

## **What is a Spotlight?**

A Spotlight is a 10-minute, low-tech excerpt of a show. There are generally four 1-hour spotlight sessions scheduled during Showcase. Spotlights occur first thing in the morning or last on the schedule in the evening. Within each hour long spotlight, four companies present/perform. The sponsor of the spotlight receives a 15 minute slot while the other three companies each receive a 10 minute slot.

## **What makes a good Spotlight?**

**If selected to spotlight, please keep in mind the following:**

- While we understand that live performance isn't always possible, we strongly encourage you to have some live component to compliment any video presentation. Any portion of your work that you are able to convey through live performance will be best received.
- If performing an excerpt please give a short context of the rest of the piece.
- If it's a musical, perhaps 2-3 short songs. It may not be necessary to do each song entirely.
- If it's a play and you're showing several scenes, think about the transition between those and how best your spotlight can promote your work.
- If you are utilizing video/projection, please have someone there to give a context then flesh it out with the photos or video.
- Children are not usually in the audience at spotlights.
- Remind people where they can find more information, such as in the exhibit hall.
- You have a 10 minute time frame. If you go over 10 minutes, you will be stopped.
- This is short and low-tech. Spotlights move quickly from one to another and lots of items and extra things will slow down the schedule and cut into your presentation time.
- Be aware of your other spotlight artists as well. Please be respectful of each other and the space.
- How hard you work to craft an engaging spotlight will go a long way with our presenter members.
- There is one hour allocated in the schedule for all four companies to tech/rehearse their spotlight. Your attendance at this tech/rehearsal is mandatory. See the Spotlight Technical Information Sheet for more information about the venue, available equipment, etc.

## **Questions to think about/possible things to highlight:**

- Have you toured this piece before? If so, what moments or pieces resonate the most with your audiences?
- When will it be touring throughout North America? Do you already have dates scheduled to which you could invite presenters or members of the selection committee?
- Does the production involve audience participation and how best might you include that in your spotlight? Please think carefully before deciding to include audience participation as it does take time.

**NOTE: Spotlight artists should refer to themselves as such when promoting the work. Please do not call this a showcase or yourself a showcasing artist. We strive to delineate between what is a showcase and what is a spotlight so that artists, presenters, agents and other attendees will more clearly and fully understand the context of the work.**