Theatre Bar is open as co-working space Tuesday – Friday 10am – 5pm with access to photocopying, Wi-Fi and shared kitchen facilities. You are welcome to come and sit down anytime to get some work done in our space! Note that the Bar is open to the public for shows most nights from Tuesday to Saturdays from 6pm to late.

2025 Season Application Working Group

The Blue Room Bar, Thursday Mornings

No RSVP, just drop in

If want some motivation/space to get the application done, then join our working group! Simply head along to The Blue Room Bar on Thursday mornings (fortnightly through May & June then weekly through July).

Pop the following dates in your calendar:

May: Thurs 9 and Thurs 23

June: Thurs 6 and Thurs 20

July: Every Thursday!

Key Dates and Timelines

The below timeline includes some key dates for our 2025 Season:

Applications Open	Wednesday 1 May 2024
Applications Close	Thursday 1 August 2024
Application Outcomes	September 2024
Season Photoshoot	Oct/Nov 2024
Summer Nights Season	31 Jan – 22 Feb 2025
Annual Season	April – November 2025

Differences between Summer Nights and Annual Season:

Resources, Technical Support & Finances

	SUMMER NIGHTS	ANNUAL SEASON
TECH	Seating Banks fixed in 'standard' position <i>*more info below</i>	Seating banks have capacity for alternate set ups <i>*more info below</i>
	Lighting rig has limited capacity for change during Festival	Rigging lights is the responsibility of the artistic team, with greater capacity for specials
	Minimal capacity for set <i>(must be able to be bumped in and out within 15 mins of showtime)</i>	Exclusive use of performance space <i>(e.g. paint the space, build and leave set & props in space)</i>
	No capacity for set/ prop storage	
	Bump in must be managed within 4 hrs	Bump in and tech occurs across 1 week
	Bump out after final performance	Bump out across 2 days following final performance
	Provide your own Stage Manager to operate your season	
FINANCIAL	Receive 65-80% of box office takings after ticketing fees and other reimbursable expenses <i>(e.g., photocopying costs, black paint, projector hire)</i> . If you are successful in gaining addition funding in support of your project, TBRT's ticketing commission cost will adjust as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <\$10,000 – 20% commission \$10,000-\$25,000 – 25% commission \$25,000-\$50,000 – 30% commission \$50,000+ - \$35% commission 	
	Ticket prices range between \$15 -\$29	Ticket prices range between \$22 - \$32
	\$2 Ticketing Fee taken off all tickets	\$3.50 Ticketing Fee taken off all tickets
	<i>Ticketing Fees are inclusive in the ticket price promoted and charged to your audience.</i>	
	No Seed Fund	\$2,500 Seed Fund \$300 Mentorship fund to engage with an industry professional
	Check the Summer Nights Financial Transparency Document	Check the Annual Season Financial Transparency Document

Venue and Tech

The Spaces

The Blue Room Theatre **has two intimate black box performances spaces (Theatre & Studio), and one low fi performance space (the Kaos Room)**. The small scale and intimacy of these spaces make them ideally suited for new and emerging artists to develop and showcase new work, and for experienced makers to experiment with something new.

The Theatre (max capacity 61)

The Theatre is the slightly larger of our two performance spaces, the space is 75 square metres with a wooden floor. The entry room to this theatre contains an extraordinary heritage listed floor to ceiling mural painting which can be masked as a backstage area leading to the theatre space through two open doorways.

Theatre list of the available equipment and seating configuration's [here](#).

The Studio (max capacity 49)

The Studio is approx 70 square metres in size with MDF flooring. The Studio has a small anteroom leading into the space from the bar, and also has entry point connecting to backstage hallway; both doors can be used in performance.

Studio list of the available equipment and seating configuration's listed [here](#).

Kaos Room (max capacity 30 – 36)

The Kaos Room is approx. 25 square metres, it makes for a cosy experience, suitable for stripped back performances. The room has wooden floorboards, a black curtain bordering three walls, with the fourth exposed wall painted black. There is limited capacity for tech in this space.

Kaos Room configuration listed [here](#).

Venue Equipment

The Studio & Theatre have access to an ETC Nomad connected to 3 x 12 way dimmer racks, along with a range of lights including, profiles, fresnels and LEDs; use of 8 CH mixer, speakers, a MacBook Pro with QLab with a full audio and video licence. For the full list of what's available in each space, head to the links above.

