

# MEANWHILE PARK

## THE 2024 MEANWHILE PARK PLAYWRIGHT PRIZE

### OVERVIEW

Meanwhile Park is a small, private park in Salt Lake City's Park District. The Park hosted its first performing arts evening in 2022. Continuing that tradition in 2023, the Park presented *From June to August*, a new summer romcom by Matthew Ivan Bennett. In 2024 the park will produce a one act, original play over a two-weekend period in July/August. The play will be selected through the 2024 Meanwhile Park Playwright Prize (MPPP) competition.

### ENTRY GUIDANCE

Entries into the MPPP should consider the following:

- Plays should run between forty minutes and one hour including any required or desired breaks.
- The "cast" should be limited to no more than six people. Cast can include actors, musicians, or other artists required to tell the story directly to the audience.
- Plays should have not been produced elsewhere. We are looking to present world premiere plays.
- As an outdoor, summer theatrical experience like no other in Utah, entrants are invited to consider stories and genres suitable to the occasion. Ideas include but are not limited to:
  - Campfire tall tales
  - Backyard ghost stories
  - Summer love stories
  - Action-packed adventures
  - Musical comedies
  - Local histories
- Meanwhile Park celebrates the diversity of humanity and welcomes stories from diverse races, ethnicities, cultures, genders, and sexualities.

### THE RULES

- Submission for the 2024 Meanwhile Park Playwright Prize are now being accepted.
- The deadline for submissions is January 15, 2024. Submissions should be sent via email to [info@meanwhilepark.com](mailto:info@meanwhilepark.com)
- The winner will be announced February 16, 2024. All entrants will be informed of the winning entry via email.
- The winner will be awarded a \$500 honorarium no later than March 1, 2024 via Venmo or check.
- The winning play will be performed six times during July and/or August 2024.
- Entries will be judged by Jeff Paris and a panel of theatre enthusiasts.
- The winning playwright will be involved in staffing and casting the production in conjunction with the producer.
- The production will be granted the following:
  - Onstage performers will each receive \$500.

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- The director will receive \$500.
- The stage manager will receive \$500.
- The lighting budget is \$250.
- The sound budget is \$250.
- Costume design will be determined based on the needs of the play.
- Each performance will feature a pre-performance reception/party with drinks and snacks sponsored entirely by Meanwhile Park. For this reason, ticket sales are limited to individuals 21 and older.
- Seating will be limited. Comp tickets will be made available solely at the discretion of the producer.
- Meanwhile Park reserves the right to cancel the competition or the production at any time for any reason.

## ADDITIONAL INFO

- For more information, email [info@meanwhilepark.com](mailto:info@meanwhilepark.com).
- To learn more about Meanwhile Park visit our Instagram account: @meanwhilepark. Or visit our website at [www.meanwhilepark.com](http://www.meanwhilepark.com).
- To schedule an in-person visit to Meanwhile Park, email [info@meanwhilepark.com](mailto:info@meanwhilepark.com).
- To see what people said about the 2023 production of the first ever, Meanwhile Park Playwright Prize winner, follow these links:
  - Salt Lake Tribune pre-show article (You can request a PDF version of this story if you don't have access to the Salt Lake Tribune): <https://www.sltrib.com/artsliving/2023/07/28/salt-lake-city-man-wanted-produce/>
  - GephardtDaily.com review: <https://gephardtdaily.com/local/review-meanwhile-parks-from-june-to-august-is-the-most-charming-of-rom-coms/>
  - TheUtahReview.com review: <https://www.theutahreview.com/a-summer-rom-com-in-a-new-urban-park-setting-in-salt-lake-city-meanwhile-park-presents-world-premiere-of-matthew-ivan-bennetts-from-june-to-august/>

## WHAT PEOPLE SAID ABOUT THE 2023 WINNING PRODUCTION

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