



## QMTC PITCH GUIDE 2019-20



So you've decided to put on a show... what next?

For every QMTC festival, we host a Pitch Night to allow potential directors an opportunity to describe and sell their show idea to their fellow members, but this can sound like a very scary experience for someone who's never done it before. Below, we've outlined the important things you need to include in your pitch, as well as some tips on how to prepare and promote your show in the best way possible.

### HOW PITCHING WORKS

- The submission page for pitches will go up on our website, [www.qmtc.co.uk](http://www.qmtc.co.uk), **two weekends before the pitch night**. To pitch your show, you must submit all the required information before the deadline, which is 12pm on the day of the pitch night.
- We ask all pitchers to provide an image to add to the pitch night PowerPoint – this can be something relevant to the plot or a helpful graphic to illustrate your pitch. This must be sent to [company@qmtc.co.uk](mailto:company@qmtc.co.uk) before the 12pm pitch day deadline.
- **Please arrive 15 minutes before pitch night is due to start** and come straight into the room – committee will already be there.
- You will have **5 minutes** for your pitch, followed by **3 minutes** of questions from the audience.
- At the end of the evening, the audience will vote for the shows they would like to see at the festival – unfortunately, **as a pitcher, you will not be able to vote**.
- The committee will stay after the pitch night has ended to count the votes, and the successful shows will be announced on our [Facebook page](#).
- If your pitch has been successful, you will be added to a Directors' Group on Facebook where you can communicate with the committee on the next step.

## WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR PITCH

- **The name and author of your show**, whether this is you or someone else.
- **Approximate running time and how many cast members you need.** The limit is 1 hour 15 minutes, so consider is anything needs to be cut out or roles that can be doubled.
- **Any complicated technical requirements.** This means any mess, fake weapons, suspending someone from the ceiling, a unique prop – and these examples are based on past shows!
- **Where you plan to stage it.** By default this is the Pinter Studio in ArtsOne, but other spaces are available to you.
- **Whether you need any backstage crew.** Having people to share the responsibilities of running a show could be very helpful to you if you're nervous – this could be assistant directors, stage managers, or designers.
- **The plot and themes of the show.** This is probably the most important part of your pitch and you should spend the most time on this.
- **Why your show should be picked.** Also an important part of your pitch, this is your chance to really sell your idea to your audience and pick out the things that make your show unique, relevant or exciting.

## TIPS FOR A GOOD PITCH

- **Prepare!** Make notes on some paper or your phone to plan what you will say, and practice at least once before pitch night to make yourself aware of the 5 minute pitch limit – it's shorter than you think.
- **Relax and enjoy the pitch.** You're only speaking to other university students, not a jury, and they want you to do well as much as you do.
- **Know your show.** You will be leading the rehearsal process for a month, and interested students want to know you have answers to any questions they may have.
- **Passion and enthusiasm go a long way.** If you are excited about your show, you encourage others to feel the same.
- **Be creative!** Don't be afraid to do something different to stand out – a sketch, read a part of your script, whatever you can think of.

**GOOD LUCK AND SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY!**