

SUBMISSION FOR TRU DIRECTOR-WRITER COMMUNICATION LAB

You may email your application to TRUStaff1@gmail.com - please remember to rename the document to include YOUR name. **Paste 5-10 pages of your script at the end.**

Name David Quang Pham
Address 1140 Alger St SW
City Wyoming State MI Zip 49509
Email davidquangpham@outlook.com Ph: 616 818 5413

If accepted, the cost will be \$90 (\$75 if you are a TRU member). Please be sure to sign indemnification waiver on page 3.

If you are not selected by one of the directors for this lab, do you want us to hold your application for a future Lab? Yes

Note: if your application doesn't grab the interest of eight directors, you might want to review it and resubmit with a stronger presentation.

Title of Project: ELLIPSES

Genre (s): Coming-of-Age, Epic, Family Drama, Mythology

of characters 8+ played by 8+ actors

of sets/locations (~~is it a unit set?~~) 2

Brief marketing hook (your quick "elevator pitch" or log line, plus spin – why is this piece of special interest today?):

The world needs stories about the importance of connections while embracing science. As an astronomer turned musical writer, I connect everything in our Universe through verse. The Universe is everything. And family is everything. The Universe is actually a family, just on a grander scale. Like our Universe, family makes us. But what made the cosmos? Family. I welcome you to experience my story of how our Universe came to be by getting to know the Galaxy family and their dog Gravity in the family musical of epic proportions: ELLIPSES.

Brief synopsis (the meat of your “full pitch”):

ELLIPSES is a cosmology mythology that stars the Galaxy family and their dog Gravity as they face a life-changing event known as the Big Bang.

Before the world that we have come to know, there lived a remote family of Galaxies. Singularity is the single parent who locked their six kids in the house. Milky Way is the baby sibling going through galactic puberty. JD is the oldest sibling looking to explore the Universe. Gravity wants to be set free, so they manipulate the outgrown JD. In a violent altercation, JD shoots Singularity to run away from home with Gravity (aka the Big Bang). Without their parent, the teenage Galaxies must fend for themselves in the vastness of the cosmos.

The chronology of our Universe is a family drama in play. The heart of its coming-of-age story is self-discovery as an anomaly.

Production history (including awards):

Showcase	DigiFest, Durban University of Technology, South Africa	October 19, 2021
Workshop	Theater Resources Unlimited - How to Write a Musical That Work	October 17, 2021
Concert Reading	WTP; Dir. Aliyah Curry, Dramaturg Jordan Alexandria Ealey	July 15, 2021
Workshop	Theater Resources Unlimited - How to Write a Musical That Work	June 13, 2021
Table Reading	Working Title Playwrights MNDW	May 3, 2021
Table Reading	Working Title Playwrights MNDW	February 1, 2021
Table Reading	Working Title Playwrights MNCS	December 7, 2020
Table Reading	Socially Isolated Script Readings; Host Michael Perrie Jr.	November 14, 2020
Table Reading	Working Title Playwrights MNCS	October 5, 2020

Reviews (quotes):

“I love stories about families and yours is truly the most unique I've seen.” – [John Mabey](#)

“The play got me thinking about my / our place in the Universe – you can't get more epic than that.” – [Hank Kimmel](#)

“I absolutely love this idea. The idea about a universe that's a family drama... How incredible is that... It's very unique and very original.” – [Paul Gordon](#)

Author's background (other productions of note, awards, honors, etc.):

David Quang Pham (he/him) is a musical theater science communicator who guides scientists to the fourth wall and theatre artists to the fourth dimension. Due to youthful trips to operas and space camp, he now writes love letters to science. His notable musicals personifying quantum mechanics, cosmology, and dimensions are respectively: [TOUR](#) (2020 DUAF finalist), [ELLIPSES](#), and [PARALLEL UNIVERSITY](#) with Malina Detcheva-Rossa and Marie Incontrera. After completing an astrophysics and theatre education at Michigan State University, he studied playwriting as the second apprentice of [Working Title Playwrights](#) in Atlanta. He is the Literary Fellow of [Playwrights Foundation](#), San Francisco. [Janelle Lawrence](#) mentors him, helping to forge his broad range of musical styles including gospel, pop, tango, and Xiqu. He is also a proficient trombonist; a founding member of CreateTheater ETC; a member of ΣΠΣ, ASCAP, the Dramatists Guild, LMDA, and TRU. Be up to lightspeed at <https://www.scitheatre.org/>

WAIVER AND INDEMNIFICATION (required if selected)

I understand that directors see many projects every year, and that it may be possible that they may already be working on or may have come across (or may yet come across) a project with similarities to mine. In exchange for the opportunity of meeting and being in a workshop with ten directors, I agree that I will not be entitled to any compensation or credit because of the use by any director or other Lab participant taking part in this event of any material similar to my own. I acknowledge that no fiduciary or confidential relationship now exists between any director taking part in the event and me, and I further acknowledge that no such relationships are established between any producer taking part in the event solely by reason of taking part in the event. I will under no circumstances bring legal proceedings against Theater Resources Unlimited or the Lab participants resulting from any communications made in connection with the event.

(applicant signature) November 15, 2021
date

ELLIPSES

(title of show)

David Quang Pham

print name clearly