

OREGON THESPIAN STATE MAIN STAGE PRODUCTION

Standard Operating Procedures

Each year a number of full productions, as determined by the State Conference Coordinator and members of the State Main Stage Production Committee will be selected to showcase as main stage plays at the State Conference. Once screened (through live responses and uploaded submissions along with applications) the chosen productions will be notified by letter and then announced at the Regional Acting Festivals in February before that year's State Conference.

Mission: The mission of the State Main Stage Production selection process is to give objective feedback to all applying schools in order to increase the quality levels for all high school theatre in the state of Oregon.

Purpose: The State Main Stage Production selections are focused on the following guidelines:

- *Highlight outstanding talent and production from Oregon schools
- *Inspire possibilities for all high school theatre in our state
- *Entertain the State conference attendees (specifically Oregon's theatre students)
- *Offer a diverse selection of productions representing that year's applicants

Selection criteria developed by the State Main Stage Production Committee and approved by the State Board:

- 1) a focus on excellence in production and performance
- 2) fitness for production at the State Conference
- 3) consideration for the type of show (i.e. musical, comedy, drama, new work)
- 4) technical considerations for the State Conference venue

Eligibility:

- *Shows must be produced between January of the application year and January 15th of the State Conference year.
- *Shows must be produced by an active Thespian troupe to apply or to present at showcase, and if selected, the troupe **MUST** attend the State conference.
- *Each school is only allowed to submit one production for State Conference consideration. Any additional submissions must include \$50 and be for Live Feedback **ONLY**.
- *Main Stage Production applications are due (postmarked) by the **December 15th** of the application year.
- *All Main Stage applications must be completed with a **digital upload** of the production sent to coordinator by December 15th of the application year (even if live response was given in previous months.) January (of State Conference year) productions must have paperwork in by December 15th and digital upload to coordinator the day after opening performance.
- *All applications requesting live response are due to the Coordinator 2 weeks before **opening** night of the production or live response may not be made available. The Main Stage Coordinator will do their best to fill live response requests with current committee members first and holds the right to ask sponsor for local suggestions if time or distance become a conflict for committee members. **ALL** live respondents must be approved before opening night of submitted productions.
- *Schools selected for Main Stage must present the same production at the conference, including cast and technical elements as was screened. Minor allowances for the technical capacities of the host school can be made and replacing secondary cast members is possible when cleared with the Main Stage Coordinator. Schools that cannot meet these criteria must relinquish their performance spot. In order to respect the integrity of Main Stage selections, these requirements are not subject to Selection Committee nor State Board exception.

Please Note: Schools which are chosen to present will be able to apply **THREE** years after being awarded this honor (ensuring that students see a wide variety of shows from a greater variety of schools over their potential attendance at the conference). For example, a school that applies by December 15th, 2012 and presents at State Conference 2013 may apply again on December 15th, 2016.

State Main Stage Production Committee and Response/Adjudication

The **State Main Stage Production Committee** will be made up of at least five members and no more than seven and will be made up of directors from the past 2-3 years of State Main Stage performances. These directors will serve on the committee for the following 2-3 years as their schools will not be eligible for application (see above note). Other theatre educated adult volunteers may serve on the committee if directors are not available. The committee is responsible for viewing live performances and digital uploads of each submitted production and evaluating each according to the accepted selection criteria (see Main Stage Production Reviewer Response form). Extra consideration in terms of accuracy will be given to an evaluation done by a live screening.

Applications for the State Main Stage Production must include 5 copies of production program and be done in one of **THREE** ways:

- Option #1: Digital Upload only (**See Guidelines for digital upload below!**)
- Option #2: Digital Upload + Live Response
(a written narrative response sent within 2 weeks - formerly “Live Adjudication”)
- Option #3: Digital Upload + Live Response + Respondent Feedback
(Talkback with cast/crew and respondent after the show)

Note: ALL applications require **digital upload and 5 programs** sent by the December deadline!

*There is no charge for Option #1 above and no written evaluation submitted. However, committee members will provide copies of their Main Stage Production Reviewer Response form to all applying schools at the Regional Acting Competitions or in the two weeks after.

*Those choosing Options 2 or 3 must also send a non-refundable \$50.00 fee at the time of application. This fee, in its entirety, is to be given to one or more committee members or others designated by the committee chair as travel expenses for the live responses. The Live Response/Respondent Feedback will include the reviewer's objective observations of the show and could include the reviewer's opinions about the strengths and weaknesses of the performance.

Guidelines for Digital Upload Submissions:

*Each applying school will send **digital upload and 5 programs** to the committee chair by the required deadline.

*Digital uploads should be divided into two relatively equal parts (i.e. Act I/II) and should not be edited or produced with special effects of any type, but should give the reviewer a clear picture of the entire set, the bulk of the cast and include: all scene changes, periodic close ups of costumes, makeup, leading characters in key scenes. Recording should include all scene changes and pause only for an intermission break.

*The overall idea of the digital upload is to get the bigger picture of a live theatre production and not the luxury of close-ups used in modern movie-making.

Note: It is an accepted fact that live responses are more accurate and weigh more heavily with the committee. However, schools will not be penalized for not having their shows evaluated by a live reviewer.

Presenting Schools at State Conference

Presenting schools for the Main Stage Productions at State will receive \$250 to cover royalty charges and other costs incurred. All other costs associated with producing the show at State are the responsibility of the school. The presenting school will submit to any reasonable restrictions, or material objections. They will also submit to the requirements of both the conference technical director and host venue (see link). Exceptions will not be made for last minute changes and technical needs. All fire and safety codes in place at the showcase venue will be strictly adhered to. The presenting school is not required to register the entire cast and crew for the conference, but they must attend the State conference as a school. The presenting schools are still bound by the same attendance restrictions as the other schools.