



HAMILTON COLD READS

***** CALL FOR WRITERS & ACTORS *****

Deadline for submissions: January 31, 2025

HFTco is thrilled to announce **Hamilton Cold Reads**, part of the upcoming **Frost Bites Double-Header** event happening on **Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7 PM** at **Hamilton Artists Inc.** at James Street.

This exciting new platform is your opportunity to showcase your work, collaborate with peers, and connect with the thriving arts community in the region.

How Does Hamilton Cold Reads Work?

Hamilton Cold Reads is a showcase for new and in-progress scripts, designed to connect writers, actors, and audiences in a collaborative, supportive, community-building setting. Regional writers submit scripts of various formats—short plays, film scenes, TV scripts, or sketches—that run a maximum of 12 minutes.

If your piece is selected by our jury, you show up an hour before doors open on Feb 13th and cast your script from a pool of eager and talented actors who show up ready to rock. That's right – actors are cast on the spot just before the event! It's informal, spontaneous, and a ton of fun. All selected pieces will be read aloud by the actors in front of a live audience, giving writers the chance to hear their work brought to life while receiving valuable real-time feedback from the audience.

Whether you're a writer, an actor, or an audience member, Hamilton Cold Reads give you an inspiring space to share and celebrate new ideas from artists in and around town.

We're looking for the following:

1. WRITERS – Got a short bit of a script you want to see come to life on stage? We're looking for fresh, dynamic scripts from regional writers to be read aloud by actors in front of a live audience. Submissions can be short plays, film scenes, television scripts, web series episodes, or any other narrative-driven work. Pieces must be between **5 to 12 minutes max**.

(continued)

Submission Guidelines (Writers)

- Head to tinyurl.com/HamOntColdReads and fill out the form.
- Scripts should be 5-12 minutes in length; it's a good idea to read your scene aloud with all stage directions and TIME IT!
- Scripts over 12 minutes will not be considered
- Scripts should be submitted as a PDF
- Selected writers will be expected to arrive at the event at 5:30PM on Feb 13 to meet with actors, cast their piece, and lead a read-through prior to the public entering.

2. ACTORS – We're looking for actors to join us as on-stage readers for the evening. No preparation is required—just bring your energy, your sense of play, and your love for storytelling!

Submission Guidelines (Actors)

- Actors interested in participating can sign up at tinyurl.com/HamOntColdReads
- Actors should be prepared to arrive at the event at 5:30PM on Feb 13 to meet with writers, take part in the casting process, and participate in a read-through prior to the public entering.
- Please note: signing up to be a reader does not guarantee an onstage role.

It's FREE to apply. Participation & attendance at the event will require a paid ticket.

Tickets to the Frost Bites Double-Header event are Pay-What-You-Can-Afford \$15 | \$40.
There is also a \$5 Accessible option available.

Find out more about the event and DISCO CAB 4.0 – the first half of the evening – at HFTco.ca.

Be a part of this exciting new addition to the Hamilton arts scene. Let's make this inaugural Hamilton Cold Reads an evening to remember!

Questions? Contact us at info@HFTco.ca or 289.986.2234.

FROST BITES SPONSORS:



HAMILTON ARTISTS INC.

