



The Queer and Trans Legacy Initiative

Screen, Stage & Story Showcase

Founded by
Jo Vannicola



Connecting Queer and Trans writers and storytellers with industry, community, peers, and allies.

Bypassing structural and systemic barriers to creativity for 2SLGBTQ+ people.

Cultivating a legacy through published and performed works.



Making queer and trans history



About:

Founder and Artistic Director:

Mission:

To amplify queer and trans artists through new and innovative ways. QTLI wants to reach new audiences, uplift each other, the work, and create new paradigms outside of mainstream culture through mutual support, engagement, action, and publication/performance.



Jo Vannicola is an Emmy award winning actor and five time Canadian award nominee. Shortlisted for the Kobo Emerging Writer Prize for their memoir in Non-Fiction, *All We Knew but Couldn't Say*.

Jo is the recipient of the Blaze Award, Leslie Yeo award, and the Margaret Trudeau Advocacy Award. Jo was the founding director of the non-profit Youth Out Loud, and the Founding Chair of outACTRAto at ACTRA Toronto.

For more info: www.joannevannicola.com

Live Screen Readings

First initiative:

From page to public readings, to published works, and performance.

Annual screenplay reading at a Toronto theatre, with professional actors, and sponsored event.

The inaugural screenplay, THEY, is by Jo Vannicola. There will be invited guests from industry, producers, production companies, agents, directors, community members, leaders, and artists – for a live professional reading, followed by conversation, food, and connection.

THEY



2nd Initiative: The Queer/Trans Monologue Anthology and show



Archiving & Living History

The Anthology: A national submission call selecting 50 queer/trans monologues to build a collection for publication.

The Showcase: The top 10 monologues performed live at a partner venue/theatre, serving as the live show and national Book Launch Party. Think Vagina Monologues, but queer!

Why it matters:

Right now, 2SLGBTQ+ content is less desirable to those in mainstream production. The space left for us leaves few opportunities, and has resulted in mostly sanitized tokenism.

The crisis is magnified now in 2026 by the rise in anti-queer and anti-trans legislation in America, which has trickled down into the social fabric and culture in Canada. We want to make space for the mosaic of untold stories for screen and stage. We want to shine a bright light on 2SLGBTQ+ writers and creators.

The Queer & Trans Legacy Initiative is our refusal to accept erasure.

This is why your support is needed.



Corporate and Community Sponsorship

Corporate Partnership Opportunity.

Points: Structured as a 100% tax-deductible Business Marketing/Advertising Expense for corporate sponsors.

Sponsor Tier (\$1,000)

**Website and print material logo recognition.
And many, many thanks!**

Sponsor Tier (\$2,500)

**Print logo and name on materials, website
recognition, VIP seats.**

Sponsor Tier (\$5,000)

**Points: Title billing, logo placement in print
material, advertising, and website. Anthology
acknowledgement, VIP seating.**

Sponsor Tier (\$7,500)

**Benefits include title billing ("QTLI presented by, your
name/logo), anthology acknowledgement, speech
opportunity at launch, a dedicated table for VIP
seating, print material and website recognition.
site. VIP seating.**



Capital Allocation (\$15,000 Foundational Launch Budget)

Professional Cast: \$4,000

Theatre Venue & Technical Staff: \$2,000

Admin: \$3,000

Community Reception & Launch Logistics: \$1,500

Print Material, posters, advertising: \$1,000

Marketing: \$2,000

Other: \$1,500

The Queer and Trans Legacy Initiative

**Support Queer and Trans
screenwriters, playwrights,
community artists, and creators.**

**Let's break barriers together and
change the conversation about the
type of artistic work that gets to be
seen and heard from 2SLGBTQ+
artists.**



**Unique programming that
does not duplicate other
organizational efforts and
work.**

**Join
the
Legacy**