

We invite emerging playwrights to participate in a residency in Kutná Hora and Prague, Czech Republic. The residency will take place in September 2026 and will conclude with a presentation of the written texts during the international Divadelní festival Kutná Hora (Kutná Hora Performing Arts Festival). Selected candidates will receive accommodation with meals, reimbursement of travel expenses and the opportunity to participate in festival events free of charge.

The residency programme for emerging playwrights is aimed at artists from Central and Eastern European countries. The programme offers a unique opportunity to work on and develop new dramatic works. It allows playwrights to develop their artistic ideas in a creative space and with financial freedom.

Each year, the residency focuses on a specific region or country. In 2026, three authors from the Baltic States will be supported, one from each country. The programme offers playwrights the opportunity to work with a Czech mentor.

The residency is a meeting place for foreign and Czech authors and playwrights, as well as representatives of other theatre professions. It is an open space for the exchange of experiences, different artistic strategies and comprehensive inspiration.

From the very beginning, the aim of the international theatre festival Divadelní festival Kutná Hora has been to present contemporary original theatre with an emphasis on current texts or original projects reflecting contemporary, pressing social issues. The main programme consists of selected new productions from the Czech independent scene and presentations of productions mainly from Central and Eastern Europe. The festival is also a platform for meetings focused on developing cooperation between individual entities and developing and supporting the independent sector as such. Through networking meetings, DFKH initiates opportunities for cooperation across the sector in the Czech Republic and internationally. The festival is organised by the Divadlo X10 theatre, which was named Theatre of the Year 2023.

Authors will write in their native language, and the presentation of the selected excerpt from the new text will be in English (translation provided by the organiser). The language of communication during the residency and festival is English.

Duration of the residency: September 5 – 25, 2026, the festival will take place on September 17 – 19. The residency is planned in Kutná Hora and Prague as follows: September 5 – 19 Kutná Hora, September 20 – 25 Prague.

Location: Kutná Hora, and Prague Czech Republic

Number of participants: 3 (1 participant from each country)

Closing date for applications: March 10

Announcement of results: March 31

Contact email: Ewa Zembok, rekultur.cz@gmail.com

The residency is organised and produced by the Rekultur platform in collaboration with Estonian Theatre Agency, MMLAB theatre (Lithuania), Dirty Deal Teatro and Theatre on Gertrude Street (Latvia).

The partner of the residency is Divadelní festival Kutná Hora

Applications

To apply, please send both in original language and English your CV with a short cover letter (max. 1 page) and a selected excerpt (up to 5 pages) of your text. In the cover letter you should describe an idea of the text you would like to work on during the residency.

Please send your applications to Ewa Zembok rekultur.cz@gmail.com by March 10, 2026.

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Selection criteria

the residency is aimed at emerging playwrights with no age restrictions (the number of published and/or staged texts from 0 to a maximum of 3 is decisive);

communicative knowledge of English;

authors may work on an existing idea, but a new text must be created during the residency;

CV both in original language and English

cover letter (up to 1 page) both in original language and English,

cover letter must include a description of the text the applicant wants to work on during the residency

excerpt from already written text (up to 5 pages) in original and English language

Conditions offered to selected candidates by the organizer:

reimbursement of travel expenses;

accommodation with meals (in the form of a daily allowance);

participation in festival events;

mentoring during the residency;