



LATINX THEATRE  
**COMMONS**

## 2022 LTC COMEDY CARNAVAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

*...because the past year and a half has been so rough that we gotta*

*ducking laugh* 🦆

**June 9-11, 2022 | Denver, CO | Su Teatro**

### **Overview**

The Latinx Theatre Commons (LTC) Hybrid Comedy Carnival will present a broad range of Latinx comedy content and conversations. Programming will highlight artistic voices and content creators who practice comedic arts through theatre, stand-up, sketch, improv, podcasts, and webseries. It will also serve as a showcase opportunity for selected artists to connect with fellow creators, national decision-makers, and community members. The Carnival will also feature round table discussions, panels, and artist interviews to uplift the power of Latinx comedy as a magical tool and practice of community healing.



### **The Intervention**

When the United States American Theatre contemplates a “Latinx play” or “Latinx representation,” what comes to mind? The response is often limited to stories of border crossings, stories of maids and drug traffickers, and stories of poverty, pain, and victimization. Even the LTC’s own programming has historically favored these traditional dramas centering on victimhood, but Latinx people are some of the most joyful, clever, funny people in the world; our comedy writers and performers express themselves not only through plays but through stand up, improv, podcasts, and other mediums. The LTC Comedy Carnival will celebrate Latinx comedy in all its forms and address questions including: What are the barriers to Latinx comedies getting programmed, and how can we overcome them to broaden the mainstream? Do

critics have the skills to analyze culturally specific comedy, and if not, how might we address this deficit? How can our community respectfully honor past traumas and current issues while seeking catharsis through humor and fun? Where did the mail in votes *really* come from—my abuela’s garage? What can the non profit theatre community learn from other mediums that incorporate comedy, such as stand up, webseries, podcasts, and more?

### **Eligibility**

New works by Latinx comedy artists including theatre, stand-ups, sketch, improv, podcasts, and/or web series will be considered. Submissions in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Indigenous languages will be accepted. Submissions are limited to one play/piece per artist. There will be a \$500 honorarium for each selected piece, a daily per diem for 5 days, roundtrip travel to Denver, and housing provided for each artist.

### **Selection Criteria**

A panel of multi-disciplinary, racially diverse, Latinx-identifying artists will evaluate applications based upon:

- Comedy (duh)
- Originality
- Evidence of Craft
- Evidence of Potential
- Anti-racism

See [here](#) for the full evaluation criteria.

To be eligible, pieces must not have received a full production, nor been made available for online streaming. For the Carnaval’s purposes, “full production” indicates that a *piece has received a fully supported production, a world premiere, or that it has been reviewed in the press.*

### **Submission Procedure**

All applicants must send the following two (2) documents:

- Documentation of the work: this may be a script, a performance outline, treatment, video documentation or anything that will give a clear sense of the work.
  - Feel free to share the full content (script/video/etc.), *and* please make sure you identify 10 pages of written material or 10 minutes of video as the “highlight.”
- An application document that includes:
  - Your name, email address, and phone number
  - A synopsis of the work (500 characters)
  - Number of performers required
  - A description of any prior history or development of the work
  - A description of how you would use the resources provided by the Carnaval to accomplish specific development goals for the work (for example, do you need to hire artists to perform the work? Do you need equipment or technology

assistance to capture the work? Do you need dramaturgical consultation, or translation support?) (1500 characters)

- A picture of your pet, plant, or child—ideally in a costume. We are serious. This is very important.
- Artist biography/ies for all attached artists (1 page limit)

All entries must be emailed. Please email your documentation materials and completed application document as two separate attachments in the same email. PDF documents are strongly recommended to avoid formatting discrepancies. Hard copies submitted via snail mail will not be accepted.

**EMAIL SUBJECT LINE: Your Name, Work Name**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 30, 2021**

**APPLICATION EMAIL: [comedycarnaval@howlround.com](mailto:comedycarnaval@howlround.com)**

All applicants will be notified by January 28, 2022. Comedy Carnival will take place June 9-11, 2022 in Denver, CO at Su Teatro.



### **About the Latinx Theatre Commons**

The Latinx Theatre Commons (LTC) is a national movement that uses a commons-based approach to transform the narrative of the American theatre, to amplify the visibility of Latinx performance making, and to champion equity through advocacy, art making, convening, and scholarship. The LTC is a flagship program of HowlRound.

Our values include Service, Radical Inclusion, Transparency, Legacy & Leadership Cultivation, and Advancement of the Art Form. The actions of the LTC are championed by a volunteer Steering Committee made up of passionate Latinx theatremakers and scholars from across the country. The LTC Steering Committee a self-organized collective that has chosen to adopt a commons-based approach to advocate for Latinx theatre as a vital, significant presence in the New American Theatre. We foster emergent national leadership through an organic organizing method of activating our networks and expanding our circles of connection. We seek to celebrate diverse connections, honor our past with reflection, and envision our future with optimism and enthusiasm.

### **Statement of Anti-Racist Values**

The LTC strives to be an anti-racist movement. We understand Latinidad as a cultural identity and not a race. We must confront anti-Blackness and anti-Indigeneity from within our own movement in order to deconstruct white supremacy and avoid perpetuating oppressive practices. We acknowledge that the LTC has caused harm and commit to showing up for restoration. We invite folks from all Latinx cultural and racial identities to take up space to show the fullness of our community. Working in consort with our community, we hold ourselves accountable to these values, and we invite you to join us in that commitment.