

Introducing Malvern Theatres' Three Counties Talent Hub Stage Writing Competition

Malvern Theatres' Three Counties Talent Hub (3CTH) identifies, fosters, and gives a professional platform to creatives working in the three counties.

In its first iteration, Malvern Theatres is teaming with the Everyman Theatre Cheltenham to launch an inaugural stage writing competition, with the chosen play being workshopped in Malvern, before being performed in both Malvern and Cheltenham in spring 2025.

3CTH will welcome submissions for a new play from writers based in the three counties (Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, and Herefordshire) and the work should 'have a sense of place resonating with Malvern and/or Cheltenham'.

The piece, suitable for a maximum of three performers, should have drama as its primary form, but could include music and/or physical theatre or other movement.

As well as seeing their piece performed on the professional stage, the writer or writing team would also receive royalties from the ticketed performances.

Submission of content is free and 3CTH welcomes scripts from writers of all ages, all levels of experience, regardless of background, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, or sexual orientation.

In time, Malvern Theatres hopes to expand 3CTH to include other elements of theatre, as well as different artistic genres such as classical music.

How do I enter?

- Writer/s must submit:
 - A 200-word synopsis of your piece with a character list
 - The first 10 minutes of your first draft of your completed script (the judging panel may request to read a full script at any stage during the selection process and the full version of all shortlisted scripts will be read)
 - A demo recording of any originally composed music that may be part of your script

- The script should be anonymised and submitted as an attachment by email, with your name/s and a contact number in the body of the email only, to education@malvern-theatres.co.uk

Your play must be:

For a maximum of three performers

No longer than 75 minutes and not contain an interval

Connected to Malvern or Cheltenham through a sense of place

New, original writing that has been previously unpublished, unproduced and unperformed.

What support will the selected writer/s receive?

- Workshop support and rehearsal support from the team at Malvern Theatres and Everyman Theatre Cheltenham
- Set, lighting, and costume design and provisions, as suited to the size and scale of the work
- A professional director
- The theatres will help with selecting professional performers that reflect the creative elements of the selected piece whether that is dramatic, physical, or musical
- Both theatres will provide full marketing and press support.
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By submitting your script, you confirm that you will be:

- 18 or over by the submission deadline
- Originally from, or living in, the Three Counties area (Worcestershire, Herefordshire or Gloucestershire)
- Available on selected dates in the following weeks for development and performances:

w/c 14th Jan at Cheltenham Everyman Theatre

w/c 7th April at Malvern Theatres

w/c 14th April at Malvern Theatres

w/c 21st April at Malvern Theatres

28th – 30th April at Malvern Theatres

1st – 2nd May at Cheltenham Everyman Theatre

Other T&Cs:

- The selected writer/s will receive royalties from the ticketed performances. No additional expenses will be paid and no other ‘prize fund’ is available
- The writers of all shortlisted scripts will be contacted and asked to submit the full script for further consideration. The ‘winning’ writer/s will then be contacted by email if their piece has been successful
- Physically sent scripts’ will not be accepted
- All submitted scripts will be detached from their emails by an independent administrator and anonymised before being shared with our panel of readers for shortlisting and final selection
- Feedback on unselected scripts will not be given
- Malvern Theatres' Three Counties Talent Hub reserves the right to add to or amend these terms and conditions, should situations arise that make that necessary
- Criteria for how the ‘winning entry’ will be selected is extensive, though all pieces should have bold characters, a dynamic plot, and should absorb the reader/audience
- Judges’ decisions are final and further dialogue will not be entertained

Three Counties Talent Hub would like to receive new scripts from writers or writing teams from across the Three Counties. We actively encourage scripts from writers or writing teams that are currently underrepresented in this sector.