



2017 Secondary Theatre Festival Guidelines & Procedures

1. The festival exists to promote growth for student actors/designers and will provide workshops, mentoring opportunities, exposure to college and university theatre representatives, peer artist relationship-building, and performance opportunities with feedback and adjudication in order to promote a well-rounded experience. All pieces chosen for performance by contestants must be appropriate for viewing by a grade 6-12 audience. Please avoid obscene language, graphic content or questionable situations in your material. We want to provide a high quality theatre experience in a family friendly environment. Adjudicators reserve the right to score a contestant or group low for unsuitable material. Please contact us if you have any questions.
2. Please note postmark deadlines on the Registration Form. Students are eligible to register for multiple events; however, registration will be on a first come, first served basis. CITA reserves the right to close registration in certain categories if time and space do not permit additional performances. Wait lists in each category will be created as categories fill; schools will be notified up to one week before the event if there is an opening available. Directors will be contacted and financial adjustments made if registration is overcrowded; however no refunds will be given after the postmark deadline unless it is due to CITA closing a category. Check-in will open at 3 pm on the Thursday of the event (please do not arrive early at the venue). Event forms are not due with registration form; they should be brought to the Festival.
3. Detailed schedules will be created once registration is closed and a schedule of performances will be available at the event. Please note that there will be no refunds if you cancel after the postmark deadline of December 31, 2016.
4. Warm-up rooms may be available for your use, depending on our host venues. You may use them for 15 minute non-consecutive time slots. Please note that space is limited so be considerate of other contestants.
5. Adjudicators will follow the evaluation criteria provided on each of the registration forms. The top performers, chosen at the discretion of the adjudicators in each round, will perform in a final event at the end of the Festival. Please note the time limits and rules for each event; you will be held to these time limits and rules. Entries which exceed time limits will not be considered for performance in the final event.
6. Schools must be an organizational member of CITA in order to participate in this theatre festival and may register students in grades 6 -12. Individuals (homeschool students or those participating individually without their host school), may participate with an individual CITA membership. Homeschool students must have a parent or adult accompanying them to the event who is listed on the registration forms. Registration for membership is available online at www.cita.org or via the Summary Registration Form. Please refer to the CITA website for benefits of membership or for any questions regarding the organization.
7. Once a contestant has begun their performance, the room will be closed and there will be no admittance or departure allowed until the performance has concluded. Student behavior onstage, backstage, and in the audience must be courteous at all times. Any disruptive behavior may result in disqualification and/or dismissal from the grounds.
8. All meals and lodging are your responsibility; no meals or lodging will be provided as a part of your registration fee.

Secondary Festival Events

The Festival events are divided into musical theatre and non-musical theatre.

Very important: Performers who exceed the time and length limits, or otherwise do not adhere to event parameters, will be disqualified from competition for prizes.

Musical theatre events:

Solo Musical Theatre (SMT)

Two 32-bar cuts each from two published musicals which demonstrate contrasting styles of performance: one up tempo and one ballad or one serious and one comic, for example. Live accompanist must be provided by the entrant. A piano will be available. The student may make a brief introduction of the song titles, musicals, and pertinent expositions. Students may not perform a cappella or use a recorded track. No hand props, costumes or set pieces may be used. A chair will be available.

Duo Musical Theatre (DMT)

A song from a published musical in which two actors sing within the performance. A live accompanist must be provided by the entrants. A piano will be available. Costumes and hand props may be used (no scenery). Chairs will be provided. Students will introduce the song with the title and a brief description of pertinent exposition. Students may not perform a cappella or use a recorded track.

Ensemble Musical Theatre (EMT)

Requirements: A full length/song from a published musical sung by 3-10 actors. All entrants must sing within the performance. A live accompanist must be provided by the entrants. A piano will be available. Costumes and hand props may be used (no scenery). Two chairs will be provided. Students will introduce the song with the title and a brief description of pertinent exposition. Students may not perform a cappella or use a recorded track.

Non-musical theatre events:

Contrasting Monologues (CM)

Two one-minute contrasting monologues from two published plays. Students may introduce each monologue with title, playwright and a one sentence description for each. The introduction will be a part of the timed performance which cannot exceed three minutes in its entirety. No costumes or hand props are allowed. A chair will be available.

Shakespeare Monologue (SM)

A 15-20 line monologue from a Shakespeare play. The monologue can be sequential lines or one cut together from a play scene. Students may introduce the monologue with title, act, scene and a one sentence description of pertinent exposition. No costumes or hand props may be used. A chair will be available.

Duo Theatre (DT)

A 3-5 minute scene from a published play. The scene can be sequential lines or one cut together from the play. Students may introduce the scene with title, playwright and a one sentence description of pertinent exposition. The introduction, set up and breakdown will be a part of the timed performance which cannot exceed five minutes. Costumes and hand props may be used (no scenery). Two chairs will be available.

Ensemble Theatre (ET)

A 3-5 minute scene from a published play. The scene can be sequential lines or cut together from one specific scene with 3-10 students playing the characters. Students may introduce the scene with title, playwright and a brief description of pertinent exposition. The introduction, set up and breakdown, will be a part of the timed performance which cannot exceed 5 minutes in its entirety. Costumes and props may be used (no scenery). Two chairs will be available.

See the "Festival Evaluation Form" PDF file to learn how the performances are scored. See the "Festival Design Competition" document for more information about this event.