



Call for New Committee Members & Jurors

We are committing to welcoming new members to the Committee in as safe as possible a space as we continue to educate ourselves about creating inclusive events with an anti-oppressive lens. We are seeking new committee members with a priority given to those who identify as Equity seeking artists who would like to take this journey with us as we reinvent the Sterlings: *our practice for working together AND the event itself*.

If you are an Edmonton theatre community member (administrator, educator, performer, director, designer, technician, or advocate, or otherwise involved community member) that has an interest in moving forward with the planning of future Sterling Award events, we would love to hear from you. We understand that not everyone has the time or capacity to volunteer their time for this event, but that you may have opinions about what you do or do not want to see in Sterling Award events going forward. Please feel free to pass on any of those thoughts, as well, through the anonymous feedback form on our [website](#).


To volunteer as a committee member or juror, please go to our website and [fill out our contact form](#) and in your message, if applicable, please identify yourself as a member of an Equity seeking group.

Please write a short letter **outlining your experience and commitment to the principles** in the evaluation model below. Selected applicants will undergo a short, online meeting with the current committee to see how best we can work together. To move forward, the Sterling committee and the applicant must come to the mutual agreement that the applicant would be a good fit for the committee or for one of the juries based on an evaluation model determining:

1. Lived experience as someone who works or has worked in theatre at a professional or emerging stage.
2. Fundraising and/or live event production experience.
3. An eagerness to learn skills for producing live events and and/or a desire to support Edmonton's theatre ecology.
4. A commitment to inclusive events and evaluation processes.
5. Specific skill sets as determined by collaborative needs on committees.
6. A willingness to work in a collective. ▶

At present, the number of new members invited to join the Sterling committee and juries will depend on the respective needs of the committee and juries. Should there be a large number of applicants, it cannot be guaranteed that all applicants will be invited to join the committee or juries.

The Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Committee follows an egalitarian model where all members work within their agreed upon tasks and all have equal power in decision making. Within the Sterling Committee, individual members are able to dictate how many hours they are able to volunteer and are free to come and go as they need to throughout the season. The brunt of the labour comes during the preparation and execution of the event itself in June. Tasks include marketing, social media content creation and dissemination, website upkeep, budgeting, fundraising, producing an event, and working with the juries on scheduling. As an Elizabeth Sterling Haynes juror, you would commit to seeing at least 75% of the Sterling eligible productions per season which can be anywhere between 1-4 shows per week, and for the Fringe jury you would be committing to seeing 1-5 shows per day during the 10 day festival in August.

We also must recognize the impact COVID-19 has had on our community. We understand that not everyone will have the time or energy to help the Sterling Awards grow and change, but we are happy for this pause to reflect on where we have come from and where we are going. This will be an ever-changing process and we are happy for those who will join us at any stage in the future. 

Thank you for your consideration.

The Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Awards Committee:

April Banigan, Sue Goberdhan, Kristi Hansen, Mary-Ellen Perley, Steven Sobolewski, and Luc Tellier