

DGF FELLOWS FAQ:

What is Fellows and what are the meetings like?

DGF Fellows is a fellowship program through which playwrights and musical theater writers develop a piece of work over the course of a year. There are nine months of biweekly meetings, which rotate between a musical theater focus and a playwriting focus. During these meetings, half of the fellows will present their work and receive feedback from the rest of the class. However, every fellow goes to every meeting, regardless of medium, to engage in the same discussions and exchange ideas across mediums.

What are the partnership opportunities and end of year presentation like?

After nine months of the fellowship, Fellows are set up with a development opportunity with a writing-centric partner organization through DGF. These institutions develop and present new work, organize writers retreats, put on festivals, and more.

The capstone of the DGF Fellowship program is the fall off-Broadway Presentation of New Work. Every fellow presents a 10-minute excerpt of their piece, staged with professional directors and actors, to agents, literary managers, artistic directors, and more.

After the fellowship, DGF continues to offer alumni Fellows various opportunities and to champion alumni work.

Application eligibility

The DGF Fellows Program has no age limit or requirement; writers of all ages in the **emerging** stages of their career are encouraged to apply. However, all applicants must satisfy one of the following requirements:

1. You've attended an MFA in Dramatic Writing or Musical Theater.
2. You've participated in a professional writers workshop or retreat (BMI, The Playwrights Center, Ground Floor, etc.)
3. You're a member of a professional writers organization (The Writers Guild of America, Ars Nova Playgroup, etc.)
4. You have comparable work experience.

If applicants choose option four, they are required to submit a letter of recommendation.

The DGF Fellows program is a **project-based**; applicants apply with a specific piece that they want to spend their year workshopping. At our final presentation, we will be showcasing you through this piece.

How many people do you accept? Is this a project based program?

We accept **five plays and five musical theater pieces** per year. Plays must be written by individual playwrights; we do not accept plays that are co-written. Musical theater pieces can have up to three collaborators.

Do I need to attend the meetings in person and is there a stipend?

There are 16 meetings throughout the year in NYC. Fellows are permitted to miss up to three due to personal and professional reasons. All participants **must meet in-person in New York**, though not all of our past Fellows have lived in NYC during the course of the program. Fellows may be required to travel for their summer development opportunity.

Fellows are provided a \$1000 stipend at the start of the program. Fellows who abide by the attendance policy and participate fully in the program are given another \$1000 stipend at the end of the program.

Is this the same as DG Fellows? Who are the guest artists?

The DGF Fellows Program was previously known as DG Fellows because it was administered at the Dramatists Guild of America. The program has simply moved over to the Foundation; its format and opportunities are identical.

For every meeting, we invite guest artists and speakers to give feedback on Fellows' work. Guest artists are specifically tailored to the interests and creative aspirations of our current Fellows cohort. Artists not only provide feedback on work, but also speak to the professional dramatic process. Past guest artists include Jane Abramson (Disney), Christie Evangelisto (Second Stage), and more.

How do I apply and what project should I apply with? Can I submit multiple projects?

To apply, please visit the Fellows page on our website www.dgf.org and choose between the Playwriting and Musical Theater applications. DGF uses Submittable; applicants will need to create a Submittable login if they don't have one already. Applicants do not need to complete their application in one sitting.

All applicants must provide their basic information (name, phone, address, etc.), a resume or CV, an artistic statement, and a synopsis (roughly one paragraph) of the proposed project.

Playwriting applicants are asked to submit 20 continuous pages of the play they wish to work on. They also may submit one paragraph of set-up (a briefing on what has occurred prior to the 20-page excerpt.) Note: The DGF Fellows program only accepts full-length plays; no one-acts.

Musical Theater applicants are asked to submit a one to two page scene-by-scene outline that gives the structure of their show and provides the committee with a sense of their artistic vision. Next, the committee asks for the song and lyric sheets of two songs, along with Mp3 files. The committee will not be evaluating the sound quality of the file, just the music and lyric content. Lastly, the committee asks for two book scenes of the piece.

Applicants are allowed to supply up to two applications for each discipline, **for a total of four applications.**

A note on letters of recommendation and application submission timing.

We recommend applicants check whether they'll need a letter of recommendation (that is, selecting "comparable experience") sooner rather than later. The application will ask for the recommender's name and email address, then generate and send an email to them directly. However, that email won't be sent until the application is finally submitted. After March 1, recommenders will only have one week to submit their recommendations; no letter will be accepted after March 8th.

After submitting, what is the selection timeline? Can I receive feedback on my application?

Applications are due by March 1, and the committee will select the next class of Fellows in June. The DGF Fellows Program receives hundreds of applications, so we unfortunately cannot provide feedback to individual applicants.

What is my application being judged on?

The reviewing committee will evaluate applications based on both quality of work and fit for the Fellows program. We want to make sure every writer in our class has the capacity to engage with the opportunities and high-level individuals presented to them. Applicants are encouraged to consider three questions: Why this project? Why the DGF Fellows? Why right now?

What should go in a letter of recommendation?

Recommenders should express the applicant's readiness for the DGF Fellows Program. Any insights on an applicant's potential, talent, artistic vision, and work ethic will be noted by the committee, particularly in relation to the specific offerings of the Fellows program.

Are scores or lyrics sheets needed if applying to MT?

Applicants do not need to submit a score. Lyric sheets are required.

If I was a Fellow before can I be a Fellow again?

Past Fellows can reapply in the **other** discipline. For example, applicants who were previously Playwriting Fellows can only apply to the Musical Theater program.

Will I be notified that my application has been submitted?

Applicants will get a notification that their applications has been submitted. Applicants can reach out to applications@dgf.org or send a message via Submittable (preferred) to check on the status of their recommendation letter.

If I have questions, how should I reach out?

Questions can be directed to applications@dgf.org or sent through Submittable.

Can I edit my application after it's been submitted?

We encourage applicants who would like to edit their applications to withdraw and resubmit.