

Scriptwriters Houston  
**Museum Plays**  
at National Museum of Funeral History (NMFH)  
**Saturday, June 22, 2019 | 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

## **OVERVIEW**

**MEMBERS ONLY can submit; DEADLINE May 1, 2019; Submission Cost--Free**

How exciting it is for [Scriptwriters Houston](#) to collaborate with the National Museum of Funeral History (NMFH) to present theatrical works inspired by the exhibits in the museum! What an honor it will be for writers to see their words come to life on the stage of living art at such an exciting institution as NMFH!!

- The Museum Play experience will take place on one day, Saturday, June 22, 2019
- Only five scripts will be selected to be part of the program.
- The audience will be led through a guided tour of the museum experiencing the dramatic presentations along the way. Each audience group will consist of a maximum of 20 individuals. The plays will be performed four times throughout the afternoon, with series beginning at 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30 pm.
- Playwrights will submit plays written to one of six specific “sets” presented within the works of art.
- Performance spaces will be a maximum of approximately 8' x 8'

## **THE EXHIBITS**

The [National Museum of Funeral History](#) is an educational experience like no other and offers something for everyone. Discover America’s largest collection of authentic, historical funeral service items. Learn about caskets and coffins, hearses through history, plus the funerals of Presidents, Popes, celebrities and more while you witness the cultural heritage of the funeral service industry and its time-honored tradition of compassion.

### Mission Statement

Honoring the compassion and dedication of the funeral services industry has been the Museum’s mission since it began in 1992. Today, the Museum continues to enlighten visitors on one of man's oldest cultural rituals and celebrate the heritage of the funeral services industry. <https://www.nmfh.org/>

## **RULES**

- Plays should be 8 – 10 minutes in length. Please time your scripts before submitting. Scripts that, when read out loud by evaluators, are significantly less or more than the designated time limit may be automatically disqualified from participation.
- Plays must have only 2 actors. Actors can play multiple characters. Keep in mind the stage is the museum, so there is no “off-stage” space.
- Plays may be about anything, must not have any strong language, must be respectful of the true purpose of the museum and be family friendly.
- Technically, plays should be able to play in a maximum of 8' x 8' playing area or less. Actors may carry on hand props, but no set pieces are allowed, other than what is in the exhibition. No light cues or external sound cues are allowed.
- The exhibit may not be touched or altered in any way.
- While plays may be about anything, they should be specific to one of the six approved areas and what that area looks like, not necessarily directly connected to what the area actually represents or is about. Writers are encouraged to go experience the museum and artwork in person before submitting scripts. Writers will be responsible for their own entry fee for this visit.

- Writers must indicate in which space(s) the piece would play for the script to be considered.
- Rules con't
- Submission is open to all dues paid members of Scriptwriters Houston.
  - Submissions are due by May 1, 2019 at 11:59 pm.
  - Playwrights may submit up to three scripts total. Only one play per writer will be selected.
  - There is no fee for submissions and there is no pay to playwrights involved.
  - Submitted plays must be unpublished, unproduced works. Plays that have had a reading are allowed.
  - Each entry must have a cover page with the desired playing area(s) indicated. Only one scene per playing area will be selected: (images follow respectively)
    - Presidential Funerals; located in the entryway
    - Historical Hearses; located outside of Thanks For The Memories Area
    - Crematory Oven – American; located outside of Celebrating the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Mourning
    - Wall: located on the outside of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Mourning
    - A Life Well Lived Fantasy Coffins of Ghana area OR Day of the Dead/Dia de los Muertos area; only one scene will be selected for only one of these areas but writers may write for either location)



OR

## **WHAT TO SUBMIT**

### **SUBMISSIONS FORMAT FOR COVER PAGE or EMAIL:**

- 1) Author's Name, Address, Phone Number
- 2) Title of Play
- 3) Identification of desired playing area--
- 4) The following statement "I have read and understand the submission rules, guidelines, and deadline. I accept the terms of submitting my work to the Scriptwriters/Houston's 2019 Museum Plays." Author's Name: I also give permission to Scriptwriters/Houston to make a recording of my play as produced by Scriptwriters/Houston, and grant to Scriptwriters/Houston license to use that recording to promote Scriptwriters/Houston and Driven Theater Company, by

way of public/electronic media, including but not limited to YouTube, Facebook, email attachment, or by way of a television, film, or radio broadcast, or podcast.

### **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCRIPTS:**

Submitted scripts MUST:

- ✓ adhere to the information in the RULES section above
- ✓ have the title of the play on each page in a header
- ✓ have page numbers at top or bottom
- ✓ have the cover page information SEPARATE from the script itself
- ✓ NOT have writer information attached to the script for ease of blind evaluation

### **WHERE TO SUBMIT**

#### **SCRIPT DELIVERY OPTIONS:**

- **ELECTRONICALLY:** To submit electronically, please send an email with the cover page information in the body of the email and the script as a PDF to [Swhmuseumplays@gmail.com](mailto:Swhmuseumplays@gmail.com). Subject: MUSEUM Entry in the subject line. This is the **PREFERRED** method of entry. Note: Please do not have writer information attached to the script for ease of blind evaluation.
- **MAIL/DELIVERY:** Please provide the information in your cover letter attached to one (1) hard copy of your submitted script(s) and mail for receipt on or before the deadline to:

**Scriptwriters/Houston  
P.O. Box 981106  
Houston, Texas 77098**

- **DELIVERY:** Please provide the information in your cover letter attached to one (1) hard copy of your submitted script(s) and bring to the Scriptwriters Houston meetings prior to the deadline.

Submissions mailed/hand delivered must be delivered on/before the deadline. **NOTE: this does not mean postmarked! It must be in the P.O. Box by the deadline! We will send you a confirmation email when it has been received.**

### **WHEN TO SUBMIT**

DEADLINE: On or before May 1, 2019 at 11:59 pm

For questions, contact [Swhmuseumplays@gmail.com](mailto:Swhmuseumplays@gmail.com)