

Rob Guest ENDOWMENT

2017 ROB GUEST ENDOWMENT AWARDS: APPLICATIONS OPEN

THE AWARD

The Rob Guest Endowment is one of Australia's most exciting scholarship programs providing financial assistance and industry support to the next generation of musical theatre stars, creators and musicians.

The 2017 prize pool will see more than \$50,000 distributed to the theatre performers. Out of the hundreds of performers that apply, six bright young stars will be selected to showcase their talents at our Rob Guest Endowment final event before the scholarship winners are chosen.

Established after the sudden death of Rob Guest, OBE, in 2008, this program was created to continue his passion for helping young artists. Through this competition, The Rob Guest Endowment Committee hopes to nurture a new generation of musical theatre performers and equip them with the skills and guidance needed to thrive in the industry. With past winners including Linden Furnell (*Kinky Boots*), Daniel Assetta (*The Book of Mormon*, *WICKED*, *Cats*), Joshua Robson (*Dream Lover*, *Les Miserables*), Samantha Leigh Dodemaide (*The Wizard of Oz*, *Violet*, *Singing in the Rain*), Glenn Hill (*Matilda the Musical*), Blake Bowden (*The Book of Mormon*, *South Pacific*, *Fiddler on the Roof*) and Francine Cain (*Grease*) it is an opportunity no young performer wants to miss.

THE PRIZE

The Rob Guest Endowment awards the following prizes.

1. **The Rob Guest Endowment Award** is a \$20,000 cash prize to be used for professional development.
2. **Melbourne's East End Theatre District Artist Development Award**, a \$5,000 cash prize for further training and development. This award is fully funded by the Melbourne's East End Theatre District, an initiative of Mr Mike Walsh and the Marriner family.
3. **The Rob Guest Endowment Finalist Grants**, a \$1,500 cash prize to be used for professional development and awarded to the remaining four finalists.
4. **The Playbill Future Prospect Award**, a \$1,500 cash prize which will be bestowed upon a semi-finalist who didn't make the finals but is of sufficient interest to the judges to encourage them to return next year. This award is kindly donated by *Playbill*.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be aged between 18-30 as at 1st November 2017.
- Professional experience or a current position in a professional show will not exclude performers from applying.
- The performance must include a vocal element but dramatic or dance elements are welcomed.
- Applicants must be an Australian citizen.

ADJUDICATION & JUDGING CRITERIA

The 2017 judging panel will consist of an array of leading industry professionals. At every stage of the competition, the judges will review contestants on the set judging criteria and will award the prizes to versatile performers of exceptional talent who will benefit from the opportunity to train further and be able to actively contribute to the industry in a positive way.

They will be judged on the following aspects:

1. Technical strength in the areas of voice, acting and movement
2. A clear vision of future direction as an artist
3. Employment potential and suitability of being a representative of the Rob Guest Endowment.

KEY COMPETITION DATES

Applications Open:	Thursday 3 rd August 2017
Application close:	Midnight, Friday 18 th August 2017
Melbourne Live Auditions:	Monday 4 th September 2017
Sydney Live Auditions:	Monday 11 th September 2017
Semi Finals:	Monday 25 th September 2017
Finals:	Monday 20 th November 2017

THE AUDITION PROCESS

Round One: Performers are to apply for first round auditions online. All applicants who apply will be emailed an audition time and details of audition requirements and venue. Applicants are to perform one song from the musical theatre genre. Those who are not able to make it to the live audition are welcome to send a taped audition.

Semi-Finals: 30 semifinalists will be selected to attend a live audition on Monday 25th September 2017. Here, they will be required to take part in an open dance call and present two contrasting songs for the judges. The semi-finalists should bring a folder with not less than five song choices that they feel best represent their abilities, from which the judging panel will choose two songs for their audition. The songs presented for this round will be the songs used for the final event unless otherwise advised by the creative team.

