



INK

SCRIPT SUBMISSION

Script submission is free. We welcome scripts from writers of all ages, all levels of experience, regardless of background, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, or sexual orientation.

2027



13 JUNE

09:30

**SUBMISSION CATEGORIES
ANNOUNCED**

The submission categories are announced and the submission portal opens.



31 OCT

23:59

**STUDENT SUBMISSIONS
DEADLINE**

The portal will be closed for student submissions.



30 SEP

23:59

**GENERAL SUBMISSIONS
DEADLINE**

The portal will be closed for general submissions.



SPRING

2027

**PLAY CHOICES SELECTED –
ALL WRITERS NOTIFIED**

You will hear back from us – please resist the urge to contact us...



15-18 APRIL

2027

INK FESTIVAL

Halesworth, Suffolk

INK SCRIPT SUBMISSION

CRITERIA FOR SUBMISSIONS



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Open to anyone resident in the UK and Ireland, and to UK and Irish nationals living abroad



YOUR SCRIPT SUBMISSION:

- Each writer may only submit a maximum of two scripts
- Plays should preferably have a minimum of two actors and a maximum of four actors. Actors could always play multiple roles
- Plays should be premieres but plays that have previously appeared as student productions, scratch nights, rehearsed readings, showcases or non-professional performances are eligible to enter



FORMATTING:

- Entries should be submitted online in MS Word format (NOT a PDF or other format)
- Entries should be in 12-point text, with 1.5 line spacing, and **include page numbers**
- Please complete and attach the 2027 festival cover page template
- Please include a character list and running time

SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

PLAYS FOR STAGE

01 OPEN TOPIC

A 20-minute or under play on a subject of your choice. We welcome scripts that encourage the use of imaginative lighting, projection and staging.

02 THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

A 20-minute or under play inspired by a special relationship be it friend, foe or other.

03 COMEDY

A five to maximum 15-minute comedy.

04 FLIGHT PATH

A brand-new collaboration with Eastern Angles

Eastern Angles' Artistic Director, Jake Smith, is seeking four 20-minute plays to direct at INK. These plays should chime with the idea of the famous medieval mystery cycle: modern stories rooted in the landscape, humour, anxieties and beliefs that matter most to people in East Anglia today. Ideal for writers with strong connections to Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex.

05 PLAY ON A BUS

A 20-minute or under play for two characters set in and performed on a static, single-decker, 16-seater minibus. Movement for the actors is restricted to the front of the bus and the aisle, with the audience seated on each side. The actors can sit, if necessary, but only briefly as this restricts visibility to most of the audience. Windows are not blacked out and there isn't capacity for sound or lights. There is an entrance at the front and rear of the bus.

06 PLANET INK: WATER

Is our most precious resource running out? Or does the melting ice shelf mean a fresh and endless supply but accelerated erosion? The collective failure to manage our waste is having a devastating impact on water. Can you highlight an issue or an effect in a 20-minute or under play?

07 KINGS & QUEENS

The title of a 40-minute FAMILY play. Do include puppets, music, dance etc if you so wish. Please initially submit just four pages (i.e. eight sides) plus a 50-word synopsis. If we like the script, we will ask for the full-length version.

FOR ASPIRING YOUNG WRITERS

08 SEASIDE

In association with Aldeburgh Comedy Weekend

For writers 30 years or under on 31 October 2026

A 15-minute play for one to three actors with a strong comic element.

09 WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

For writers 18 years or under on 31 October 2026

A five to 15-minute play for two or three actors.

PLAYS FOR RADIO

10 LONG RADIO

A 45-minute radio play on a subject of your choice. Please submit just 4 pages (i.e. 8 sides), along with a 50-word synopsis. If we like the script, we will ask for the full-length version.

11 RADIO COMEDY

A 15-minute or under comic radio play that will amuse.

INK SCRIPT SUBMISSION

Ready to submit?
click the button to
enter the portal.

[DOWNLOAD COVER PAGE](#)

ARE YOU READY?

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU INCLUDE THE COVER SHEET IN YOUR DOCUMENT WITHOUT IT WE CANNOT TELL WHICH CATEGORY YOU HAVE ENTERED.

1. [Download the cover page template and fill it in](#)
2. Attach cover page to your script and save as one file
3. Word Document only please
3. Submit your script via the questionnaire portal

[SUBMIT NOW](#)

10 TOP TIPS

- ✓ No exposition; show, don't tell
- ✓ Characters are key to good stories
- ✓ Who is protagonist?
- ✓ Create obstacles to be overcome
- ✓ Give characters potential for movement
- ✓ Be playful
- ✓ What is the story/moment about? Make something happen
- ✓ What is the story/moment really about - i.e the subtext?
- ✓ Endings can make or break a script
- ✓ Do we care after reading it?

SELECTION PROCESS



Every script is read by at least four readers to create the long list



The long list is re-read by the Artistic and Associate Directors to create the short list



The short-listed plays are then grouped together into hour-long shows, (consisting of three to five scripts) with subject matter, length and cross-casting all taken into consideration



Directors select which combination of plays they wish to direct



All entries will be contacted, ideally in spring 2027 - we receive 1000s of scripts, please resist contacting us however tempting

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q. I have uploaded the wrong script – what should I do?

A. Go through the entire process again upload the correct script with same name V2 – put a note on the cover page saying this version is the correct version

Q. I don't know how to attach the cover page?

A. Please ask someone who works with Word documents – they will help you. Any questions to submissions@inkfestival.org.

Q. Can I get away with not attaching the cover page?

A. Only if you copy the content across to your document so that we can see your details alongside your script

Q. Can I submit a PDF?

A. No because our system is not set up to save them and we will have to reject them