



Sundress Academy for the Arts Residency Application

Full Name: David Quang Pham

Field of Art:

- ☐ Writing, Poetry
- ☐ Writing, Fiction
- ☐ Writing, Nonfiction
- ☒ Writing, Playwriting
- ☐ Writing, Screenwriting
- ☐ Writing, Hybrid
- ☐ Writing, Other
- ☐ Visual Art
- ☐ Filmmaking
- ☒ Music Composition
- ☐ Academic
- ☐ Other

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Website: <https://www.physicsmusical.com>

Gender Identity: Cis Male

Profession: Science-based Musical Writer

Current Employer: N/A

Application Period Applying For (Spring/Fall/Summer):

Preferred Length of Residency (no less than one week and no more than three weeks):
Three weeks

Preferred Dates for Residency (Please list dates that you would or would not be able to attend from your selected block. Note that the residency runs from Monday-Sunday.):

Availability:
January 3/4-24 | January 24/25-February 14

Are you applying for a fellowship? If so, which one? Fellowship

Regarding underlying mental illness, all I could say is that it is an absolutely valid explanation for how one could juggle physics and music.

Please describe (in 500 words or less) the project you will be working on during the time of the residency.

Sundress is expansive, beyond a spacetime singularity (I will work on a more coordinated metaphor because that joke supernova'd). To the zenith, I am an astrophysics graduate who spent my studies by the National Superconducting Cyclotron; I also composed my first musical there. In fact, its characters are subatomic. This moving new story is about who makes you rounded. TOUR is an operatic musical that experiments with tango, pop, choral, and four particles named Quark, Lepton, Boson, and Atom. These standard particles collide and compete with one another in the academic and professional field. In physics, particles seek out supersymmetry. Particles want to be perfect spheres, not unlike a human being. We want to be well-rounded. The analogy is told through personifications of the particles in a nuclear reactor. Their types and class structure are costumed as human students and professors. The world of physics is told through the human experience.

TOUR was a finalist for this year's Downtown Urban Arts Festival. TOUR had four table reads the past several months, under The 24 Hour Plays and CreateTheater. Musical Theatre Factory featured TOUR in round tables and a cabaret. A Shakespearean doctorate equated the lyrics to science Shakespeare. The material is physics. The target audience are colleges and universities. I strive to make TOUR's overall competitive and cutthroat world relatable.

When on the premise, I will bring only my Galileoscope, physics textbooks, laptop, keyboard, and trombone. I average a ballad every four days and a grand musical number every month. The entire musical score is complete. With less distraction, I anticipate fortifying three grand songs in a three-week-long SAFTA residency.

For ballads, I want Quark's "I Want" song. She simply wants to be a physicist. Once she achieves that, she wants to be the best. The story follows her rise from being an exchange student to being the director of the Accelerator. So far, that song's ("Available Energy") results are: (https://www.tourmusical.com/music/5-available_energy). I have no inclination to write jovially, as much as meditative hopefulness. I hope to be less bound by the urban landscape and feel the potential energy of nature.

The SAFTA Writers Coop is a 10×10' dry cabin approximately a fourth of a mile from the SAFTA farmhouse. This tiny house is furnished with a single bed, a desk, a wood-burning stove, a deck that looks over the pasture and pond, as well as a personal detached outhouse. While the cabin has neither electricity nor running water, residents will have full access to the amenities at farmhouse as well as solitude from other residents to write in the rolling hills of East Tennessee. This residency runs \$150/week. Would you be interested in being considered for a Coop residency as well?

No. Writers Coop Residencies are scheduled during musical theatre festival season and electricity would unfortunately be necessary.

The cost of the farmhouse residency is \$250 per week. There may be some partial scholarships for those with large-scale financial hardship. Please explain if you believe you should qualify for financial aid.

Never in my life have I thought that "N/A" would be an explanation for qualification. It would be more of a cry for help, but here we all are. I have not had consistent income since 2016. When I did, I set my salaries lower than the average pay grade because we are raised in a world with ingrained white supremacy. As a Vietnamese American, I did not believe I had worth. During this pandemic, I provided my newfound service as a scientific dramaturg for writers, whenever they need consultation on scientific and mathematical principles. I had no inclination and have no idea how to monetize myself as a dramaturg with an astrophysics degree until Atlanta's Working Title Playwrights reached out.

Though I attended their virtual events, I missed their \$125 annual membership because I simply cannot afford it. To add, I was reserved and embarrassed by it. However, WTP asked me to be their apprentice for their 2020-2021 New Play Development and Pre-Production Apprenticeship. They had a feeling that I will remain one of their hardest worker. They would be and will be correct.

I acknowledge that having the maximum amount of weeks would cost SAFTA \$750+. As a Michigander, shovelling is nothing. As a scientist, procedures are everything. Whether hot or cold, the farm animals are going to feel my care for ethics. As a human, my birthday would be happy for once. That is the Saturday before my primarily preferred departure.


List the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of two references.

Amber Bradshaw | (213)304-8372 | managing@workingtitleplaywrights.com

André Stith | (404)585-1278 | andre@andrestith.net

Signature (By typing your name in the signature field below, you are agreeing to this contract in accordance with the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act.):

David Quang Pham

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature consists of a large, stylized 'D' and 'Q' intertwined, with the word 'Pham' written below them in a cursive script.