Finals: The finals will take place on 20th November 2017. The six finalists will be required to perform the two songs chosen for the semi-finals. More details on the final event will be announced in due course.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please fill in the application form online by visiting www.robguestendowment.com.au

Please carefully read the attached terms and conditions before applying.

NO EMAIL OR POST SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Please note those unable to attend the live audition are welcome to submit a video application. For more information on this please email natasha@gordonfrost.com.au

If you have any other questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact Natasha Cohen on the below details:

Natasha Cohen
Production Assistant
natasha@gordonfrost.com.au

Or

Laura Manning
Executive Producer
laura@gordonfrost.com.au

ROB GUEST ENDOWMENT: TERMS AND CONDITIONS 2017

1. Information on how to enter and prizes forms part of these conditions of entry. Entry into the competition constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions.
2. Entry is open to Australian residents between the age of 18 and 30 as at 1st November 2017 (“Entrants”). Failure to provide proof of age and citizenship if requested will result in your disqualification from the competition.
3. Any individual that has been contracted in a ‘star’ role as defined by the PCA will not be eligible.
4. The competition commences on 3rd August 2017 and closes at 1st December 2017.
5. To enter the competition, Entrants must submit their completed application form online by Friday 18th August 2017. If a filmed application is being used then this must be submitted by Tuesday 15th August 2017. Film must not exceed five (5) minutes in duration and should only include the performance of the song. No other information or introduction is necessary and will not be taken into consideration for the purposes of judging the entries. There is a limit of one entry per entrant.
6. Entries that are, or include, obscene, offensive, defamatory, inappropriate, unsuitable, or infringing content, in the opinion of the Friends of Rob Guest Endowment (F.O.R.G.E.) Inc. will be invalid and not eligible to win.
7. Entrants will be required to provide various personal details as specified in the application form including full name, email address, residential address, contact telephone numbers, date of birth and gender for the purpose of verifying eligibility. Incorrect details may nullify the entry. Any incomplete entries may also be deemed invalid and disregarded.
8. The winner of the Rob Guest Endowment will receive a \$20,000 talent development grant to be used for the winner’s growth and development as an artist.
9. At the conclusion of the competition, before receiving the funds, the winner must submit a document outlining how they propose to use their funds. On approval of their study plan, the \$20,000 will be distributed by Creative Partnerships Australia (CPA) whilst all other prize elements will be facilitated by F.O.R.G.E. Inc. The F.O.R.G.E. Inc. committee will willingly put the winner in contact with the relevant tutors in Australia and overseas to help maximise their gain from their tuition plan. The winner will be asked to submit a detailed report to the Rob Guest Endowment Committee within three months of receiving the money, outlining the use of funds, the benefits gained from their prize, and their plans for the future. The funds are not to be used for non-performance related items. All prize values are in Australian dollars. F.O.R.G.E. Inc. is not liable for any insurance or extra payments that may be incurred by the recipient that do not fall within the prize package.
10. The winner must fulfil the requirements of the award within one year of the final event. If this is not possible, a document clearly outlining the reason for this must be submitted to the Rob Guest Endowment Committee for approval of an extension to the dates.
11. The second prize winner will receive a \$5,000 artist development award sponsored by Melbourne’s East End Theatre District. These funds will be distributed by CPA and it is the responsibility of the artist to claim this prize.
12. The 4 finalists not receiving either of the major prizes, will receive \$1,500 as runners up awards. These funds will be distributed by CPA and it is the responsibility of the artist to claim this prize.
13. The prizes are not exchangeable, transferable and non-cash prizes are not redeemable for cash
14. Tax implications may arise from the prize winnings. Independent advice should be sought.
15. Entrants enter the competition at their own expense. No flights or accommodation required for participation in the semi finals will be covered by F.O.R.G.E. Inc.
16. This is a competition of skill. Chance plays no part in determining the winner. The Committee’s decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
17. The short-listed entrants will be notified by phone. Entrants must be available for a live audition between the hours of 9am and 6pm on the 25th September 2017 and if successful, entrants must be available for the final event on the 20th November 2017. These dates are subject to change but once confirmed are not negotiable.
18. The semi-finalists should bring a folder with no less than five song choices that they feel best represent their abilities, from which the judging panel will choose two songs for their audition. The artist should have their own two choices in mind if asked to choose, but be prepared to sing any of the songs (or part of songs) in the folder. The artist will provide the judges with a printed document with song name, lyricist, composer and show from which the song is taken for all song choices.
19. If successful in gaining a place in the final six, the choice of songs for the finals will be made by the judges from this audition folder. If the orchestrations are not available for these choices, the judges reserve the right to ask for further choices, OR choose additional repertoire for the finalist.
20. The six finalists will each perform two solo songs at the final event. Artists must perform the songs chosen for the semi final auditions. Final song choice is subject to availability of music for performance in Australia. Any arrangements or orchestrations not provided by the musical director will be provided no less than one month before the final event for approval. The finalists may also be required to learn and perform in two ensemble pieces for the final event.
21. Finalists should be available the complete day of the final event to rehearse all items. Inability to attend the final event may result in a finalist being ineligible to compete.
22. According to the availability of the finalists and musical director, one rehearsal prior to the final event day will be provided for the six finalists to rehearse their solo repertoire with the musical director.

