



**CALL TO ARTISTS  
CREATING NEW WORKS OF THEATRE & PERFORMANCE!**

- *Are you an artist - or group of artists - with a performance project that needs a boost?*
- *Have you got a project ready to be developed with performer(s)?*
- *Do you want some help with that?*

**Application deadline: July 15<sup>th</sup> 2019 5PM**

**Public Energy Performing Arts is seeking Peterborough/Nogojwanong area performing artists to apply for our *Alternating Currents'* 2020 performance mentorship program.**

*Alternating Currents* (AC) is a theatre, dance, and multi-disciplinary performance week-long workshop process managed by Public Energy Performing Arts. AC is intended to benefit artists (either individuals or a group of artists working as collaborators) who value research and development as a long-term process. The process will be led by professional mentor/dramaturges, experienced in creation techniques that include, dance, devised theatre and collaborative creation. The program will take place during February-March 2020.

*Alternating Currents* will provide each successful submission with:

- A series of one on one mentor workshop sessions.
- Technical and administrative support.
- Artists' fees for the lead artist and a limited number of artistic collaborators.
- A presentation of the work-in-progress (artists can choose to opt out).

2020 Mentors: Patti Shaughnessy, Kate Story (Program Director), & TBA

***How participants are selected:***

Participants in 2019's *Alternating Currents* will be chosen by a selection committee. The selection process will take into account the performance history of the artists (quality of work, ability to see work to completion, professional artistic activity), the artistic needs of the work, and whether it would benefit from the support offered by the A/C program. We are particularly interested in projects which experiment with forms of creation and performance in one or more of the following:

- Works beginning in places other than text (movement, images, objects, research, improvisation, etc.)
- Exploring poetic or stylized text
- Integration of multidisciplinary elements such as sound, movement, technology and text
- A spirit of artistic inquiry

The A/C workshops will take place at The Theatre On King and therefore successful projects will need to be workable in the setting of a small black box theatre.

The successful applicants will be included in a funding application to the Ontario Arts Council. ***Please note that the project will not be carried out if the OAC funding application is not approved.***

**What to send us:**

- A ½ page (max) **cover letter** introducing yourself or your group and why your work is a good fit with the program.
- A one-page (max) **project description** including: names of artistic collaborators, stage of development, any special equipment you may need, and what specifically you hope to gain through this type of mentorship. You may include additional support material such as text or prior research.
- A one-two page (max) **Artistic CV** of principal artist(s). The principal artist - or one of them, if a group - must be a resident of the Peterborough/Nogojwanong area (Peterborough City, County and neighboring First Nations, counties).

***Note: You may submit additional video or audio support material (5min max), or text, or research material (5 pages max), or images (5 max).***

Performance works that are already in development or have already been workshopped are eligible. Your work must be ready to be workshopped with performers.

**Deadline: 5 pm, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

For questions please contact: Victoria Mohr-Blakeney, Performance Curator [victoria@publicenergy.ca](mailto:victoria@publicenergy.ca)  
Send proposals by email to: [submissions@publicenergy.ca](mailto:submissions@publicenergy.ca) or mail to: PO Box 2319, Peterborough, ON K9J 7Y8

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**History of Alternating Currents:** In 2008 and 2009 Public Energy Performing Arts produced its first Alternating Currents programs. Experimental theatrical works-in-progress by regional artists received 3-5 days each of intensive workshopping with award-winning director and theatre artist Ker Wells. The program was reinstated in 2017, with a more multidisciplinary mandate (dance, opera, movement-based works as well as theatre works), with Kate Story as mentor to eight projects. The process always culminates in informal public presentations to enthusiastic audiences. For Public Energy, *Alternating Currents* is part of our ongoing commitment to supporting the creation and production of experimental forms of theatre, and the development of local artists.

**2020 Alternating Currents Mentors:**

**Patti Shaughnessy**

Patti Shaughnessy is a proud activist, actor, director, and artistic producer of a range of theatre and multi-arts projects over the past decade. With an academic background in Indigenous Studies at Trent University (Peterborough) and formal theater training from the Centre for Indigenous Theatre (Toronto), Patti is co-founder of the O’Kadenigan Wiingashk Collective (OKW) – a Peterborough-based Indigenous arts collective that has presented and organized workshops and master classes with several internationally acclaimed Indigenous artists as part of an annual Ode’min Giizis (Strawberry Moon) Festival (2008-2012). International theatre directing credits include, *Ananna A/S (Casa Matriz)*; *Rosa Marie-p tiqartikkaluarnera (The Occupation of Heather Rose)*; and *Arnatsialaat, The Rez Sisters* – all part of Patti’s work over the past 5 years as director, instructor, and tour leader for the National Theatre of Greenland. Patti will be making her Canadian directing debut with Drew Hayden Taylor’s play, *Cottagers and Indians*, commissioned by Tarragon Theatre. Hailing from the great nation of the Mchi Saagiig Anishnaabe of Curve Lake First Nation #35, Patti is also born 5<sup>th</sup> generation Irish. Patti currently lives part-time in Douro-Dummer township, where she rejuvenates and creates at her ancestral home and research laboratory.

**Kate Story (Program Director)**

Kate Story is a writer, performer, director, and choreographer. She is a recipient of the Ontario Arts Foundation’s K.M. Hunter Artist Award in theatre. In 2017 and 2018 Kate was Director of Public Energy’s Alternating Currents program, facilitating creative processes for wildly diverse artistic projects featuring over 30 artists. Kate has developed and co-run two multi arts festivals in Peterborough, working with presenters Fleshy Thud and Public Energy and a wide array of arts and non-arts community partners, featuring over 75 artists and including workshops, learning and mentorship opportunities for youth, panel discussions, and original performance works: *A Certain Place (The Bernie Martin Festival)*, and *Precarious: Peterborough ArtsWORK Festival*. She is also one of the dance artists participating in Neighbourhood Dance Works’ exciting New Chapter dance project, bringing together Newfoundland dance artists for an innovative 3-year process with choreographers Christopher House and Anne Troake. Kate has co-created and/or performed with diverse theatre and dance artists, notably *The Theatre on King*, *Fleshy Thud*, *Ryan Kerr*, *The Nervous System/Brad Brackenridge*, *Chartier Danse*, *4<sup>th</sup> Line Theatre*, *R. Murray Schafer*, *Atlas Moves Watching Dance Projects/Bill James*, *mysterious entity/Em Glasspool*, *Nightwood Theatre/Alisa Palmer*, *Bananafish Productions/Kelly Thornton*, *DNA/Hillar Liitoja*, *Ground Zero Productions/Don Bouzek*, *Caravan Stage Company*, and many others.