

Illinois Live Theatre Program Annual Report for FY 2014

The Illinois Live Theatre Production Tax Credit offers live theatre producers a credit of 20% of all qualified expenditures. The goal of this Act to preserve and expand the existing work force used in live theater and enhance the marketing of the presentation of live theater in Illinois.. In addition, the tax credit promotes diversity in production hiring.

When a production company is ready to claim a credit it submits a report that includes exact numbers of people hired, money spent and vendors used. Productions must claim the credit within 60 days after the end of the production run. The application does not ask for an estimate of vendors to be used, or which vendors in particular so we cannot know that information before they submit final paperwork. Furthermore, the application asks for a diversity plan and an estimate for what percentage of the project's staffing will include minorities and women.

FY2014 Estimated

Number of jobs created or retained:

- 348 Technical crew, office, and support jobs
- Zero talent jobs

Amount of theater production spending brought to Illinois:

- \$2,940,500 (estimated).

Whether or not the human infrastructure reflects diversity of the state of Illinois:

- The Live Theater tax credit has a diversity requirement attached to it which means that no production will receive the tax credit without proof of a best faith effort to hire women and minorities as part of the technical crew and office staff. Because a company has 60 days in which to claim a tax credit and provide their final hiring numbers, we do not yet know whether or not each FY 2014 production has satisfied the requirement.
- In order to promote racial diversity in the live theater industry in the state of Illinois, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity will explore creating educational opportunities for minorities to be trained for working in live theater.