



International Performing Arts For Youth THE SHOWCASE SELECTION PROCESS: How it all works

The Selection process developed by IPAY (International Performing Arts for Youth), while subjective, is founded on a desire to create an equitable balance for the showcasing and presentation of professional programming for young audiences that reflects the needs of presenters, agents, artists and educators. Through an extensive two-day review process, the IPAY selection committee, comprised of leaders in the field of family programming, creates a programming balance of international arts disciplines reflecting diversity in age range, performing arts genres, trends, and audience draw—with a common denominator of high artistic standards. Shaping a forum for the range of national and international work that is being created in this field at the time, and focusing on quality work that is appropriate for a variety of venues and markets, is crucial.

When making final selections, the committee has agreed upon the following criteria* for quality:

- The work reflects an intrinsic artistic integrity.
- The work demonstrates an overall artistic rationale with regard to form, direction, music, choreography, design, technical aspects and casting.
- The work is created and performed by professionals.
- The work is fresh, innovative, relevant, and appropriate for youth, young adult and family audiences.

**Adapted from the "Keynotes on the Seven Criteria for Quality" developed by the Danish Association of Theatre for Children.*

SHOULD I APPLY?

Yes, if your work meets the above-mentioned criteria and is:

- Able and ready to tour throughout the North American and international markets. If you are unsure if you are "tour ready" for North America please contact the IPAY office to discuss further.
- Focused on artistic performance as opposed to lecture/demonstration or other purely "educational" staging. (Although education-based programming is an important aspect of this market, the selected showcase slots are specifically for artistic/performance-based presentations.)
- Represented by high quality materials including a professional press packet, a DVD (NTSC or PAL) of the full performance of the *actual touring show* that will be considered (please reflect actual number or *touring* performers). If you are submitting in the music category, you must submit materials that have quality audio as well as video of the actual performance.
- Flexible enough to be performed during Showcase with potential technical and time restrictions that may arise.

IPAY recommends you invite members of the Selection Committee to see your work in person. Please include tour information with your payment or contact the IPAY Office with tour information as soon as possible. More information on IPAY's Selection Committee and their locales can be found at <http://www.ipayweb.org/showcase/committee.php>.

If, ultimately, a work is not selected for Showcase, you will be automatically entered into a lottery for a chance to perform a short, low-tech selection of the show or "Spotlight." Regardless of lottery we results, we highly recommended that the company attend the conference and network with other professionals. This is a good way to bring the company name and/or the work to everyone's attention.