23. F.O.R.G.E. Inc. accepts no responsibility for any breach of contract or any infringement or other violation of copyright or any other intellectual property rights or proprietary rights through the acceptance of entries into the competition and each entrant takes full responsibility for any such claims made in relation to their entry.
24. The Entrants irrevocably agree and consent that F.O.R.G.E. Inc. may, and may authorise others to photograph, video, film and/or record them and edit, adapt, alter, omit and otherwise use the resulting materials, their name, likeness, image, actions, voice and/or biographical material (which includes, without limitation, any "personal information" as defined in the *Privacy Act* 1988 (Cth) ("Materials")), in any and all media now known or hereafter devised, world-wide, in or in connection with the production, broadcast, marketing, promotion, publicity and exploitation of the Programme, in perpetuity without restriction. F.O.R.G.E. Inc. will own all rights, title and interest in any Materials and the results and proceeds of the Materials in perpetuity.
25. All entries and performances throughout the competition become the property of F.O.R.G.E. Inc. Entrants hereby irrevocably assign to F.O.R.G.E. Inc. all right, title and interest (including without limitation the entire copyright, including but not only a present assignment of future copyright) to the results and proceeds of Entrants' contributions to the competition including but not limited to any copyright in the entry sent to the Committee and including but not limited to any literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work (within the meaning of the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) incorporated therein in which the Entrant owns copyright
26. Entrants have no right to seek any royalty, payment or other compensation from F.O.R.G.E. Inc. and they must consent to F.O.R.G.E. Inc. using their names and images on promotional, marketing and publicity purposes material
27. Subject to additional consent, Entrants agree to participate in all F.O.R.G.E. Inc. publicity activities in relation to the competition and cause as requested. Entrants will not unreasonably withhold consent to participate in such publicity as required by the Committee or their associated agencies and companies associated with the competition.
28. F.O.R.G.E. Inc., its associated agencies and companies and the agencies and companies associated with the competition are not liable for any loss or damage whatsoever which is suffered (including but not limited to indirect or a consequential loss), or for personal injury suffered or sustained as a result of entering the competition or taking any prize, except for any liability that cannot be excluded by law.
29. F.O.R.G.E. Inc., will not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever resulting from incorrect details lodged by Entrants.
30. F.O.R.G.E. Inc., reserves the right to vary the rules of any competition or any prizes offered or cancel any competition if it is no longer able to run the competition due to reasons beyond its control, subject to state legislation. F.O.R.G.E. Inc. will not be liable for any losses to any party arising from any variation or cancellation.
31. To ensure consistency and fairness in judging the awards each year, where a high level of performance excellence is not achieved, the Rob Guest Endowment judging panel reserves the right to not award a winner, or have six finalists.