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Animikiig is the Ojibway word for the initial rumblings that tell us of the thunder storm that is to come.

Animikiig Creators Unit: Call for Submissions

Now in its 11th season, the **Animikiig Creators Unit** (*formerly Young Voices*) is a two-year development program for emerging Indigenous creators, with the next session beginning in March 2020. Animikiig offers selected creators the chance to develop their craft through individualized development plans and resources under the guidance of professional mentors selected in consultation with the Artistic Director and the Program Director, Lindsay Lachance (Artistic Associate at the NAC Indigenous Theatre).

Animikiig is dedicated to the diversity of Indigenous voices on their journey to production as performance becomes increasingly cross-disciplinary, incorporating music, dance, technology, and performance art. Native Earth is proud to have had work like **Agokwe** by Waawaate Fobister, **Giiwedín** by Spy Dénoimé-Welch and **Salt Baby** by Falen Johnson, **Women of the Fur Trade** by Frances Koncan, and **link** by Aria Evans as part of the program before going on to full productions.

Animikiig is intended for long-term development of early stage work. The first year of the **Animikiig Creators Unit** will culminate in the performance of an excerpt of the proposed work at *Weesageechak Begins to Dance 33* in November of 2020.

Immediately after *Weesageechak 33*, the Artistic Director and Program Director will meet again with each participant to plan how he or she wants to proceed. Over the following year, Animikiig will provide individualized development support as dictated by the needs of each project. The end result will be a more fully realized script, libretto, score or physical performance presented at a dedicated evening at *Weesageechak Begins to Dance 34* in November of 2021.

Native Earth Performing Arts recognizes its responsibility to ensure that Indigenous stories persist on Canadian stages. We are also dedicated to the ongoing support of the artists with whom we work so, during this cycle, each Animikiig participant will receive advice with respect to the long-term development of their work. Partnerships with other companies may be needed to help develop some of the more ambitious projects.

Native Earth supports creations at various stages of development: Recommender Grants for Theatre Creators for initial idea, Animikiig for early stage development, Weesageechak and Mskomini Giizis Residency for mid- and late-stage development.

The 11th season of Animikiig Creators Unit is supported by the Indigenous Theatre at the National Arts Centre and the Chawkers Foundation.

If you are interested in being a part of the Animikiig Program, please submit:

- **A piece of your script – in any form – OR a proposal for a creative work**
- **CV OR a short paragraph outlining your skills, training or experience you already have to bring to the development of the performance**

Send submissions by **Sunday December 1, 2019** to Animikiig Program Director Lindsay Lachance by email to lindsay@nativeearth.ca. Please send the application as a single pdf or word document with lastname_firstname in the subject line. Please include contact information including email address, phone number and mailing address in your application.