



MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release

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LOS ANGELES NEW PLAY PROJECT PRESENTS GRANTS TO PLAYWRIGHTS AND PRODUCERS AT RECEPTION HOSTED BY UCLA'S SCHOOL OF THEATER, FILM, AND TELEVISION

Three Playwrights and Three Theaters Win Funding

Los Angeles, CA (November 29, 2021) - **Los Angeles New Play Project** presented \$20,000 to each of three local playwrights at a reception hosted by the UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television in November. Three local theater companies, which have agreed to produce the plays, will receive an additional \$20,000 each towards the cost of production.

Fifty original scripts, along with proposals for their productions, were submitted to LANPP last summer by fifty intimate theater producers in the program's first year. Winners of the program's first year were playwrights **Carla Ching** for her play *Revenge Porn* (Ammunition Theatre Company), **Carolyn Ratteray** for *Both And (A Play About Laughing While Black)* (Boston Court Pasadena), and **Josh Wilder** for *The Hands That Could* (Watts Village Theater Company). The theaters have eighteen months to premiere the plays in a Los Angeles venue.

Los Angeles New Play Project (LANPP) encourages the production of new, challenging work on local small and mid-size stages. The deadline for submissions for next year's awards will be June 15, 2022.

LANPP was created by Director Paula Holt and Associate Director Nathan Birnbaum to help put a financial floor under riskier theatrical ventures being offered in Los Angeles' intimate theaters.

"We were pleased to be able to select from such a talented group of writers and producers. Very exciting work is being created in our community," stated Holt.

"This award goes right to the heart of lifting up Los Angeles artists," says UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television Interim Dean Brian Kite, *"centering the voices of our local creators and amplifying them on our city's stages."*

In addition to the playwriting and production awards, LANPP supports a student intern program at the Geffen Playhouse in Westwood, which places graduates of the UCLA Department of Theater in positions at the Geffen. The grant, which focuses on strengthening the relationship between the university and the professional theater, was generously matched by the UCLA Chancellor's office.

For more information regarding the Los Angeles New Play Project visit: <http://lanpp.org/>

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