

**MAT SCRIPTWRITING**  
**COMPETITION 2018-19**  
**RULES AND GUIDELINES**

1. Entry is only open to all applicants observing competition guidelines, rules and regulations as listed. Professional and previously published writers are eligible to enter, but this is not a requirement of entry.
2. Entrants must not be WCBE 90.5 FM employees and their close relatives or any person directly connected to the competition. Proof of identity and eligibility may be requested.
3. Entrants should write an audio drama of no more than 20 minutes' length on any subject of their choice. Adaptations of novels are not eligible unless novel was written by submitter.
4. Scripts entered must not have been professionally produced in any medium (an informal play-reading is acceptable; a play-reading with a professional director and in front of a non-paying audience is acceptable, but a performance involving payment to actors and/or a paying audience is not).
5. Plays entered in the competition must not, at the time they are submitted, have been offered for publication, performance or broadcast in any other form or medium to any other person or company. Nor can they, at the time of entry or during the course of the competition, have been entered for any other competition. The winning playwrights will be deemed to have entered into an undertaking not to accept offers for their entries from other broadcasters or publishers before December 2019.
6. All scripts submitted must be a maximum of 20 pages (note, a rough guide is a minute per page; please read and time your play before you send it). The play should have a maximum of four central characters (there may be up to two incidental characters in addition who have no more than a few lines each).

7. Your play must be accompanied by a short synopsis which outlines the complete story of the play. This must be no more than 500 words.

8. The play must be written in English. Unfortunately, we do not have the facility to offer a translation service. Entries that have been translated must acknowledge this fact by giving a credit to the translator or translators.

9. The competition opens on November 25, 2018 and closes on February 3, 2018. Entries must be received by 11pm Central Time on February 3, 2018. Entries received after this time will not be considered.

10. Entries must be submitted either:

- by post to the following address:  
ATTN: Midnight Audio Theatre  
WCBE 90.5 FM Columbus  
540 Jack Gibbs Blvd  
Columbus OH 43215

OR

- by email to the following email address:  
midnightaudiotheatre@gmail.com

11. All entries must be accompanied by a completed copy of the entry form attached to this form or which can be downloaded at:  
<http://midnightaudiotheatre.com>.

12. Entrants can enter individually or as part of a group. If entering as a group, all entrants must meet the entry requirements and be eligible for the same category. No member should have also entered individually.

13. In the case of an entry by two or more writers, confirmation is required from each writer involved in submission of their script.

14. Only one entry per person is permitted including any group entries. If you submit more than one entry, only the first entry received will be considered. Please do not submit plays you have entered before.

15. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. Merodi Media, Midnight Audio Theatre and WCBE 90.5 FM accept no liability if entrants ignore these rules; entrants agree to fully indemnify the aforementioned parties against any claims by any third party arising from any breach of these rules.

16. Entries must not contain defamatory, obscene, offensive or any other unsuitable material. Entries must be suitable to be broadcast by WCBE 90.5 FM following FCC rules and guidelines. Any entry that does not do so must be willing to allow censorship of their work if produced for broadcast.

17. Entrants retain the copyright in the written work of their entries but grant Midnight Audio Theatre and WCBE 90.5 FM first broadcast and/or audio media rights to broadcast their entry across all media, as well as use it on any online platforms.

18. As with any new play, further drafts and revisions of the winning plays may be required. Winners must be willing and able to undertake redrafting and revision work in conjunction with Merodi Media. This work is likely to take place between February 2019 and December 2019 and the winning entrants will need to keep time free, and remain contactable, to achieve this. This work will be completed with the winning entrant using email or the most suitable method available. If the winner cannot be contacted and/or is unwilling to work with production staff, Merodi Media and WCBE 90.5 FM reserve the right to revoke a play's prize winning status.

19. Merodi Media and WCBE 90.5 FM will reserve the right to make minor cuts, changes and edits to the winners' final draft scripts, primarily to fit FCC broadcast guidelines.

20. Subject to a satisfactory production being made, the winning entry will be broadcast on Midnight Audio Theatre between Summer 2019 - Winter 2020. Winners will first be required to enter into a contract with Merodi Media on the

standard terms and conditions applicable for broadcast of Midnight Audio Theatre on WCBE 90.5 FM Columbus.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

These Terms and Conditions supplement the competition Rules above and are deemed to be integral to these.

1. Entries received before the opening date or after the closing date will not be considered.

2. Entries will not be returned so please remember to keep a copy. Unsuccessful entrants will not be contacted and no feedback on any entry will be provided.

3. Merodi Media and WCBE 90.5 FM will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering this competition.

4. By entering the competition, entrants warrant that they have legal capacity to enter the competition and agree to be bound by the competition Rules and these Terms and Conditions.

5. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: Plays will be selected for their originality and imagination, use of good dialogue, a compelling story with a believable plot, characters and structure, use of the medium of radio and how practical the play would be to produce.

6. Entries will be judged through the following process: Scripts will be read by a panel of judges, who meet to discuss and decide upon the winners, using their judgment of the criteria above.

7. The names of participants and the titles of their plays will be posted on the competition webpage in February 2019 unless otherwise requested. Following the final judges' meeting, the winners' names and the titles of their plays will be posted on the website by end of February 2019. You can

access the competition website by visiting <http://midnightaudiotheatre.com> and selecting Audio Drama Script Competition 2018-19 from the options listed there.

8. The winner will be contacted by Merodi Media during February 2019. If the winner cannot be contacted after reasonable attempts have been made to do so, WCBE 90.5 FM and Merodi Media reserve the right to offer the prize to the next best entry.

9. It is planned that the winning play(s) will be produced in March 2019 - November 2019 and will premiere on Midnight Audio Theatre in Summer 2019 - Winter 2020.

10. WCBE 90.5 FM and Merodi Media may wish to seek from the runners-up certain additional rights in their plays for educational/development purposes which may include, but not be limited to, permission to record scenes of the play to be available online at <http://midnightaudiotheatre.com> and possibly for broadcast. Entrants agree that the right for WCBE 90.5 FM and Merodi Media to record and possibly broadcast/use scenes from their play in this way will be available the aforementioned organizations in principle, subject to negotiation of appropriate terms for the exact use in question at the time.

11. All production work of selected winning stories are copyright Merodi Media Productions, unless other wise stated, at time of broadcast. Fully-produced works of winners' entries through the MAT Scriptwriting Competition may not be used for any reason without express permission from Merodi Media Productions. The authoring scriptwriter holds all copyright to his or her original written work.

12. The names of each entrant whose entry is broadcast or used on-line will be made public. Entrants must agree to take part in any post-competition publicity if required.

13. Competition decisions are final and no correspondence with Merodi Media, Midnight Audio Theatre or WCBE 90.5 FM will be entered into. Unsuccessful entrants will not be contacted.

14. Merodi Media and WCBE 90.5 FM reserve the right to disqualify any entry which breaches any of these Terms and Conditions or to withhold or withdraw a selection if they consider it necessary or if, in their opinion, entries do not reach the required standard.

15. WCBE 90.5 FM and Merodi Media reserve the right to amend these terms and conditions or cancel this competition at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, and if circumstances arise outside its control. In this event, a notice will be posted on the <http://midnightaudiotheatre.com> website.

16. WCBE 90.5 FM Columbus, Merodi Media, its sub-contractors, subsidiaries and/or agencies cannot accept any responsibility whatsoever for any technical failure or malfunction or any other problem with any server, Internet access, system, the post or otherwise which may result in any entry being lost or not properly registered or recorded. Proof of sending is not proof of receipt.

17. These Terms and Conditions are governed by the laws of Ohio and the United States of America.