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**The Ziegfeld Club**  
Announces Details for the 2018  
**Liz Swados Inspiration Grant**  
\$5,000 Cash Grant To Be Awarded to  
New York City-Based Female Music Educator

**Application Process Opens March 19, 2018**

(January 25, 2018 - New York, NY) **The Ziegfeld Club**, one of the first New York City performing arts charities to benefit women, is thrilled to announce that for the third year in a row the **Liz Swados Inspiration Grant** will be awarded . Created in 2016 and underwritten by actress **Diane Lane**, **The Liz Swados Inspiration Grant** serves to honor an influential female music educator in New York City through a \$5,000.00 cash grant .

The application process for the **Liz Swados Inspiration Grant** will open 9:00am EST on **March 19, 2018**, through **April 20, 2018**.

Diane Lane first partnered with The Ziegfeld Club on the **Liz Swados Inspiration Grant** in January 2016, shortly after Ms. Swados passed away. Previously presented to **Laura Borgwardt** (2017) and **Cecilia Smith** (2016), Ms. Lane will now underwrite the grant for its third consecutive year.

Those interested in applying for the **Liz Swados Inspiration Grant** must submit their information between **March 19 & April 20, 2018**, and must please meet all of the following criteria to be eligible:

- Open to female teachers or teaching artists.
- Primary field must be music education. (We realize that many teaching artists' work is deeply interdisciplinary; however, music should be fundamental to your teaching in order to apply for this grant).
- Must have at least five (5) years of teaching experience.
- Must teach at least 20 hours/week.

- Must live AND work in New York City (Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx, Staten Island), and a resident of NYC for at least (1) one-year prior to the application.

Interested applicants can submit all application materials (see list below) via email to [submissions@theziegfeldclubinc.com](mailto:submissions@theziegfeldclubinc.com) by **Friday, April 20, 2018 at 11:59pm EST**. The recipient will be chosen and notified in May 2018.

The following application materials are required for consideration:

- Resume including at least the past five years of applicants teaching experience
- Two essay questions (totaling no more than one page)
  - What led you to teach music in New York City?
  - What is your music education philosophy?
- Two letters of recommendation
  - One letter from a past or present employer or college
  - One letter from a past or present student
- **ALL MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ONE EMAIL**

For more information about **The Ziegfeld Club, Inc.** or about the **Liz Swados Inspiration Grant** please visit [www.TheZiegfeldClubInc.com](http://www.TheZiegfeldClubInc.com)

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#### **ABOUT ELIZABETH SWADOS (1951-2016)**

Perhaps best known for her Broadway and international smash hit *Runaways*, Elizabeth Swados composed, wrote and directed theatre (?) for over thirty years. Works include the Obie Award-winning *Trilogy* at La MaMa, *Alice at the Palace* with Meryl Streep at the New York Shakespeare Theater Festival and *Groundhog*, which was optioned by director Milos Forman for a film. Her work has been performed on Broadway, off-Broadway, at La MaMa, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Carnegie Hall, and locations all over the world. She composed highly acclaimed dance scores for well-known choreographers in the US, Europe and South America, and scores to many films, including the upcoming documentary, *Auf Wiedersehen*, about a family searching for the truth about the Nazi participation in Vienna and the Jews who may have aided them. She was commissioned to write a musical theater piece about the notorious Triangle Shirtwaist Fire in Manhattan, as well as a musical evening of family theater featuring the poetry of Roald Dahl at the Atlantic Theater Company.

In conjunction with Forward Face, Ms. Swados released a children's CD called *Everyone is Different* that has been distributed to three thousand schools around the country. She received the Ken Award, and a New York Public Library Award for her book *My Depression: A Picture Book*. Ms. Swados published a theatrical textbook, *At Play: Teaching Teenagers Theater*, and a collection of poems through Hanging Loose Press. In her lifetime, Ms Swados received five Tony nominations, three Obie Awards, Guggenheim Fellowship, Ford Grant, Helen Hayes Award, Lila Acheson Wallace Grant and PEN Citation.

## **ABOUT THE ZIEGFELD CLUB, INC.**

Described by *The New York Times* as one of “New York’s pioneering feminist institutions,” and “Broadway’s best kept secret,” The Ziegfeld Club is among the first not-for-profits in the Broadway community. Founded in 1936 by Billie Burke in honor of her late husband Florenz Ziegfeld musical theater impresario and producer of the legendary Ziegfeld Follies. The organization was originally formed to provide help to Ziegfeld Girls who had fallen on hard times. As all of the Ziegfeld Girls have now passed away, the Ziegfeld Club’s mission remains to help women of today’s musical theatre.

Additionally, the Ziegfeld Club has preserved exciting theater history in their treasured archives.

Today the Ziegfeld Club is expanding its legacy of helping women in the theatre by establishing, along with the Liz Swados Inspiration Grant, The Billie Burke Ziegfeld Award a \$10,000 grant and a year of professional mentorship which is awarded to an emerging female composer who compellingly demonstrates financial need, professional initiative, and outstanding artistic promise in musical theatre composition.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How do I apply for this award? What are the requirements and criteria?**

Visit <http://www.theziegfeldclubinc.com/submissions/> for submission guidelines and criteria.

### **What is the deadline to apply?**

The final deadline for all materials is 11:59pm EST on April 20th, 2018. This deadline includes all letters of recommendation.

### **Can my recommenders submit their letters independently?**

Please submit letters of recommendation in the same email as all other materials.

### **What is the deadline for letters of recommendation?**

The final deadline for all materials, including letters of recommendation, is 11:59 p.m. EST on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### **When will the finalists be notified?**

Finalists will be notified in May 2018.

### **Can I apply if I am a teaching artist, not a full-time school teacher?**

Yes, teaching artists are encouraged to apply, as long as you live and work in NYC (Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, Staten Island). Teaching artists must work as a teacher at least 20 hours a week.

### **Are educators who work at performing arts companies (rather than in schools) eligible?**

Yes, as long as your position is dedicated to music education in NYC.

**Can a team of teachers apply?**

Each educator must be submitted individually to be considered for the award.

**Are retired teachers eligible?**

No. The nominee must be a current, working teacher in NYC.

**Can I submit an inspiring teacher (not myself) as a candidate?**

Please share this information with the teacher, who can fill out the application herself, and offer to write a letter of recommendation in support.

**Can I share on social media?**

Yes, please spread the word on twitter, facebook and other social media platforms using the hashtags #LizSwados2018 and #TheZiegfeldClub

**Can I apply again next year?**

Yes, all applicants are welcome to apply again.

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