

What is The Stella Award?

The Stella Award was created by Estelle Craig, a long-time member of ACT II STUDIO in Programs for 50+ and Community Engagement. The award acknowledges Estelle's commitment to the theatre and lifelong learning. The Stella Award recognizes students that share Estelle Craig's passion for using theatre as a vehicle to bring stories to life and was created to inspire adults 50+ to write and submit an original one-act play. This award will provide financial assistance and recognize a playwright who has created an original one-act play and who is a member/participant in The Chang School's Programs for 50+ and Community Engagement, The Estelle Craig ACT II STUDIO, and/or LIFE Institute.

What is the value of The Stella Award?

There is one annual cash award (the value varies from year to year).

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible to apply for The Stella Award you must be a member/participant within The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education's Programs for 50+ and Community Engagement, The Estelle Craig ACT II STUDIO and/or LIFE Institute.

Who is ineligible to apply?

In order to encourage new works, the panel will not consider plays that have already been performed publicly.

How will applicants be selected?

Submissions will be reviewed by a committee composed of representatives from Toronto Metropolitan University and the wider theatre community. Successful completion of an original one-act play – submissions will be judged based on the following criteria:

1. **Concept/Theme** – Does it work as a stage play?
2. **Structure** – Does the structure enhance the story?
3. **Plot** – Is the plot effective and believable in its genre and does it have a conclusion? Does the play have a protagonist? Does it show conflict?
4. **Character Development** - Do the characters hold our attention? Are they well rounded?

Application and Notification

To request The Stella Award Application Form please email: programsfor50@torontomu.ca
Your completed application along with your play must be emailed to
mena.carravetta@torontomu.ca **NO LATER THAN March 27, 2026**.

The successful applicants will have their name posted on The Chang School website and a formal presentation of this award will be made at The Chang School Awards ceremony in Fall 2025.

Part 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Last Name	First Name	Student Number	
Mailing Address	City	Province	Postal Code
Email Address	Cell Phone Number	Home Telephone Number	
Title of Your Play			

Part 2: STUDENT INFORMATION

Please select if option applies to you.

☐	Member/participant within The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education's Programs for 50+ and Community Engagement The Estelle Craig ACT II STUDIO and/or LIFE Institute.
--------------------------	--

Part 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO INCLUDE WITH APPLICATION

Along with your completed application, a copy of your original one-act play must be included on 8.5" x 11" paper in the following page format:

1	Cover sheet – Only the title of the play shown in the centre of the page.
2	Copy of the play – single sided and double spaced with the title of the play and page number appearing on each page. <i>NOTE: Please do not include personal information on the play submission .</i>

Part 4: DECLARATION

By checking the "I Agree" box below I declare that the information provided is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate and has been prepared by me. I understand that any false statements I may make could disqualify me from The Stella Award. Furthermore, I authorize Student Financial Assistance to review my academic record and current address when required and, as a potential recipient of this scholarship, I give Toronto Metropolitan University permission to announce my name in public forum, if I am chosen.

By checking the box below, I indicate that I understand and agree to these terms and conditions. The information on this application is collected under the authority of the Toronto Metropolitan University Act. It will be used to process your application for this award and to determine the recipient of the award. If you have questions about the collection, use and disclosure of this information by the University, please contact the Manager of Student Financial Assistance and Awards, Toronto Metropolitan University, 350 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 2K3, 416.979.5113.

☐ I agree	Name (Printed)	Date
---	-----------------------	-------------