The Kaos Room has access to 4x LED RGBWAUV pars, a 48 channel lighting desk, 10-inch powered speakers with a mixer, and a laptop with Qlab4.

Summer nights has less capacity for changing the Lighting Rig. See the links to each space:

[Download Lighting Plan – Theatre](#)

[Download Lighting Plan – Studio](#)

[Download Lighting Plan – Kaos Room](#)

Our Technical Coordinator is available to discuss any tech and equipment use your show may require. If you would like more information on the venues tech capacity please contact:

tech@blueroom.org.au

FAQs

My project has already been presented in WA, but I want to redevelop and/or expand the work. Is this eligible for a 2025 Season application?

To be eligible for 2025 Season, the project needs to be a West Australian premiere. Remounts and touring works are not eligible, and this existing work would need to be redeveloped to an extent that it would be a new presentation. Within your application, ensure that you advocate for why there is cause to redevelop and/or expand the work.

I am an artist who is based interstate or overseas, can I apply?

Yes, however, we will only be accepting applications from teams where the **majority** of members are based in WA. Exceptions may be made for roles in the artist team that can be managed remotely.

Will you buy my show to be part of the 2025 Season?

No. TBRT is not able to commission or buy shows; our Season exists for independent artists to create and present new work.

Residency Program

Residencies are personalised to best support the goals of each successful applicants. Upon receiving your acceptance, TBRT staff will meet with you/your team, to negotiate how best to support your development within this opportunity. This might be 2 weeks of rehearsal time, mentorship to apply for larger grants and touring, or support to pitch at touring showcase conferences.

What's happening with Short Works in 2025 (also known as 600 Seconds)?

We will be running a Short Works program for 10-minute works as part of Summer Nights 2025, details for a short EOI will be confirmed and published later this year. Keep an eye out!

If I am programmed, how do I increase my show budget?

Most shows that perform at TBRT apply for [Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries funding](#). We recommend marking out important deadlines in your diary and chatting with them about your idea before applying. TBRT will also prepare a Letter of Support for your application, including a summary of the support we provide your show.

How does the mentorship fund work?

Annual Season Producers can apply for a \$300 Mentorship Fund to engage with an industry professional to support the development of skills of an artist/s on the production team. This mentor is not intended to work directly on the project, but instead to advise and teach the skills necessary to complete an aspect of their production. After being programmed, access and use of the fund needs to be rationalised, applied for and approved through TBRT Programming team.

What am I responsible for as a presenting artist at TBRT?

- Administering and managing own budget, inclusive of all additional production costs (set, costume, consumables)
- The communication to and management of the artistic and creative team, including their engagement in the production and contract with the producer
- Meeting production and administration deadlines with TBRT
- Being answerable to the status of the project during its development
- The generation and provision of all show specific marketing materials
- Publicising the individual show
- Delivering a production to their best standard, with rigour in rehearsals and presentation

Accessibility, Application Form & Submission

Application Form

**Applications for Annual Season, Summer Nights & Residencies are due:
12pm AWST Thursday 1 August 2024.**

Application Forms can be submitted as **Word Doc** or **PDF**.

2025 Season Application Form: [Download the Application Form](#)

Audio and video

Audio or video formats can also be used to answer the application questions if you prefer

Please note, you must still fill in an Application Form and questions that are answered via video just write “**See audio / video.**” Please limit audio / video answers to **2 min per question.**

Video and audio can be filmed or recorded on a phone, please do a soundcheck before recording and submitting your questions.

Video and audio can be attached to the application email, or for larger files please provide a link and any permissions required to access it.

Wheelchair Access

Our office, performance spaces and ground level bathroom are wheelchair accessible. The Studio Dressing Room is wheelchair accessible.

Gender neutral bathrooms

Our ground floor bathrooms are gender neutral and have signs to show what utilities are in each bathroom so that people can choose what best suits them.

Contact Us

We are here to answer your questions about the eligibility of your project or clarifications about the selection criteria and application process.

If you have further questions, please get in touch with our Programming team below. Either our Program & Engagement Manager Joel, or our Producer Briannah will be able to answer your query.

To reach our Programming team contact:

Email: apply@blueroom.org.au

Phone: 08 9227 7005

Office Hours: Tues – Friday, 10am – 5pm

If you are experiencing technical difficulties please contact us above.

All the best with your application! 😊