

Whitefire Theatre Solofest 2025

Synopsis Dos and Don'ts

DOs

- **DO** have the synopsis sound like you.
 - The synopsis will act as your voice selling your production on your Stagey show page as well as the Whitefire social media accounts and website. Make sure your unique voice is present and stands out!
- **DO** give an understanding of what the show is about.
 - You don't want to be too vague in the synopsis leaving the reader confused about what your show is about. *BUT...*
- **DO** make sure to leave the reader wanting more!
 - To get the full story, that is why they come to the performance!

DON'Ts

- **DON'T** make it too long!
 - By definition, a synopsis should be short, sweet and to the point!
- **DON'T** oversell or “over do it.”
 - Think of when someone at a beauty counter or a car lot tries to get you to buy something promising that their product will change your life. It feels pushy, inauthentic and uncomfortable. And what is the first thing you do? Avoid that person and whatever it is they are selling! Make sure that you are not the “used car salesman” of Solofest.
 - Simply allow the show to naturally stand on its own as opposed to pushing the synopsis “in the face” of your reader.
- **DON'T** allow your show to sound generic.
 - There is a fine line between a relatable story and a story so many people have experienced (or seen before) that they feel no need to watch your production.
 - Ensure your synopsis emphasizes why your story is important and unique!
- **DON'T** use stereotypical theatre “buzz” words, such as “journey” or “transformation.”
 - These types of words are often overused and readers can more easily dismiss a synopsis overladen with such vocabulary. As a result, that makes it that much easier for them to dismiss attending your production.
 - Challenge yourself to use engaging, attention grabbing speech in your synopsis!

To help guide you in writing your synopsis, here are a few examples from previous Solofest productions!

Synopsis for “Wendy, My Darling”:

A new rock musical about what happens to Wendy Darling from Peter Pan when she chooses to grow up and reclaim her magic—a transcendent look at one of the world’s most famous, yet least examined characters. Magical, timely, and timeless, it features a stunningly original soundtrack that sparkles with wit and pop hooks while playfully exploring the impact of storytelling and storytellers in our collective culture. “Wendy, My Darling,” has you leaving the theater knowing that you too can make your most magical dreams come true.

Synopsis for “Twelve O’Clock Tales with Ava Gardner”:

Hollywood, California...1974. On the set of the blockbuster disaster film, Earthquake, Oscar nominated screen siren Ava Gardner is focusing on her first big budget starring role in over a decade. Tucked away in her dressing room bungalow, the “queen of the scandal sheets” does battle with her past. But only a fool would bet against Ava.

Synopsis for “Second Nature”:

“Second Nature” is about a young Israeli girl fighting to regain charge of her own destiny, dancing through every obstacle and discovering her strength along the way. If you ever felt helpless, afraid to move forward...this show is for you. Lian takes you on a journey from being trapped with the cards she’s been dealt, to becoming the winner of her own game. With laughter, tears, dance and more, you won’t want to miss this powerful ride.

Synopsis for “Soul Dancer: A Flamenco Love Story:”

When French-Salvadoran pre-teen navy brat Kristelle meets her flamenco mentor Alicia, it’s love at first sight. Years later, Kristelle suffers a devastating knee injury that leads to a new adventure with Alicia, which then rocks their relationship to the core...for just as in dance, only one can lead. Through the lens of Kristelle’s flamenco journey (including live flamenco guitar) we’re reminded that what makes our soul dance is unique to each of us...and ours to create.