



Women Playwrights International (WPI)

Is an opportunity to meet, to build networks, to create genuine, lasting contacts between women playwrights and theatre professionals worldwide.

Our aim is to have an impact by supporting collaborative work between people from different parts of the world.

It is a non-profit organization, dependent on the idealistic work of its members.

WPI was founded in 1988 and held its first conference in Buffalo, New York, USA. Two hundred women from over 30 countries were in attendance. Since the first WPI Conference, the women playwrights have gathered in a triennial conference as follows:

- 1991 – Toronto, Canada
- 1994 – Adelaide, Australia
- 1997 – Galway, Ireland
- 2000 – Athens, Greece
- 2003 – Manila, Philippines
- 2006 – Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2009 – Mumbai, India
- 2012 – Stockholm, Sweden
- 2015 – Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018 – Santiago, Chile



The participants in the WPI Chile 2018 conference in Santiago.

The 12th conference is set to take place in Montreal, Canada in June 2021.

The six goals of WPI are:

- To extend opportunities for meeting, international networking and artistic exchange.
- To increase and further production opportunities for women's writing for the stage.
- To encourage, create and assist the education and development of women playwrights and their craft.
- To defend the right of women playwrights to engender their own artistic forms and critical standards.
- To encourage study and informed critique of the work of women playwrights.
- To support women playwrights against censorship and political persecution for the expression of their ideas.

Presently, WPI have a total of 430 active members listed in its database composed of women playwrights and theatre artists from the regions of Africa, Asia, Europe, Oceania & Pacific Islands, North and South America.

ORGANIZATION PROFILE

For the past 30 years of organizing the conference, WPI had presented, through dramatic readings and performances, around 2,000 plays and playwrights / theater artists and was able to conduct around 50 fora / seminars / roundtable discussions on various theatre-related topics including critical issues and concerns affecting women playwrights and theatre artists worldwide and 150 various workshops on playwriting and theatre forms.

WPI Management Committee (2018-2021)

Role	Name	Country
President (Representative for Asia Region)	August Melody Andong	Philippines
Vice President (Representative for Oceania Region)	Rosemary Johns	Australia
Conference Convener	Ann Lambert Laura Mitchell (Co-convener)	Canada
Members-at-Large		
• Communications Director (Representative for North America Region)	Ana Candida Carneiro	USA/Brazil
• Social Media Director	Leticia Arbelo	Argentina
Representative for Europe region	Ana Fernandez Valbuena	
Representative for Africa Region	Akiro P. Olwoch	Uganda
Representative for South America Region	Ximena Carrera	Chile

WPI Advisory Committee

Name	Country
Anna Kay France	USA
Meena Natarajan	USA
Sandra Shotlander	Australia
Julie Holledge	Australia
Malou Jacob	Philippines
Jyoti Mhapsekar	India
Lene Therese Teigen	Norway
Marcia Johnson	Canada
Amy Jephta	South Africa
Linda Parris-Bailey	USA



The participants in the WPI South Africa 2015 conference in Cape Town.

Contact Information

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