**Comedy sketch writing competition**

**THE PRIZES**

- The winning sketch will get professionally filmed and produced and released online, via the Alphabetti & North East Comedy Hot House social media pages. The creatives will be receiving a link to the sketch and hi-res copy. If there is any budget left over this will be re-invested into Alphabetti Theatre as a registered charity.

- There are no cash prizes.

- All shortlisted writers will receive 1 free ticket to all performances plus a free bottle of 40 Kola each night. These are non-transferable and non-refundable.

- All writers that submit will have the work read by Alphabetti Theatre and North East Comedy Hot House.

- The writer / writers of the winning sketch will receive a heavy weight north east sketch winner belt – currently held by Elaine Robertson.

- The writer / writers of the winning sketch will have it read by Emma Lawson and other commissioner of national online content.

**THE PROCESS**

- Ali Pritchard *Artistic / Executive Director of Alphabetti Theatre*, Paula Penman *Associate Artist of Alphabetti Theatre* and members from North East Comedy Hot House will read all applications and selecting between 20 and 30 sketches. Feedback for unsuccessful writers will not be possible.

- These sketches will then be split and allocated a heat performance date (either 6th March 2020 at 21:30 or 13th March 2020 at 21:30). They will be rehearsed and performed by a troupe of actors (who will be using this as a showcase to producers, directors and casting directors who all work regularly online and on TV). associate artists at Alphabetti Theatre.

- The heats – each sketch will be performed once and the order of which they are performed will be decided by the audience on the night. Each sketch will be paired against a partner sketch and the audience will vote for their favourite sketch to go through to the final on Saturday 21st March 19:30.

- On the final performance one sketch will be crowned the ultimate winner!

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Deadline - 5pm Thursday 27th February 2020 - email address: alphabettisketch@outlook.com

- Each individual sketch must be set in one location, contain no more than 3 characters and last for no longer than 3 minutes. (three sides of A4 written in size 12)

- One writer can submit a maximum of 3 sketches (if a person emails more than 3 then none of their work will be considered)

- Writing duos / groups are accepted however individual members may not then submit separately.

- All submissions must be emailed - any other form of submissions will not be accepted

- All writers must be aged 18 years or older by 27th February 2020

- All writers must be based in the North East of England

- All sketches must have a title and have page numbers.

**DATES**

Saturday 15th February 2020 - 11:00 – 13:00 Workshop with North east comedy Hot House & Alphabetti

Thursday 27th February 2020 – 17:00 Deadline for writers to submit sketches

Monday 2nd March 2020 – 17:00 Writers will be informed if they have been taken onto the next stage.

Tues 3rd – Fri 6th March Rehearsals for Heat 1

Friday 6th March 2020 – 21:30 Performance 40 Kola comedy rola Heat 1

Tues 10th – Fri 13th March Rehearsals for Heat 2

Friday 13th March 2020 – 21:30 Performance 40 Kola Comedy Rola Heat 2

Tues 17th – Sat 21st March Rehearsals for 40 Kola Comedy Rola Final

Sat 21st March 2020 – 19:30 Performance 40 Kola Comedy Rola Final

July 2020 Filming of the final sketch would have been complete.